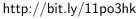
How to be a Vim Ninja

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Slides and demos at:

https://github.com/guywithnose/de-devcon-vim





00 Why Vim?

Intro

Why is Vim hard to learn?

- Vim is extremely complex
- Vim is full of features that are not imediately discoverable
- Vim is designed for experienced developers not beginners.



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- Vim is designed to maximize your productivity potential.
- Your vim skills can grow slowly but consistently over time



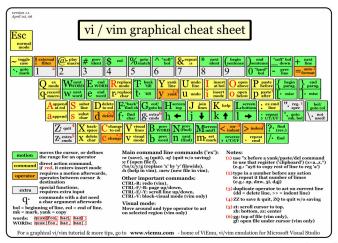
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The power of modes



vimtutor

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Advanced techniques

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Maintain a cheatsheet

- Decide on a few (no more than 10) things you want to learn.
- Write them down where you can see them while you are working in vim.
- Force yourself to use them in real world scenarios.



Advanced techniques

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Recognize mechanical operations

- How often do I do this?
- How long did it take me?
- Can it be scripted?



Basic commands

- q[0-9a-z] start recording
- Do something that is repeatable

- q stop recording
- @[0-9a-z]
- :help complex-repeat



Plugins

Tips

- Try to start the macro with an operation that will fail after the last iteration.
- If the macro is applied linewise to a block of consecutive lines use visual block mode.
- Try to avoid absolute motions.
- Use search motions, word motions, mark motions, etc.

What is a vimrc file?

- Your vimrc file is where you store your custom vim configuration.
- Vim loads this information every time that it starts up.
- As you become a more mature vim user, your vimrc will grow to include all the special sauce that makes vim work the way you like it.

Mappings

- Mappings are an easy way to bind macros to a key or combination of keys.
- Over time as you find ways to automate common operations with macros you can save them as mappings in you vimrc file.

Motions and Actions (Vim grammar)

Actions

- Delete d
- Change c
- Yank (Copy) y

Prepositions

- in i
- around a

Motions

- Word motions w, W, b, B, e, ge, E, gE
- Search motions t, T, f, F, /
- Text object motions p, s, },],), >, ', "



Dot Command

Repeat last action

Think of this like an automatic mini macro.

Macros

Combine simple actions using the change(c) action.

Advanced techniques

Autocomplete

- Ctrl-P
- Ctrl-N
- Ctrl-X Ctrl-L
- Ctrl-X Ctrl-F
- Ctrl-X Ctrl-O

Pathogen

Add pathogen.vim to ~/.vim/autoload

- Add this line to your .vimrc execute pathogen#infect()
- Plugins get loaded from ~/.vim/bundle



How to install plugins Git

Once you have Pathogen installed

- Copy plugins to your bundle directory.
- If the plugin is in git you can check it out to a directory in bundle.
- Take advantage of git submodules.



Advanced techniques

Directory structure

- plugin
- ftplugin
- autoload
- doc



Crafting your own plugins

My Favorite Plugins

- Editing tasks
 - Surround
 - Ultisnips
- Folding (Usually language specific)
- Interface
 - fugitive
 - CtrlP

