

Sorting

Description	Keystroke	Function	Note
Sorting Text Emacs definition of a paragraph is held in the paragraph-start and paragraph-separate variables. And the sorting case sensitivity depends on the sort-fold-case variable. - To see the current status of these variables (and others) you can execute the pel-show-text-modes command. - This command is bound to the <code><f11> t m ?</code> key sequence. See § Text Modes Last updated on: 2025-11-25			
Open this PDF file. See also: § Help/Info	<f11> o <f1>	(pel-help-pdf &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE)	Open the § Sorting local PDF. If the prefix argument (like <code>C-u</code> or <code>M--</code>) is used, then it opens the remote GitHub hosted raw PDF instead. If the <code>pel-flip-help-pdf-arg</code> user-option is set it's the other way around.
Sort lines	<f11> o l	(sort-lines REVERSE BEG END)	Sort lines in region. With <code>C-u</code> reverse order.
Sort paragraphs	<f11> o p	(sort-paragraphs REVERSE BEG END)	Sort by the text of each paragraph. With <code>C-u</code> reverse order. The following variables control what are paragraphs: - paragraph-start - paragraph-separate
Sort pages	<f11> o /	(sort-pages REVERSE BEG END)	Sort by the text of each page. With <code>C-u</code> reverse order.
Sort lines by fields	<f11> o ,	(sort-fields FIELD BEG END)	Sort lines by one of their fields. - Fields are whitespace-separated. First field is field 1. - Numeric argument: identifies field # (default := 1) - Negative argument: field -1 := last field, etc... - To reverse order use reverse-region.
Sort lines by numeric fields	<f11> o n	(sort-numeric-fields FIELD BEG END)	Sort lines by one of their number fields. - Fields are whitespace separated, but start with a number. Hex numbers start with 0x. Octal start by 0. - Field selection is done by the numeric argument as for sort-fields. - To reverse order use reverse-region. - To use different base for numbers: see variable: sort-numeric-base
Sort lines by columns	<f11> o c	(sort-columns REVERSE &optional BEG END)	Put point and mark to form a rectangle identifying the first line/column and the last line/column to consider for the sort. With <code>C-u</code> reverse order.
Reverse the order of lines in the region	<f11> o r	(reverse-region BEG END)	Reverse the order of lines in the region. Useful for reversing the order after a sort-fields or sort-numeric-fields.
Sort records by regular expression	<f11> o x	(sort-regexp-fields REVERSE RECORD-REGEXP KEY-REGEXP BEG END)	Prompt for a regexp that identifies what a record is, and the key within the record. For more info see: Sorting By Regular Expression
Toggle sort case sensitivity	<f11> o F	(pel-toggle-sort-fold-case)	By default sort is case sensitive. Toggle to case insensitive and back.

Sorting — References

Topic & Link	Extra Notes
GNU Emacs - Sorting Text	
GNU Emacs Lisp - Sorting Text	
Sorting By Regular Expression	Quick intro by Mickey Petersen. Good example on sort-regexp-fields