

# Emacs Shortcut Cheatsheet

C-x means: hold Control and x at the same time

M-x means: type escape then x, or Meta and x

## Starting Emacs:

start emacs                   emacs

## Exiting Emacs:

suspend emacs                C-z  
exit emacs                    C-x C-c

## Files:

read file                    C-x C-f  
visit file other window    C-x C-v  
save file                    C-x C-s  
insert file                  C-x i  
write buffer to file        C-x C-w

## Getting Help:

first time users            C-h t  
second time users           C-h ?  
help on keystroke           C-h k  
help on function            C-h f  
man page                    M-x manual-entry

## Error recovery:

abort command               C-g  
recover lost file            M-x recover-file  
undo                         C-\_  
restore buffer               M-x revert-buffer  
redraw screen                C-l

## Moving around:

	Back	Forth
move by character	C-b	C-f
move by word	M-b	M-f
move by line	C-p	C-n
move by sentence	M-a	M-e
goto end of line	C-a	C-e
move by screen	M-v	C-v
top or bottom of buffer	C-x [	C-x ]
center screen here	C-x l	

## Marking:

set mark                    C-space  
exchange point and mark    C-x x  
mark buffer                  C-x h

## Registers

copy region to reg         C-x C-x  
get region from reg        C-x g

## Killing and Deleting:

	Back	Forth
delete character	Delete	C-d
delete word	M-Del	M-d
delete rest of line	M-0	C-k C-k
sent	C-x Del	M-k
region	C-w	
yank back (replace line cut)	C-y	
zap to <char>	M-z	<char>

## Transpose

characters                  C-t  
words                       M-t  
lines                        C-x C-t

Content borrowed and updated (with permission)  
from Duane A. Bailey's guidelines from 2007.

## Searching

forward	C-s
backward	C-r
forward expression	C-M-s
backward expression	C-M-r
exit search	Return
undo last search char	Delete
abort search	C-g

## Query Replace:

start query replace	M-%
query replace word	C-u M-%

## Once searching...

replace & search	Space
replace & stay here	,
backup to previous	^
ignore and go on	Delete
replace all remaining	!
exit	Return

## Multiple Open Windows:

keep just this window	C-x 1
split window vertically	C-x 2
split window horizontal.	C-x 3
switch to a diff. window	C-x o

## Buffers:

switch to another buffer	C-x b
list all other buffers	C-x C-b
kill this buffer	C-x k
minibuffer	M-x

## Within Minibuffer:

complete command	Tab
show completions	?
complete and execute	Return
previous input	M-p
next input	M-n
abort	C-q

## Keyboard Macros:

start defining	C-x (
stop defining	C-x )
execute macro	C-x e

## Compile something

Compile window	M-x compile
Find next error	C-x '

## Fun Stuff

dungeon	M-x dunnet
tetris	M-x tetris
hide & seek	M-x blackbox
psychotherapy	M-x doctor
gomoku	M-x gomoku
robot game	M-x landmark
the snake game	M-x snake
peg solitaire	M-x solitaire