

bibliography for more details on buffers and their uses. For the purpose of this guide, we will use at most two or three buffers.

5.4.3 Special Command Keys and Emacs

Emacs (unlike `vi`) is normally in input mode. The user can type in any text desired into the file. There are some **key sequences** that allow the user to access the command-line at the bottom of the screen, or do various editing functions. Most all Emacs editing functions are preceded with either a CONTROL or an ESCAPE.

Important Basic Keys Sequences

- The `^g` key. This key (Control-g) aborts a command, such as a search command. This is a useful command key, if the user is stuck in an unfamiliar mode. Many commands can be canceled with Control-g.
- The `^x^c` key sequence. This sequence of keys (Control-x then Control-c) allows the user to quit the editor. If the user has any unsaved file edits in any active buffers outstanding, emacs will prompt the user asking if the user wishes to save the file(s) or not.
- The `^x^s` key sequence. This sequence of keys saves the file associated with the current active buffer. Think of *save the file* .
- The `^x^w` key sequence. This key sequence allows the user to save the file associated with the current buffer under another name (think of *write to another file*).
- The `^x^f` key sequence. This sequence allows the user to read a file into the current window, actually opening a new buffer and hiding (but not discarding) the old buffer. The file is opened read-write, if possible.
- The `^x^r` key sequence. This sequence allows the user to read a file into the current window, actually opening a new buffer and hiding (but not discarding) the old buffer. The file is opened read-only.
- The `^x i` key sequence. This (`^x` and then the "i" key) sequence allows the user to read a file into the current window, inserting its contents into the current buffer. This is useful for cutting the contents of another file into the current file (think of *inserting a file at the cursor*).

Cursor movement commands:

- The `^v` key. Pressing this key moves the cursor down one page in the file.
- The `Esc-v` key sequence. Pressing these keys moves the cursor up one page in the file (`Esc-v` being the "opposite" of "`^v`").