

Dired Reference Card

(based on Dired in GNU Emacs 26)

Commands marked with **(DX)** require dired-x

Entering and Exiting Dired

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| run dired | C-x d |
| dired the directory of the file you are editing | C-x C-j (DX) |
| quit dired | q |

Motion Commands

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| move up to previous line | p |
| move down to next line | n |
| move up to previous directory line | < |
| move down to next directory line | > |
| move to next marked file | M-} |
| move to previous marked file | M-{ |
| move up to previous subdirectory | M-C-p |
| move down to next subdirectory | M-C-n |
| move to parent directory | ^ |
| move to first child subdirectory | M-C-d |

Mouse Commands

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| visit file or directory | Mouse_Button_2 |
|-------------------------|----------------|

Immediate Actions on Files

| | |
|--|---|
| visit current file | f |
| view current file | v |
| visit current file in other window | o |
| create a new subdirectory | + |
| compare file at point with the one at mark | = |

Marking and Unmarking Files

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| mark a file or subdirectory for later commands | m |
| unmark a file or all files of a subdirectory | u |
| unmark all marked files in a buffer | M-delete |
| mark files with a given extension | * . |
| mark all directories | * / |
| mark all symlinks | * @ |
| mark all executables | * * |
| invert marking | t |
| mark all files in the current subdir | * s |
| mark file names matching a regular expression | * % |
| change the marks to a different character | * c |
| mark files for which Elisp expression returns t | * ((DX) |

Modifying the Dired Buffer

| | |
|---|-------|
| insert a subdirectory into this buffer | i |
| remove marked files from the listing | k |
| remove a subdir listing | C-u k |
| re-read all directories (retains all marks) | g |
| toggle sorting of current subdir by name/date | s |
| edit ls switches | C-u s |
| recover marks, hidden lines, and such (undo) | C-_ |
| hide all subdirectories | M-\$ |
| hide or unhide subdirectory | \$ |

Commands on Files Marked or Specified by the Prefix

| | |
|--|---------------|
| copy file(s) | C |
| rename a file or move files to another directory | R |
| change ownership of file(s) | O |
| change the group of the file(s) | G |
| change mode of file(s) | M |
| print file(s) | P |
| convert filename(s) to lower case | % l |
| convert filename(s) to upper case | % u |
| delete marked (as opposed to flagged) file(s) | D |
| compress or uncompress file(s) | Z |
| run info on file | I (DX) |
| make symbolic link(s) | S |
| make relative symbolic link(s) | Y |
| make hard link(s) | H |
| search files for a regular expression | A |
| regexp query replace on marked files | Q |
| byte-compile file(s) | B |
| load file(s) | L |
| shell command on file(s) | ! |
| asynchronous shell command on file(s) | & |

Flagging Files for Deletion

Unmark commands remove delete flags

| | |
|---|-----|
| flag file for deletion | d |
| flag all backup files (file names ending in ~) | ~ |
| flag all auto-save files | # |
| flag various intermediate files | % & |
| flag numeric backups (ending in .~1~, .~2~, etc.) | . |
| execute the deletions requested (flagged files) | x |
| flag files matching a regular expression | % d |

Regular Expression Commands

| | |
|--|-----|
| mark filenames matching a regular expression | % m |
| copy marked files by regexp | % C |
| rename marked files by regexp | % R |
| hardlink | % H |
| symlink | % S |
| symlink, with relative paths | % Y |
| mark for deletion | % d |

Dired and Find

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| dired file(s) whose name matches a pattern | M-x find-name-dired |
| dired file(s) that contain pattern | M-x find-grep-dired |
| dired file(s) based on find output | M-x find-dired |

Getting Help

| | |
|--|---|
| dired help | h |
| dired summary (short help) and error log | ? |

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For GNU Emacs version 26
Originally written May 2000 by Evgeny Roubinchtein,
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