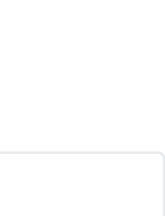


Vi / Vim Save And Quit The Editor Command

Author: Vivek Gite • Last updated: December 4, 2019 • 11 comments

I am a new vi / vim text editor user. How do I quit the vi editor and save my changes under a Linux or Unix like operating systems? Can you tell me command to save and quit file in vim?



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Tutorial details	
Difficulty	Easy (rss)
Root privileges	No
Requirements	vi / vim
Time	N/A

vi or vim (Vi Improved) is text editor or a programmers text editor. You can edit programs or configuration files on the Linux/Unix server. Vim is upwards compatible to Vi. This page explains how to save a file in Vim or vi and quit the editor under Linux or Unix-like systems.

Vim Save And Quit The Editor Command

The procedure to save a file in vim / vi and quit the editor is as follows:

1. Open the terminal application in Linux or Unix
2. Next, open a file in vim / vi, type: `vim filename`
3. To save a file in Vim / vi, press `Esc` key, type `:w` and hit `Enter` key
4. One can save a file and quit vim / Vi by pressing `Esc` key, type `:x` and hit `Enter` key

Let us see all commands and examples in details.

How to open a file in Vim / Vi

You can start vi/vim by typing the following command:

```
vim file
vi file
vim [options] filename
vim helloworld.sh
```

Understanding vim modes

When we start vim/vi text editor, we are in normal mode. This mode allows use to use vim commands and navigate around the file as per our needs. In order to edit text, you need to enter the insert mode by pressing `i` key. This way, we can edit our program or configuration files such as `/etc/nginx/nginx.conf`.

Of course, you can go back to normal mode by pressing `Esc` key again.

How to save and quit the vi or vim text editor

To save and quit the vi or vim editor with saving any changes you have made:

1. If you are currently in insert or append mode, press `Esc` key.
2. Press `:` (colon). The cursor should reappear at the lower left corner of the screen beside a colon prompt.
3. Enter the following command (type `:x` and press `Enter` key):

```
:x
```

OR

```
:x!
```

OR

```
:wq!
```

4. Press `ENTER` key
5. This will quit the editor, and all changes you have made to the document will be saved to the file.

Use `x` to save a file and exit:

How to trash all changes in vi/vim

If you do not want to save any changes, first press `Esc` key. To exit Vim without saving changes press `:q!` followed by `ENTER` key.

Getting more help about vim commands

Want to learn vim text editor? Start the vim tutor by typing the following command at the Linux, macOS, and Unix-like system:

```
$ vintutor
$ vintutor it
$ vintutor fr
```

vintutor in action

Summary of vim/vi commands

Command	Description
Press the <code>ESC</code> key Type <code>:q!</code> Press the <code>ENTER</code> key	Exit vim without saving changes i.e. discards any changes you made.
Press the <code>ESC</code> key Type <code>:wq</code> Press the <code>ENTER</code> key	Save a file and exit.
Press the <code>ESC</code> key Type <code>:x</code> Press the <code>ENTER</code> key	Save a file and exit.

Conclusion

You learned how to save a file in vim and exit the text editor using various vim commands. See the vim [site](#) or the following pages for more information.

This entry is 3 of 4 in the Exit From Linux and Unix "app" Tutorial series.
Keep reading the rest of the series:

1. [How To Exit From top Command In Linux / Unix / BSD / OS X](#)
2. [How To Exit Vim Text Editor Command](#)
3. Vi / Vim: Save And Quit The Editor Command
4. [How to reload_vimrc file without restarting vim on Linux/Unix](#)

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aref ghobadi • Aug 16, 2015 @ 12:25

Hi,
thanks

w! = save without exiting

q! = exit without saving

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Mohammad • Jun 14, 2016 @ 13:42

To save and quit:
If you are currently in insert or append mode, press `Esc` key.
Press: (semi-colon) The cursor should reappear at the lower left corner of the screen beside a colon prompt.
Enter the following command (type `wq!` and press `Enter` key).
:)

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Mohammad • Jun 14, 2016 @ 13:56

Press: (colon) The cursor should reappear at the lower left corner of the screen beside a colon prompt.
colon is right.

[reply](#) [link](#)

aaaaaaa • Sep 28, 2016 @ 20:15

none of these commands are working

[reply](#) [link](#)

Luke • Dec 6, 2016 @ 23:04

Hit the 'esc' key and it will take you out of the cursor mode and give you a cursor at the lower left hand of the screen. Now enter `wq!` and it will save and quit.

[reply](#) [link](#)

Sean • Dec 24, 2016 @ 6:22

Worked for me (Ubuntu 16.4). Thanks

[reply](#) [link](#)

Olga • Jan 24, 2017 @ 19:16

Thanks for sharing knowledge!
Worked just perfectly!

[reply](#) [link](#)

Peter • Jan 27, 2017 @ 4:35

worked for me too on Ubuntu. thank you!

[reply](#) [link](#)

me • Jun 17, 2017 @ 14:18

The theme become so popular in the entire Www, so I've created fun page

[reply](#) [link](#)

John • Sep 14, 2017 @ 9:00

Can't believe I clicked your link :)

[reply](#) [link](#)

Amit Shirasao • Jul 18, 2020 @ 18:58

Thx. It helped me.

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