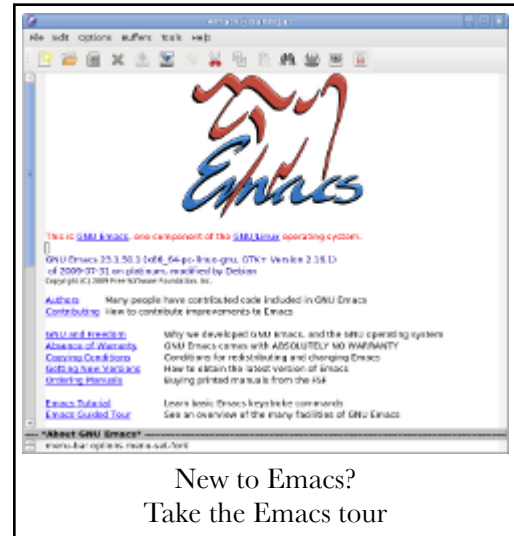


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GNU Emacs

GNU Emacs is an extensible, customizable text editor—and more. At its core is an interpreter for Emacs Lisp, a dialect of the Lisp programming language with extensions to support text editing. The features of GNU Emacs include:

- Content-sensitive editing modes, including syntax coloring, for a variety of file types including plain text, source code, and HTML.
- Complete built-in documentation, including a tutorial for new users.
- Full Unicode support for nearly all human languages and their scripts.
- Highly customizable, using Emacs Lisp code or a graphical interface.
- A large number of extensions that add other functionality, including a project planner, mail and news reader, debugger interface, calendar, and more. Many of these extensions are distributed with GNU Emacs; others are available separately.



Releases

The current stable release is 23.3. To obtain it, visit the obtaining section.

Emacs 23 has a wide variety of new features, including:

- Improved Unicode support.
- Font rendering with Fontconfig and Xft.
- Support for using X displays and text terminals in one session, and for running as a daemon.
- Support for multi-file commits in distributed version-control systems (VC-dir).
- New modes and packages for viewing PDF and postscript files (Doc-view mode), connecting to processes through D-Bus (dbus), connecting to the GNU Privacy Guard (EasyPG), editing XML documents (nXML mode), editing Ruby programs (Ruby mode), and more.

For more information, read its News file.

Release History

- March 10, 2011 - Emacs 23.3 released
- May 8, 2010 - Emacs 23.2 released
- July 29, 2009 - Emacs 23.1 released
- September 5, 2008 - Emacs 22.3 released
- March 26, 2008 - Emacs 22.2 released
- June 2, 2007 - Emacs 22.1 released
- Feb 6, 2005 - Emacs 21.4 released (fixing a security hole)
- March 24, 2003 - Emacs 21.3 released

- March 18, 2002 - Emacs 21.2 released
- October 28, 2001 - Emacs 21.1 released

Supported Platforms

Emacs 23 runs on these operating systems regardless of the machine type:

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|------------------------|
| ■ GNU/Linux | ■ Solaris | ■ AIX 4.3.3 and higher |
| ■ FreeBSD | ■ Mac OS X | ■ SunOS |
| ■ NetBSD | ■ MS Windows | ■ Ultrix |
| ■ OpenBSD | ■ MS DOS | |

GNU Emacs contains code for supporting several other operating systems and machine types; however, in many cases we don't know whether they still work. The definitive reference for this is the `MACHINES` file, which is also distributed with GNU Emacs; this file also lists the special requirements for compiling GNU Emacs on these systems.

Obtaining/Downloading GNU Emacs

GNU Emacs can be downloaded from <http://ftp.gnu.org/pub/gnu/emacs/>, or from a GNU mirror.

GNU Emacs development is hosted on savannah.gnu.org. See the Emacs project page on Savannah, where the latest development sources are publicly available from our Bazaar repository.

Documentation

Two Emacs manuals, the *GNU Emacs manual* and *An Introduction to Programming in Emacs Lisp*, can be purchased in printed form from the FSF store. These manuals, along with the *Emacs Lisp Reference Manual* and several other manuals documenting major modes and other optional features, can also be read online. They are also distributed with Emacs in Info format; type `C-h i` in Emacs to view them.

GNU Emacs manual	Read Online	Purchase
An Introduction to Programming in Emacs Lisp	Read Online	Purchase
Emacs Lisp Reference Manual	Read Online	(out of print)
Other Emacs manuals	Read Online	

The Emacs distribution includes the full source code for the manuals, as well as the Emacs Reference Card in several languages.

The Emacs FAQ can be read online as HTML or plain text. The Emacs on Windows FAQ is available here. The source code for these FAQs are also part of the Emacs distribution.

Support

- To ask for help with GNU Emacs, use the mailing list help-gnu-emacs@gnu.org or the newsgroup gnu.emacs.help. The mailing list and newsgroup are linked: messages posted on one appear on the other as well.
- To report bugs, or to contribute fixes and improvements, use the built-in Emacs bug reporter (**M-x report-emacs-bug**) or send email to bug-gnu-emacs@gnu.org. You can browse our bug database at debbugs.gnu.org. For more information on contributing, see the CONTRIBUTE file (also distributed with Emacs).
- For all other queries, consult the list of Emacs-related mailing lists on savannah.gnu.org and the complete list of GNU mailing lists on lists.gnu.org. See Get Help with GNU Software for help with GNU software in general.

Further Information

The Emacs FAQ (html, plain text) contains information about Emacs history, common problems, and how to obtain optional extensions.

The Emacs Wiki is a community website about using and programming Emacs, including information about optional extensions; complete manuals or documentation fragments; comments on the different Emacs versions, flavors, and ports; and references to other Emacs related information on the Web.

The Savannah Emacs page has additional information about Emacs, including access to the Emacs development sources.

For those curious about Emacs history: Emacs was originally implemented in 1976 on the MIT AI Lab's Incompatible Timesharing System (ITS), as a collection of TECO macros. The name “Emacs” was originally chosen as an abbreviation of “Editor MACroS”. This version of Emacs, GNU Emacs, was originally written in 1984. For more information, see the 1981 paper by Richard Stallman, describing the design of the original Emacs and the lessons to be learned from it, and a transcript of his 2002 speech at the International Lisp Conference, *My Lisp Experiences and the Development of GNU Emacs*.

GNU Emacs Fun

- April Fool Mail - emacs rewrite
- More humor related to GNU Emacs and others
- Here is the cover of the original Emacs Manual for ITS; the cover of the original Emacs Manual for Twenex; and (the only cartoon RMS has ever drawn) the Self-Documenting Extensible Editor.