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To customize Emacs, you need to write some Lisp code. It's not really that difficult. The code should be put in a file named '.emacs' in your home directory. Every time Emacs starts up, it automatically reads any Lisp code you have put into your '.emacs' file.

- To define a key binding, use an expression of this form:

```
(define-key key-map keystrokes function)
```

- To set an Emacs variable, use an expression of this form:

```
(setq variable value)
```

- The section below gives some typical customizations you might perform in your '.emacs' file. Note that comments in are preceded by semicolon ';' characters.

```
(global-set-key "\M-g" 'goto-line)  ; Esc-G runs the goto-line
        ; function.

(global-set-key "\C-xt" 'transpose-lines) ; Ctrl-x t runs the
        ; transpose-lines function.

(setq default-major-mode 'text-mode)  ; Default mode is text-mode.

(setq text-mode-hook    ; Enable auto-fill-mode
 '(lambda () (auto-fill-mode 1)))  ; whenever using text-mode.

(setq delete-auto-save-files t)   ; Delete unnecessary
        ; auto-save files.

(display-time)     ; Display current time and
        ; load average on mode line.
```