

# GNU readline Shortcut Keys

| GNU readline Shortcut Keys | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| GNU readline keys          | <p>The GNU readline provides a large number of key shortcuts that are very similar to what Emacs provides.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The GNU readline program is used in several programs including bash, bc, Python, GDB, sqlite, MySQL, perl debugger (perl -d), etc... It's therefore very useful to know readline shortcuts.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 🐉 Zsh does not use readline, it implements its own reader.</li></ul></li><li>• Readline configuration files are:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• global file: <b>/etc/inputrc</b></li><li>• local file: <b>~/.inputrc</b></li></ul></li><li>• <b>References:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Keyboard Shortcuts every Command Line Hacker should know about GNU Readline @ Mastering Emacs</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Readline Library Command Line Editing Overview @ real-world-systems</a></li><li>• <a href="#">readline(3) - Linux Man Page</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Readline Tutorial - Linux Magazine</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Readline @ arch linux wiki</a></li></ul></li></ul> |
| <u>Last updated on:</u>    | 2026-03-16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |