

Perched Systems: Vim Usage

Quick Reference Guide



Modes		
Mode	Key Press	Description
NORMAL	ESC	Can enter other modes, or use shortcuts
COMMAND	:	Can execute commands
INSERT	i	Insert at current position

Cursor Navigation Shortcuts	
Shortcut	Description
ctrl + e	Scroll Down
ctrl + y	Scroll Up
ctrl + f	Page Down
ctrl + b	Page UP
ctrl + u	Half Page Up
ctrl + d	Half Page Down
gg	Top of File
G	Bottom of File
H	Top of Page
M	Middle of Page
L	Bottom of Page
w	Start of next word
e	End of next word
E	End of next word (ignore punctuation)
b	Start of previous word
B	Start of previous word (ignore punctuation)
\$	Move to end of current line
0 (zero)	Move to start of current line

Prefixing commands with a number will repeat the command the specified number of times. For example: **5w** will move the cursor to the 5th word

Text Entry	
Shortcut	Description
a	Append text following cursor
A	Append text to end of current line
i	Insert text before cursor
I	Insert text at start of current line
o	Insert text after a new line below
O	Insert text after a new line above

Text Deletion	
Shortcut	Description
x	Delete character under cursor
dw	Delete word (include whitespace)
de	Delete to end of word (exclude whitespace)
db	Delete word backward (includes whitespace)
d\$	Delete to end of line (leaves blank line)
dd	Delete line
d^	Delete to start of line

Prefixing commands with a number will repeat the command the specified number of times. For example: **5dd** will delete five line starting at the cursor going down.

Copy/ Pasting	
Shortcut	Description
yy	Yank current line
y\$	From cursor Yank to end of line
yw	From cursor tank to end of word
p	Paste below cursor
P	Past above cursor
u	undo last change
U	Restore line
J	Move line below to end of current line

Prefixing commands with a number will repeat the command the specified number of times. For example: **5yy** starting at the cursor will copy 5 lines going down.

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Command Mode Commands		
Commands	Description	Example
:e file	Edit a file in a new buffer	:e new_file.txt
:r file	Read in the file	:r /tmp/file.txt
:r !{cmd}	Read in the CMD's STDIN	:r !ls -l
:1 (Any number)	Go to line number	:15
:/	Search forward for pattern	:/string_to_find
:?	Search backward for pattern	:?string_to_find
:s	Substitute on current line	:s/foo/bar/
:%s	Substitute in document	:%s/foo/bar/

Save / Close File	
Command	Description
:w	write to original file
:w file	write to new named file
:q	quit (no changes)
:q!	quit (ignore changes)
:wq	Save and Quit