XEmacs Reference Card

(for version 20.5+)

Starting Emacs

To enter XEmacs, just type its name: `xemacs`

To read in a file to edit, see Files, below.

Leaving Emacs

suspend Emacs (or iconify frame 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`

Getting Help

The Help system is simple. Type `C-h` and follow the directions. If you are a first-time user, type `C-h t` for a **tutorial**.

quit Help window	`q`
scroll Help window	`space`
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`
recover files from a previous Emacs session	`M-x recover-session`
undo an unwanted change	`C-x u` or `C-_`
restore a buffer to its original contents	`M-x revert-buffer`
redraw garbaged 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.

© 1998 Free Software Foundation, Inc. Permissions on back. v2.0 XEmacs

Motion

entity to move over	**backward**	**forward**
character	C-b	C-f
word	M-b	M-f
line	C-p	C-n
go to line beginning (or end)	C-a	C-e
sentence	M-a	M-e
paragraph	M-{	M-}
page	C-x [	C-x]
sexp	C-M-b	C-M-f
function	C-M-a	C-M-e
go to buffer beginning (or end)	M-<	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	**backward**	**forward**
character (delete, not kill)	DEL	C-d
word	M-DEL	M-d
line (to end of)	M-0 C-k	C-k
sentence	C-x DEL	M-k
sexp	M-- C-M-k	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-regexp

Valid responses in query-replace mode are

replace this one, go on to next	SPC or y
replace this one, don't move	,
skip to next without replacing	DEL or n
replace all remaining matches	!
back up to the previous match	^
exit query-replace	ESC
enter recursive edit (C-M-c to exit)	C-r
delete match and enter recursive edit	C-w

Multiple Windows

delete all other windows	`C-x 1`
delete this window	`C-x 0`
split window in two vertically	`C-x 2`
split window in two horizontally	`C-x 3`
scroll other window	`C-M-v`
switch cursor to another window	`C-x o`
shrink window shorter	`M-x shrink-window`
grow window taller	`C-x ^`
shrink window narrower	`C-x {`
grow window wider	`C-x }`
select buffer in other window	`C-x 4 b`
display buffer in other window	`C-x 4 C-o`
find file in other window	`C-x 4 f`
find file read-only in other window	`C-x 4 r`
run Dired in other window	`C-x 4 d`
find tag in other window	`C-x 4 .`

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 .`

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`
capitalize region	`M-x capitalize-region`

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 next later minibuffer input	`M-n`
regexp search backward through history	`M-r`
regexp 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. The following keys are then defined.

previous minibuffer command	`M-p`
next minibuffer command	`M-n`

XEmacs Reference Card

Buffers

select another buffer	C-x b
list all buffers	C-x C-b
kill a buffer	C-x k

Transposing

transpose **characters**	C-t
transpose **words**	M-t
transpose **lines**	C-x C-t
transpose **sexps**	C-M-t

Spelling Check

check spelling of current word	M-$
check spelling of all words in region	M-x ispell-region
check spelling of entire buffer	M-x ispell-buffer

Tags

find a tag (a definition)	M-.
find next occurrence of tag	C-u M-.
specify a new tags file	M-x visit-tags-table
regexp search on all files in tags table	M-x tags-search
run query-replace on all the files	M-x tags-query-replace
continue last tags search or query-replace	M-,

Shells

execute a shell command	M-!
run a shell command on the region	M-|
filter region through a shell command	C-u M-|
start a shell in window `*shell*`	M-x shell

Rectangles

copy rectangle to register	C-x r r
kill rectangle	C-x r k
yank rectangle	C-x r y
open rectangle, shifting text right	C-x r o
blank out rectangle	M-x clear-rectangle
prefix each line with a string	M-x string-rectangle
select rectangle with mouse	M-button1

Abbrevs

add global abbrev	C-x a g
add mode-local abbrev	C-x a l
add global expansion for this abbrev	C-x a i g
add mode-local expansion for this abbrev	C-x a i l
explicitly expand abbrev	C-x a e
expand previous word dynamically	M-/

Regular Expressions

any single character except a newline	`.` (dot)
zero or more repeats	`*`
one or more repeats	`+`
zero or one repeat	`?`
any character in the set	`[ ... ]`
any character not in the set	`[^ ... ]`
beginning of line	`^`
end of line	`$`
quote a special character *c*	`\`*c*
alternative ("or")	`|`
grouping	`\( ... \)`
*n*th group	`\`*n*
beginning of buffer	`\‘`
end of buffer	`\’`
word break	`\b`
not beginning or end of word	`\B`
beginning of word	`\<`
end of word	`\>`
any word-syntax character	`\w`
any non-word-syntax character	`\W`
character with syntax *c*	`\s`*c*
character with syntax not *c*	`\S`*c*

Registers

save region in register	`C-x r s`
insert register contents into buffer	`C-x r i`
save value of point in register	`C-x r SPC`
jump to point saved in register	`C-x r j`

Info

enter the Info documentation reader	`C-h i`
Moving within a node:	
scroll forward	`SPC`
scroll reverse	`DEL`
beginning of node	`.` (dot)
Moving between nodes:	
next node	`n`
previous node	`p`
move **up**	`u`
select menu item by name	`m`
select *n*th menu item by number (1–5)	*n*
follow cross reference (return with `l`)	`f`
return to last node you saw	`l`
return to directory node	`d`
go to any node by name	`g`
Other:	
run Info **tutorial**	`h`
list Info commands	`?`
quit Info	`q`
search nodes for regexp	`s`

Keyboard Macros

start defining a keyboard macro	`C-x (`
end keyboard macro definition	`C-x )`
execute last-defined keyboard macro	`C-x e`
edit keyboard macro	`C-x C-k`
append to last keyboard macro	`C-u C-x (`
name last keyboard macro	`M-x name-last-kbd-macro`
insert Lisp definition in buffer	`M-x insert-kbd-macro`

Commands Dealing with Emacs Lisp

eval **sexp** before point	`C-x C-e`
eval current **defun**	`C-M-x`
eval **region**	`M-x eval-region`
eval entire **buffer**	`M-x eval-current-buffer`
read and eval minibuffer	`M-ESC`
re-execute last minibuffer command	`C-x ESC ESC`
read and eval Emacs Lisp file	`M-x load-file`
load from standard system directory	`M-x load-library`

Simple Customization

Here are some examples of binding global keys in Emacs Lisp.

```
(global-set-key [(control c) g] 'goto-line)
(global-set-key [(control x) (control k)] 'kill-region)
(global-set-key [(meta #)] 'query-replace-regexp)
```

An example of setting a variable in Emacs Lisp:

```
(setq backup-by-copying-when-linked t)
```

Writing Commands

```
(defun command-name (args)
  "documentation"
  (interactive "template")
  body)
```

An example:

```
(defun this-line-to-top-of-window (line)
  "Reposition line point is on to top of window.
With ARG, put point on line ARG.
Negative counts from bottom."
  (interactive "P")
  (recenter (if (null line)
                0
              (prefix-numeric-value line))))
```

The argument to `interactive` is a string specifying how to get the arguments when the function is called interactively. Type `C-h f interactive` for more information.

Copyright © 1998 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
designed by Stephen Gildea, April 1998 v2.0 XEmacs
for GNU Emacs version 19 on Unix systems
Updated for XEmacs in February 1995 by Ben Wing

Permission is granted to make and distribute copies of this card provided the copyright notice and this permission notice are preserved on all copies.

For copies of the GNU Emacs manual, write to the Free Software Foundation, Inc., 59 Temple Place - Suite 330, Boston, MA 02111-1307, USA.