CTRL + Z Suspend Nano

CTRL + X Exit Nano permanently

# Navigation

**Case Conversion**

ALT + L Convert the selected text to lowercase

**Getting Started**

Type **nano** to enter Nano text editor

ALT + U Convert the selected text to uppercase

ALT + C Capitalize the selected text or the current word

# File Handling

ARROWS (↑, ↓,

←, →)

Move the cursor up, down, left, or right

CTRL + S Save current file

CTRL + P Move the cursor up one line

CTRL + N Move the cursor down one

line

CTRL + B Move the cursor left one

character

CTRL + F Move the cursor right one character

CTRL + O Offer to write file ("Save as")

CTRL + R

Insert a file into current one

CTRL + A Append the contents of another

file to the current file

CTRL + W Write the current file to a different

filename

ALT + F or CTRL + →

Move forward by one word

CTRL + T Invoke the spell checker on the current file

# Editing

ALT + B or CTRL + ←

Move backward by one word

CTRL + V Scroll page down CTRL + Y Scroll half a page up CTRL + W Scroll a full page up

CTRL + A Go to beginning of the line

CTRL + E Go to end of the line

ALT + < Go to beginning of the file

ALT + > Go to end of the file

CTRL + \_

Go to a specific line

ALT + , Jump to a specific line or column

CTRL + ↑ To previous block

CTRL + ↓ To next block

ALT + \ To top of buffer

ALT + / To bottom of buffer

# Regex

. Matches any single character except a newline

^ Matches the start of a line

$ Matches the end of a line

Matches zero or more

CTRL + K Cut current line into cutbuffer

ALT + 6 Copy current line into cutbuffer

CTRL + U Paste contents of cutbuffer

ALT + T Cut until end of buffer

CTRL + SPACE Set a mark at the current position

CTRL + ] indent the current line

ALT + ] Unindent the current line

ALT + 3 Comment/uncomment line/region

ALT + U

Undo last action

ALT + E Redo last undone action

# Operations

CTRL + T Execute some command

CTRL + J Justify paragraph or region

ALT + J Justify the entire buffer

ALT + F Run a formatter or fixer

ALT + B Run a syntax check

ALT + ; Replay macro

\* occurrences of the preceding character or group

ALT + :

Start/stop recording of macro

**Operations**

ALT + N

Turn line numbers on/off

ALT + P Turn visible whitespace on/off

CTRL + L

Refresh the screen and redraw the interface

CTRL + W

CTRL + G + ?

Switch between smooth scrolling and line scrolling

Get help on using the help viewer

**Getting Help**

CTRL + G

Show the help menu

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Regex** |
| + | Matches one or more  occurrences of the preceding character or group |
| ? | Matches zero or one occurrence of the preceding character or group |
| {n} | Matches exactly n occurrences of the preceding character or group |
| {n,} | Matches at least n  occurrences of the preceding character or group |
| {n,m} | Matches between n and m occurrences of the preceding character or group |
| [abc] | Matches any single character  in the given set (a, b, or c) |
| [^abc] | Matches any single character  not in the given set (not a, b, or c) |
| (abc) | Creates a group that can be referenced or repeated |
| \ | Escapes a special character or treats it literally |
| | | Acts as an OR operator,  matches either the expression before or after it |
|  | **Search** |
| CTRL + W | Start forward search |
| CTRL + Q | Start backward search |
| ALT + W | Repeat the last forward  search |
| ALT + Q | Find next occurrence  backward |
| ALT + R | Repeat the last backward  search |
| ALT + W +  CTRL + W | Toggle case sensitivity during  search |
| ALT + W + ALT  + W | Toggle whole word search during search |
| ALT + W + ALT  + R | Toggle regular expression  search during search |
| CTRL + W + CTRL + W | Move to the next occurrence of the search pattern |

CTRL + G + B

Basic movement commands

CTRL + G + C Commonly used commands

CTRL + G + S

Search and replace

CTRL + G + P Q

CTRL + H

Nano's preferences Quit the help buffer

**Deleting**

Delete character before cursor

CTRL + D Delete character under cursor

ALT + BSP

Delete word to the left

CTRL + DEL Delete word to the right

ALT + DEL

Delete current line

**Buffers**

CTRL + O

Save the current buffer

ALT + W + ALT

+ V

ALT + W + ALT

+ B

CTRL + W + CTRL + L

CTRL + W + CTRL + O CTRL + W + CTRL + V

CTRL + W + CTRL + C

CTRL + W + CTRL + G

# Search

Move to the next occurrence of the search pattern (ignoring case)

Move to the previous occurrence of the search pattern (ignoring case) Toggle the "Search backwards" option during search

Toggle the "Wrap around"

option during search Move to the previous

occurrence of search pattern Count the number of occurrences of the search pattern

Cancel the search and return to editing

Invoke the spell checker on the current buffer

CTRL + T

**Buffers**

CTRL + R Read a file into the current buffer

ALT + CTRL + P Switch to the previous buffer

ALT + CTRL + N Switch to the next buffer

CTRL + X Exit nano and close the current buffer

CTRL + W + CTRL Replace the current occurrence

+ T of the search pattern

**Replace**

ALT + CTRL + L List and select a buffer to switch

to

ALT + D Report line/word/character count

CTRL + G Display help text

# Marking

CTRL + W + CTRL

+ +

**Info**

CTRL + C

Report cursor position

CTRL + W + CTRL Replace all occurrences of the

+ A search pattern interactively

CTRL + W + CTRL

+ I

Replace all occurrences of the search pattern

Interactive replace with confirmation for each occurrence

CTRL + ^ or CTRL + 6

Set the mark at the current cursor position

ALT + A Turn the mark on/off

TAB Indent marked region SHIFT + TAB Unindent marked region

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