

GNU Emacs Quick Reference Guide for CS61B

Bullets (●) mark a suggested starting set of commands. Daggers (†) denote key bindings that are not standard in GNU Emacs. *ARG* denotes the prefix numeric argument (entered with C-u or M-digit).

Cursor motion.

C-f	Forward character.●
M-f	Forward word.●
C-e	Forward to end of line.●
C-b	Backward character.●
M-b	Backward word.●
C-a	Backward to start of line.●
M-e	Forward sentence.
M-[Forward paragraph.
M-a	Backward sentence.
M-]	Backward paragraph.
C-n	Next line.●
C-p	Previous line.●
M-<	Beginning of buffer.●
M->	End of buffer.●
C-v	Scroll text up one screen (or <i>ARG</i> lines).●
M-v	Scroll text down (or <i>ARG</i> lines).●
M-g	Go to line number <i>ARG</i> .†
M-x what-line	Display line number.
C-M-v	Scroll other window up one screen (or <i>ARG</i> lines).

Marking regions of text

C-@	Set mark at point.●
C-x C-x	Exchange mark and point.●
C-SPC	Same as C-@.
M-@	Set mark after end of next word.
M-h	Set mark and point around current paragraph.
C-x h	Set mark and point around current buffer.

Deletion and yanking

DEL	Delete character before cursor.●
M-DEL	Delete word before cursor and add to kill buffer.●
C-d	Delete character at cursor.●
M-d	Delete word at and after cursor and add to kill buffer.●
C-k	Delete to end of line and add to kill buffer.●
M-W	Delete current region, and add to kill buffer.†●

M-\	Delete surrounding blanks and tabs.
M-SPC	Delete all but one surrounding blank.
C-x C-o	Delete all but one surrounding blank line.
C-M-w	Cause next command, if a kill, to append to previous kill buffer, instead of new one.
C-y	Insert text from kill buffer at point.●
C-u C-y	Insert text from kill buffer at point without moving point.
M-y	Replace preceding C-y text with next most recent kill buffer.
M-w	Copy region to kill buffer, no deletion.

Indentation

TAB	Indent according to mode.●
LF	Same as RET TAB.
M-;	Indent and start comment.
M-LF	Continue comment on next line.
C-x TAB	Indent region rigidly by <i>ARG</i> .
C-M-\	Indent region according to mode.●

Search

C-s	Search forward.●
C-s C-s	Same as C-s with last string.●
C-r	Search backward.●
C-r C-r	Same as C-r with last string.●
C-u C-s	Search forward for regular expression.
M-x occur	Display lines matching a regular expression.
M-x grep	Display results of UNIX grep utility.
M-x count-matches	

The following subcommands are valid during a search.

RET	End search.●
DEL	Undo effect of last search character typed.●
C-g	Abort search.●
C-s	Search for next match forward.●
C-r	Search for next match backward.●
C-q	Quote next character.
C-w	Extend search string with next word.
LFD	Extend search string with rest of line.

Replacement

M-q	Query replace.●†
M-Q	Query replace regular expression.†
M-x delete-matching-lines	
M-x delete-non-matching-lines	

During a query-replacement, the following are valid responses to prompts.

SPC	Make replacement and go to next.●
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DEL	Skip replacement and go to next.●
RET	End replacement.●
!	Replace all remaining instances without asking.●
C-r	Enter recursive edit; return with C-M-c.

Regular expressions

.	Match any character.●
^	Match at start of line.●
\$	Match at end of line.●
[...]	Match any character in the '...'.●
[^...]	Match any character except those in '...'.●
*	Match 0 or more of pattern to left.●
+	Match 1 or more of pattern to left.
?	Match 0 or 1 of pattern to left.
\c	Quotes c, except for the following.
\b	Match at beginning or end of word.
\B	Match except at beginning or end of word.
\	Match either pattern to left or right.
\(...\)	Grouping.
\n	Match copy of whatever matched n^{th} group.

Miscellaneous editing

C-o	Insert newline after cursor.
C-t	Transpose characters.
M-t	Transpose words.
C-x C-t	Transpose lines.
M-u	Convert whole word to upper case.
M-l	Convert whole word to lower case.
M-c	Capitalize word.

Files

C-x C-f	Find file; load if needed.●
C-x 4 C-f	Find file in other window.●
C-x C-s	Save file.●
C-x C-w	Write to explicitly-named file.
C-x i	Insert file at cursor.
M-x recover-file	Recover file after disaster from auto-save file.
M-x revert-buffer	Throw away changes to buffer and restore from file.

Buffers and windows

C-x o	Put cursor in other window.●
C-x 1	Grow current window to full screen.●
C-x 2	Split current window vertically.●
C-x b	Put named buffer in window.●
C-x 0	Remove current window.
C-x 3	Split current window horizontally.

C-x C-b	List all buffers.
C-x k	Delete buffer.

Shells

M-x shell	Run UNIX shell in a buffer.●
M-	Execute single shell command on region. With ARG, replaces region.

Commands active in shell buffers:

RET	Send current line to shell.●
TAB	Complete preceding file name.●
C-c C-c	Send interrupt to shell.●
C-c C-u	Erase current input line.●
C-c C-z	Send stop signal to shell.●
C-c C-d	Send EOF to shell.

Compilation, debugging, and tags

M-x compile	Execute command (by default, make) asynchronously.●
C-x '	Position to next error or next line found by M-x grep command.●
M-x kill-compiler	Stop active compile.

M-x visit-tags-table	Specify file containing tags produced by etags.●
M-.	Display source for given tag.●
C-u M-.	Find next alternate definition for last tag.●
C-x 4 .	Display source for tag in other window.
M-x tags-search	
M-x tags-query-replace	Look for pattern in all files named in tags table.
M-x tags-apropos	Display matching tags.

M-x gdb	Run GNU debugger on file.
M-x gjdb	Run Java debugger on class.

Commands valid in gdb and gjdb modes.

C-c C-s	Step.●
C-c C-n	Next.●
C-c <	Up stack.●
C-c >	Down stack.●
C-c C-r	Finish.●
C-x SPC	In any source file, sets a break point.●
C-c C-i	Stepi (gdb only).

Help and documentation

M-x manual-entry	UNIX man page for given topic.
C-h a	Look up names of matching commands.●
C-h b	Display key bindings.●
C-h f	Help for M-x function.●
C-h C-h	Help for C-h.●

<code>C-h i</code>	Run info browser.●
<code>C-h k</code>	Help for key.●
<code>C-h m</code>	Help for current mode.
<code>C-h t</code>	Tutorial.
<code>C-h w</code>	Key containing function.

Inside an `*info*` buffer (result of `C-h i`), the following are defined.

<code>m</code>	Select menu item.●
<code>l</code>	Go to last-visited node.●
<code>?</code>	Get help for browser.●
<code>u</code>	Go to node's parent.●
<code>n</code>	Go to next node in sequence.●
<code>q</code>	Leave browser.●
<code>.</code>	Go to top of node.
<code>d</code>	Go to top-level node.

Mouse commands

Left, middle, and right buttons are `LB`, `MB`, and `RB`.

<code>LB</code>	Put cursor at mouse. Dragging marks region.
<code>MB</code>	Paste text from window-system cut buffer at mouse.
<code>RB</code>	Extend region to pointer and copy into cut and kill buffers. Clicking twice deletes region.
<code>C-LB</code>	Select a buffer.