

Identica mode manual

v0.3 for identica-mode.el v0.9

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1 About Identica mode and obtaining it

1.1 About identica-mode.el and this manual

This manual instructs in the use of `identica-mode.el`, a major mode for GNU Emacs used to perform useful actions with **StatusNet** microblogging services, like **identi.ca**.

`identica-mode.el` was developed by **Gabriel Saldana** and other contributors (Section 4.1 [Credits], page 6). It is originally based on Twittering mode version 0.6 by Y. Hayamizu and Tsuyoshi CHO.

1.2 Getting a copy

Identica mode can be obtained from the **Savannah** software forge. The URLs for the Identica mode project are:

- <http://www.nongnu.org/identica-mode> - Main website
- <https://savannah.nongnu.org/projects/identica-mode> - Software forge

You can obtain `identica-mode.el` directly from the git repository at Savannah by executing a git clone command:

```
git clone git://git.savannah.nongnu.org/identica-mode.git
```

This action will fetch the latest `identica-mode.el` file as well as the latest manual, located under the `doc/` directory.

2 Installation and configuration

2.1 Installing identica-mode.el

Installation of `identica-mode.el` is fairly straightforward. Like most GNU Emacs customizations, it is recommended you place your `identica-mode.el` file under your `emacs.d` directory. The location of this directory will vary between OSs, but it is generally under `~/.emacs.d/` for UNIX style systems. Consult your [GNU Emacs](#) documentation.

Alternatively, you can create your own directory for this GNU Emacs mode file, and others, if you choose. Read on for information on how to configure your `.emacs` file to find `identica-mode.el`.

2.2 Configuring GNU Emacs

2.2.1 identica-mode requirements

The following GNU Emacs libraries are required by `identica-mode.el`. A standard GNU Emacs installation should provide these, but if yours does not, fetch a copy of the [GNU Emacs](#) source. The libraries are generally found under the `emacs-<version>/lisp/` directory.

- `cl`
- `xml`
- `parse-time`
- `longlines`

In addition to the library requirements, the following software is currently required:

- GNU Emacs 22 or later
- Curl
- Wget
- UNIX-like OS (GNU/Linux, BSD, etcetera)

2.2.2 Configuring `.emacs`

Some or all of the following settings can be configured from within GNU Emacs or written to your `.emacs` file. To configure within GNU Emacs, execute `M-x` and type `customize-group`. When prompted for the group to customize, enter `identica-mode`. The settings are:

- Identica Idle Time
- Identica Timer Interval
- Identica Username
- Identica Password
- Laconica Server
- Identica Default Timeline
- Identica Display Success Messages
- Identica Update Status Edit Confirm Cancellation

- Identica Update Status Method
- Identica Http Get Timeout
- Identica Status Format

For general usage, the defaults for each of these settings (excluding Username and Password) should be fine to get started for use with identi.ca. If you wish to customize these settings, please see the [StatusNet wiki](#) for documentation of usage. Management of the customizations can also be performed from within your `.emacs` file. Below is a sample, explicitly calling the `identica-mode.el` file and with an added global keybinding to allow posting from the minibuffer without having the `identica` buffer active:

```
;; Identica Mode
(load "/home/identicauser/.emacs.d/identica-mode.el")
(require 'identica-mode)
(setq identica-username "identicauser")
(setq identica-password "password")
(global-set-key "\C-cip" 'identica-update-status-interactive)
```

3 Using identica-mode.el

3.1 Basic usage

3.1.1 Introduction

Identica mode currently works under GNU Emacs in both terminal and graphical mode. Where there are special considerations for one or the other mode, they will be clearly highlighted. The purpose of Identica mode is to provide an easy method to send and view updates while working within a GNU Emacs environment. Thus, the command set detailed below is simple. If you are interested in more complex functionality, feel free to send suggestions through the Savannah project website. Additionally, keep up-to-date with the latest releases. Also, see [Section 3.2.2 \[Extending identica-mode\]](#), page 5 for tips on writing your own functions.

3.1.2 Startup

To get started using Identica mode, execute `M-x` and type `identica-mode`. This will initiate the identica-mode buffer, `*identica*`, and display the default timeline. At any time you wish to refresh the timeline, press the `G` key.

3.1.3 Icons

If you are using GNU Emacs with a graphical interface, you can toggle the view of user icons by pressing the `I` key.

3.1.4 Replies timeline

To view your Replies timeline execute:

`C-c C-r`

3.1.5 Public timeline

To view the Public timeline execute:

`C-c C-g`

3.1.6 Personal timeline

To view your Personal timeline execute:

`C-c C-f`

3.1.7 Update status

To update your Identica status execute:

`C-c C-s`

At the **Status:** prompt, type the content of your status, up to 140 characters. When done, hit the **Enter** key. The message **Success: Post** will appear in the minibuffer.

3.1.8 Send notice

To send a notice directly to a user execute:

`C-c C-d`

At the `To user:` prompt type the exact user name and press the `Enter` key. At the `Direct message:` prompt, type your message and press the `Enter` key.

3.1.9 Shorten url

You can shorten a url while typing your update notice on the minibuffer by pressing the `<F4>` key while the cursor is in between or at the end of the long url you just typed.

3.2 Tips and tricks

3.2.1 Run commands after recieving notices

You can now create “hooks” that will run after recieving new notices. Just add a hook function to `identica-new-dents-hook`.

To display a notification message on KDE 4 you can add the following code on your `.emacs` file:

```
;; KDE 4 Notification of new dents with kdialog
(add-hook 'identica-new-dents-hook (lambda ()
  (let ((n identica-new-dents-count))
    (start-process "identica-notify" nil "kdialog"
      "--title"
      "Emacs Identica-mode New dents"
      "--passivepopup"
      (format "You have %d new dent%s"
              n (if (> n 1) "s" "")))
    "3"
  ))))
```

3.2.2 Extending identica-mode

Because `identica-mode.el` is written in Emacs Lisp, there are many options to extend the mode to your liking. As this is the first release of the Identica mode manual, this section will serve to simply encourage you to experiment with the code, and to see [Section 4.2 \[Contributing\]](#), [page 6](#) for ways to let us know how you’ve extended `identica-mode.el` - maybe we’ll add your extensions to the code, and this section, in further releases!

4 Credits and contributing

4.1 Credits

The following individuals have contributed to the Identica mode project. See the `identica-mode.el` file for more information.

- Christian Cheng
- Alberto Garcia
- Bradley M. Kuhn
- Jason McBrayer
- Carlos A. Perilla
- Alex Schrder
- Shyam Karanatt

4.2 Contributing

If you have any ideas for features, patches or bug fixes, please add them to the [identica-mode bug tracking list](#). If you are submitting something specifically for [Section 3.2.2 \[Extending `identica-mode`\]](#), [page 5](#), be sure to note this in your ticket.

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