

# GNU Emacs Reference Card

(for version 20)

## Starting Emacs

To enter GNU Emacs 20, just type its name: `emacs`  
To read in a file to edit, see Files, below.

## Leaving Emacs

suspend Emacs (or iconify it under X) `C-z`  
exit Emacs permanently `C-x C-c`

## Files

read a file into Emacs `C-x C-f`  
save a file back to disk `C-x C-s`  
save all files `C-x s`  
insert contents of another file into this buffer `C-x i`  
replace this file with the file you really want `C-x C-v`  
write buffer to a specified file `C-x C-w`  
version control checkin/checkout `C-x C-q`

## Getting Help

The help system is simple. Type `C-h` (or `F1`) and follow the directions. If you are a first-time user, type `C-h t` for a tutorial.  
remove help window `C-x 1`  
scroll help window `C-M-v`  
apropos: show commands matching a string `C-h a`  
show the function a key runs `C-h c`  
describe a function `C-h f`  
get mode-specific information `C-h m`

## Error Recovery

abort partially typed or executing command `C-g`  
recover a file lost by a system crash `M-x recover-file`  
undo an unwanted change `C-x u` or `C-_`  
restore a buffer to its original contents `M-x revert-buffer`  
redraw garbagged screen `C-l`

## Incremental Search

search forward `C-s`  
search backward `C-r`  
regular expression search `C-M-s`  
reverse regular expression search `C-M-r`  
select previous search string `M-p`  
select next later search string `M-n`  
exit incremental search `RET`  
undo effect of last character `DEL`  
abort current search `C-g`

Use `C-s` or `C-r` again to repeat the search in either direction. If Emacs is still searching, `C-g` cancels only the part not done.

## Motion

entity to move over  
character `C-b`  
word `M-b`  
line `C-P`  
go to line beginning (or end) `C-a`  
sentence `M-a`  
paragraph `M-|`  
page `C-x [`  
sexp `C-M-b`  
function `C-M-a`  
go to buffer beginning (or end) `M-<`  
scroll to next screen `C-v`  
scroll to previous screen `M-v`  
scroll left `C-x <`  
scroll right `C-x >`  
scroll current line to center of screen `C-u C-l`

## Killing and Deleting

entity to kill  
character (delete, not kill) `DEL`  
word `M-DEL`  
line (to end of) `M-0 C-k`  
sentence `C-x DEL`  
sexp `M- C-M-k`  
kill region `C-w`  
copy region to kill ring `M-w`  
kill through next occurrence of *char* `M-z char`  
yank back last thing killed `C-y`  
replace last yank with previous kill `M-y`

## Marking

set mark here `C-@` or `C-SPC`  
exchange point and mark `C-x C-x`  
set mark *arg* words away `M-@`  
mark paragraph `M-h`  
mark page `C-x C-p`  
mark sexp `C-M-@`  
mark function `C-M-h`  
mark entire buffer `C-x h`

## Query Replace

interactively replace a text string `M-%`  
using regular expressions `M-x query-replace-regex`  
Valid responses in query-replace mode are  
replace this one, go on to next `SPC`  
replace this one, don't move `,`  
skip to next without replacing `DEL`  
replace all remaining matches `!`  
back up to the previous match `^`  
exit query-replace `RET`  
enter recursive edit (`C-M-c` to exit) `C-r`

## Multiple Windows

When two commands are shown, the second is for "other frame."  
delete all other windows `C-x 1`  
split window, above and below `C-x 2` `C-x 5 2`  
delete this window `C-x 0` `C-x 5 0`  
split window, side by side `C-x 3`  
scroll other window `C-M-v`  
switch cursor to another window `C-x o` `C-x 5 o`  
select buffer in other window `C-x 4 b` `C-x 5 b`  
display buffer in other window `C-x 4 C-o` `C-x 5 C-o`  
find file in other window `C-x 4 f` `C-x 5 f`  
find file read-only in other window `C-x 4 r` `C-x 5 r`  
run Dired in other window `C-x 4 d` `C-x 5 d`  
find tag in other window `C-x 4 .` `C-x 5 .`  
grow window taller `C-x ^`  
shrink window narrower `C-x {`  
grow window wider `C-x }`

## Formatting

indent current line (mode-dependent) `TAB`  
indent region (mode-dependent) `C-M-\`  
indent sexp (mode-dependent) `C-M-q`  
indent region rigidly *arg* columns `C-x TAB`  
insert newline after point `C-o`  
move rest of line vertically down `C-M-o`  
delete blank lines around point `C-x C-o`  
join line with previous (with *arg*, next) `M-^`  
delete all white space around point `M-\`  
put exactly one space at point `M-SPC`  
fill paragraph `M-q`  
set fill column `C-x f`  
set prefix each line starts with `C-x .`  
set face `M-g`

## Case Change

uppercase word `M-u`  
lowercase word `M-l`  
capitalize word `M-c`  
uppercase region `C-x C-u`  
lowercase region `C-x C-l`

## The Minibuffer

The following keys are defined in the minibuffer.  
complete as much as possible `TAB`  
complete up to one word `SPC`  
complete and execute `RET`  
show possible completions `?`  
fetch previous minibuffer input `M-p`  
fetch later minibuffer input or default `M-n`  
regex search backward through history `M-r`  
regex search forward through history `M-s`  
abort command `C-g`  
Type `C-x ESC ESC` to edit and repeat the last command that used the minibuffer. Type `F10` to activate the menu bar using the minibuffer.

