

Vi Quick Reference Guide



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Vi Quick Reference Guide

Invoking vi

Invoke vi and load a new file vi
Invoke vi and load a specified file vi filename

Insert Mode

In insert mode, the keyboard behaves like a typewriter. Keystrokes appear as screen text after typing any of the following commands.

Insert text at the cursor I
Append text at the end of the line A
Append text after the cursor a
Open a new line of text above the cursor O
Open a new line of text below the cursor o

Command Mode

In command mode, keystrokes perform functions such as moving the cursor, searching for patterns, or quitting from the document. All commands are referenced from the current cursor position.

Invoke command mode (from insert mode) <Esc>

Cursor Movement

Move one space in any direction arrow keys
Go to the last line in the file G
Go to the first line in the file 1G
Move forward to the next word w
Move backwards to the previous word b
Move to the end of the line \$
Move to the beginning of the line 0
Scroll down 1/2 screen <Ctrl> d
Scroll up 1/2 screen <Ctrl> u

Searching

Search for a "string" (pattern) of characters /string
Search for the next occurrence of the "string" n
Search and replace :%s/stringA/stringB/g

Deleting Text

Delete a single character x
Delete a word dw
Delete an entire line dd
Delete an "n" number of lines ndd
Delete from the cursor to the end of the line d\$

Copying Text

Copy (yank) a line to the buffer yy
Copy (yank) an "n" number of lines to the buffer nyy
Paste text from the buffer p

Changing Text

Mark a single character for replacement r
Mark a word for changing cw
Mark a line for changing cc

Miscellaneous Commands

Join a line with the one below it J
Execute a XENIX/UNIX command :!command
Read a file into vi :r filename
Repeat the last command .
Undo the last command u

Saving and Exiting

Write (save) the file :w
Quit the file without saving changes :q!
Write (save) the file and quit vi ZZ

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