

vi Editor "Cheat Sheet"

Invoking vi: *vi filename*

Format of vi commands: *[count][command]* (count repeats the effect of the command)

Command mode versus input mode

Vi starts in command mode. The positioning commands operate only while vi is in command mode. You switch vi to input mode by entering any one of several vi input commands. (See next section.) Once in input mode, any character you type is taken to be text and is added to the file. You cannot execute any commands until you exit input mode. To exit input mode, press the escape (**Esc**) key.

Input commands (end with Esc)

a	Append after cursor
i	Insert before cursor
o	Open line below
O	Open line above
<i>r, file</i>	Insert <i>file</i> after current line

Any of these commands leaves vi in input mode until you press **Esc**. Pressing the **RETURN** key will not take you out of input mode.

Change commands (Input mode)

cw	Change word (Esc)
cc	Change line (Esc) - blanks line
c\$	Change to end of line
rc	Replace character with <i>c</i>
R	Replace (Esc) - typeover
s	Substitute (Esc) - 1 char with string
S	Substitute (Esc) - Rest of line with text
.	Repeat last change

Changes during insert mode

<ctrl>h	Back one character
<ctrl>w	Back one word
<ctrl>u	Back to beginning of insert

File management commands

:w <i>name</i>	Write edit buffer to file <i>name</i>
:wq	Write to file and quit
:q!	Quit without saving changes
ZZ	Same as :wq
:sh	Execute shell commands (<ctrl>d)

Window motions

<ctrl>d	Scroll down (half a screen)
<ctrl>u	Scroll up (half a screen)
<ctrl>f	Page forward
<ctrl>b	Page backward
/string	Search forward
?string	Search backward
<ctrl>l	Redraw screen
<ctrl>g	Display current line number and file information
n	Repeat search
N	Repeat search reverse
G	Go to last line
nG	Go to line <i>n</i>
:n	Go to line <i>n</i>
z<CR>	Reposition window: cursor at top
z	Reposition window: cursor in middle
z-	Reposition window: cursor at bottom

Cursor motions

H	Upper left corner (home)
M	Middle line
L	Lower left corner
h	Back a character
j	Down a line
k	Up a line
^	Beginning of line
\$	End of line
l	Forward a character
w	One word forward
b	Back one word
fc	Find <i>c</i>
:	Repeat find (find next <i>c</i>)

Deletion commands

dd or ndd	Delete <i>n</i> lines to general buffer
dw	Delete word to general buffer
dww	Delete <i>n</i> words
d)	Delete to end of sentence
db	Delete previous word
D	Delete to end of line
x	Delete character

Recovering deletions

p	Put general buffer after cursor
P	Put general buffer before cursor

Undo commands

u	Undo last change
U	Undo all changes on line

Rearrangement commands

yy or Y	Yank (copy) line to general buffer
"r6yy	Yank 6 lines to buffer <i>c</i>
yw	Yank word to general buffer
"a9dd	Delete 9 lines to buffer <i>a</i>
"i9dd	Delete 9 lines; Append to buffer <i>a</i>
"ap	Put text from buffer <i>a</i> after cursor
p	Put general buffer after cursor
P	Put general buffer before cursor
J	Join lines

Parameters

set list	Show invisible characters
set nolist	Don't show invisible characters
set number	Show line numbers
set nonumber	Don't show line numbers
set autoindent	Indent after carriage return
set noautoindent	Turn off autoindent
set showmatch	Show matching sets of parentheses as they are typed
set noshowmatch	Turn off showmatch
set showmode	Display mode on last line of screen
set noshowmode	Turn off showmode
set all	Show values of all possible parameters

Move text from file *old* to file *new*

vi <i>old</i>	
"a10yy	yank 10 lines to buffer <i>a</i>
:w	write work buffer
:e <i>new</i>	edit <i>new</i> file
"ap	put text from <i>a</i> after cursor
:30,60w <i>new</i>	Write lines 30 to 60 in file <i>new</i>

Regular expressions (search strings)

^	Matches beginning of line
\$	Matches end of line
.	Matches any single character
*	Matches any previous character
*	Matches any character

Search and replace commands

Syntax:

:*(address)* s/*old_text/new_text/*

Address components:

.	Current line
n	Line number <i>n</i>
:+m	Current line plus <i>m</i> lines
\$	Last line
/string/	A line that contains "string"
%	Entire file
[addr1],[addr2]	Specifies a range

Examples:

The following example replaces only the first occurrence of Banana with Kumquat in each of 11 lines starting with the current line (.) and continuing for the 10 that follow (:+10).

```
.,.+10s/Banana/Kumquat
```

The following example replaces every occurrence (caused by the *g* at the end of the command) of apple with pear.

```
:%s/apple/pear/g
```

The following example removes the last character from every line in the file. Use it if every line in the file ends with ^M as the result of a file transfer. Execute it when the cursor is on the first line of the file.

```
:%s/. $//
```

GNU Emacs Reference Card

(for version 20)

Starting Emacs

To enter GNU Emacs 20, just type its name: **emacs**

To read in a file to edit, see Files, below.

Leaving Emacs

suspend Emacs (or iconify it under X) **C-z**
exit Emacs permanently **C-x C-c**

Files

read a file into Emacs **C-x C-f**
save a file back to disk **C-x C-s**
save all files **C-x s**
insert contents of another file into this buffer **C-x i**
replace this file with the file you really want **C-x C-v**
write buffer to a specified file **C-x C-w**
version control checkin/checkout **C-x C-q**

Getting Help

The help system is simple. Type **C-h** (or **F1**) and follow the directions. If you are a first-time user, type **C-h t** for a tutorial.

remove help window **C-x l**
scroll help window **C-M-v**
apropos: show commands matching a string **C-h a**
show the function a key runs **C-h c**
describes a function **C-h f**
get mode-specific information **C-h n**

Error Recovery

abort partially typed or executing command **C-g**
recover a file lost by a system crash **M-x recover-file**
undo an unwanted change **C-x u** or **C-_**
restore a buffer to its original contents **M-x revert-buffer**
redraw garbaged screen **C-l**

Incremental Search

search forward **C-s**
search backward **C-r**
regular expression search **C-M-s**
reverse regular expression search **C-M-r**
select previous search string **M-p**
select next later search string **M-n**
exit incremental search **RET**
undo effect of last character **DEL**
abort current search **C-g**

Use **C-s** or **C-r** again to repeat the search in either direction. If Emacs is still searching, **C-g** cancels only the part not done.

Motion

entity to move over	backward	forward
character	C-b	C-f
word	M-l	M-f
line	C-p	C-n
go to line beginning (or end)	C-a	C-e
sentence	M-a	M-e
paragraph	M-{	M-}
page	C-x [C-x]
sexp	C-M-b	C-M-f
function	C-M-a	C-M-e
go to buffer beginning (or end)	M-<	M->
scroll to next screen		C-v
scroll to previous screen		M-v
scroll left		C-x <
scroll right		C-x >
scroll current line to center of screen		C-u C-l

Killing and Deleting

entity to kill	backward	forward
character (delete, not kill)	DEL	C-d
word	M-DEL	M-d
line (to end of)	M-C C-k	C-k
sentence	C-x DEL	M-k
sexp	M-- C-M-k	C-M-k
kill region		C-w
copy region to kill ring		M-w
kill through next occurrence of char		M-z char
yank back last thing killed		C-y
replace last yank with previous kill		M-y

Marking

set mark here **C-G** or **C-SPC**
exchange point and mark **C-x C-x**
set mark arg words away **M-0**
mark paragraph **M-h**
mark page **C-x C-p**
mark sexp **C-M-0**
mark function **C-M-h**
mark entire buffer **C-x h**

Query Replace

interactively replace a text string **M-%**
using regular expressions **M-x query-replace-regexp**
Valid responses in query replace mode are
replace this one, go on to next **SPC**
replace this one, don't move **,**
skip to next without replacing **DEL**
replace all remaining matches **!**
back up to the previous match **RET**
exit query replace **C-r**
enter recursive edit (**C-M-c** to exit)

Multiple Windows

When two commands are shown, the second is for "other frame."

delete all other windows	C-x 1
split window, above and below	C-x 2 C-x 5 2
delete this window	C-x 0 C-x 5 0
split window, side by side	C-x 3
scroll other window	C-M-v
switch cursor to another window	C-x o C-x 5 o
select buffer in other window	C-x 4 b C-x 5 b
display buffer in other window	C-x 4 C-o C-x 5 C-o
find file in other window	C-x 4 f C-x 5 f
find file read-only in other window	C-x 4 r C-x 5 r
run Dired in other window	C-x 4 d C-x 5 d
find tag in other window	C-x 4 . C-x 5 .
grow window taller	C-x ^
shrink window narrower	C-x {
grow window wider	C-x }

Formatting

indent current line (mode dependent) **TAB**
indent region (mode dependent) **C-M-**
indent sexp (mode-dependent) **C-M-q**
indent region rigidly arg columns **C-x TAB**
insert newline after point **C-o**
move rest of line vertically down **C-M-o**
delete blank lines around point **C-x C-o**
join line with previous (with arg, next) **M-~**
delete all white space around point **M-**
put exactly one space at point **M-SPC**
fill paragraph **M-q**
set fill column **C-x f**
set prefix each line starts with **C-x .**
set face **M-g**

Case Change

uppercase word **M-u**
lowercase word **M-l**
capitalize word **M-c**
uppercase region **C-x C-u**
lowercase region **C-x C-l**

The Minibuffer

The following keys are defined in the minibuffer.

complete as much as possible	TAB
complete up to one word	SPC
complete and execute	RET
show possible completions	?
fetch previous minibuffer input	M-p
fetch later minibuffer input or default	M-n
regexp search backward through history	M-r
regexp search forward through history	M-s
abort command	C-g

Type **C-x ESC ESC** to edit and repeat the last command that used the minibuffer. Type **F10** to activate the menu bar using the minibuffer.

GNU Emacs Reference Card

Buffers

select another buffer	C-x b
list all buffers	C-x C-b
kill a buffer	C-x k

Transposing

transpose characters	C-t
transpose words	M-t
transpose lines	C-x C-t
transpose sexps	C-M-t

Spelling Check

check spelling of current word	M- <code>?</code>
check spelling of all words in region	M-x ispell-region
check spelling of entire buffer	M-x ispell-buffer

Tags

find a tag (a definition)	M- <code>.</code>
find next occurrence of tag	C-u M- <code>.</code>
specify a new tags file	M-x visit-tags-table
regex search on all files in tags table	M-x tags-search
run query-replace on all the files	M-x tags-query-replace
continue last tags search or query replace	M- <code>,</code>

Shells

execute a shell command	M- <code>!</code>
run a shell command on the region	M- <code> </code>
filter region through a shell command	C-u M- <code> </code>
start a shell in window *shell*	M-x shell

Rectangles

copy rectangle to register	C-x r r
kill rectangle	C-x r k
yank rectangle	C-x r y
open rectangle, shifting text right	C-x r c
blank out rectangle	C-x r b
prefix each line with a string	C-x r t

Abbrevs

add global abbrev	C-x a g
add mode-local abbrev	C-x a l
add global expansion for this abbrev	C-x a i g
add mode-local expansion for this abbrev	C-x a i l
explicitly expand abbrev	C-x a e
expand previous word dynamically	M- <code>/</code>

Regular Expressions

any single character except a newline	.	(dot)
zero or more repeats	*	
one or more repeats	+	
zero or one repeat	?	
quote regular expression special character c	\c	
alternative ("or")		
grouping	(...)	
same text as nth group	\n	
at word break	\b	
not at word break	\B	
entity		match start
line	^	match end
word	\<	>
buffer	\'	'
class of characters		match these
explicit set	[...]	[^ ...]
word-syntax character	\w	\W
character with syntax c	\sc	\Sc

International Character Sets

specify principal language	M-x set-language-environment
show all input methods	M-x list-input-methods
enable or disable input method	C-\
set coding system for next command	C-x RET c
show all coding systems	M-x list-coding-systems
choose preferred coding system	M-x prefer-coding-system

Info

enter the Info documentation reader	C-h i
find specified function or variable in Info	C-h C-i

Moving within a node:

scroll forward	SPC
scroll reverse	DEL
beginning of node	. (dot)

Moving between nodes:

next node	n
previous node	p
move up	u
select menu item by name	n
select nth menu item by number (1-9)	n
follow cross reference (return with 1)	f
return to last node you saw	l
return to directory node	d
go to any node by name	g

Other:

run Info tutorial	h
quit Info	q
search nodes for regexp	M-s

Registers

save region in register	C-x r s
insert register contents into buffer	C-x r i
save value of point in register	C-x r SPC
jump to point saved in register	C-x r j

Keyboard Macros

start defining a keyboard macro	C-x (
end keyboard macro definition	C-x)
execute last defined keyboard macro	C-x o
append to last keyboard macro	C-u C-x (
name last keyboard macro	M-x name-last-kbd-macro
insert Lisp definition in buffer	M-x insert-kbd-macro

Commands Dealing with Emacs Lisp

eval sexp before point	C-x C-e
eval current defun	C-M-x
eval region	M-x eval-region
read and eval minibuffer	M- <code>:</code>
load from standard system directory	M-x load-library

Simple Customization

customize variables and faces	M-x customize
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Making global key bindings in Emacs Lisp (examples):

```
(global-set-key "\C-cg" 'goto-line)
(global-set-key "\M-#" 'query-replace-regexp)
```

Writing Commands

```
(defun command name (args)
  "documentation" (interactive "template")
  body)
```

An example:

```
(defun this-line-to-top-of-window (line)
  "Reposition line point is on to top of window.
With ARG, put point on line ARG."
  (interactive "P")
  (recenter (if (null line)
                0
                (prefix-numeric-value line))))
```

The interactive spec says how to read arguments interactively. Type C-h f interactive for more details.

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