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# How to Show an ASCII Art Welcome Screen at the Top of the Vim Terminal

Get an inspirational quote from Homer, Yoda, or Spongebob



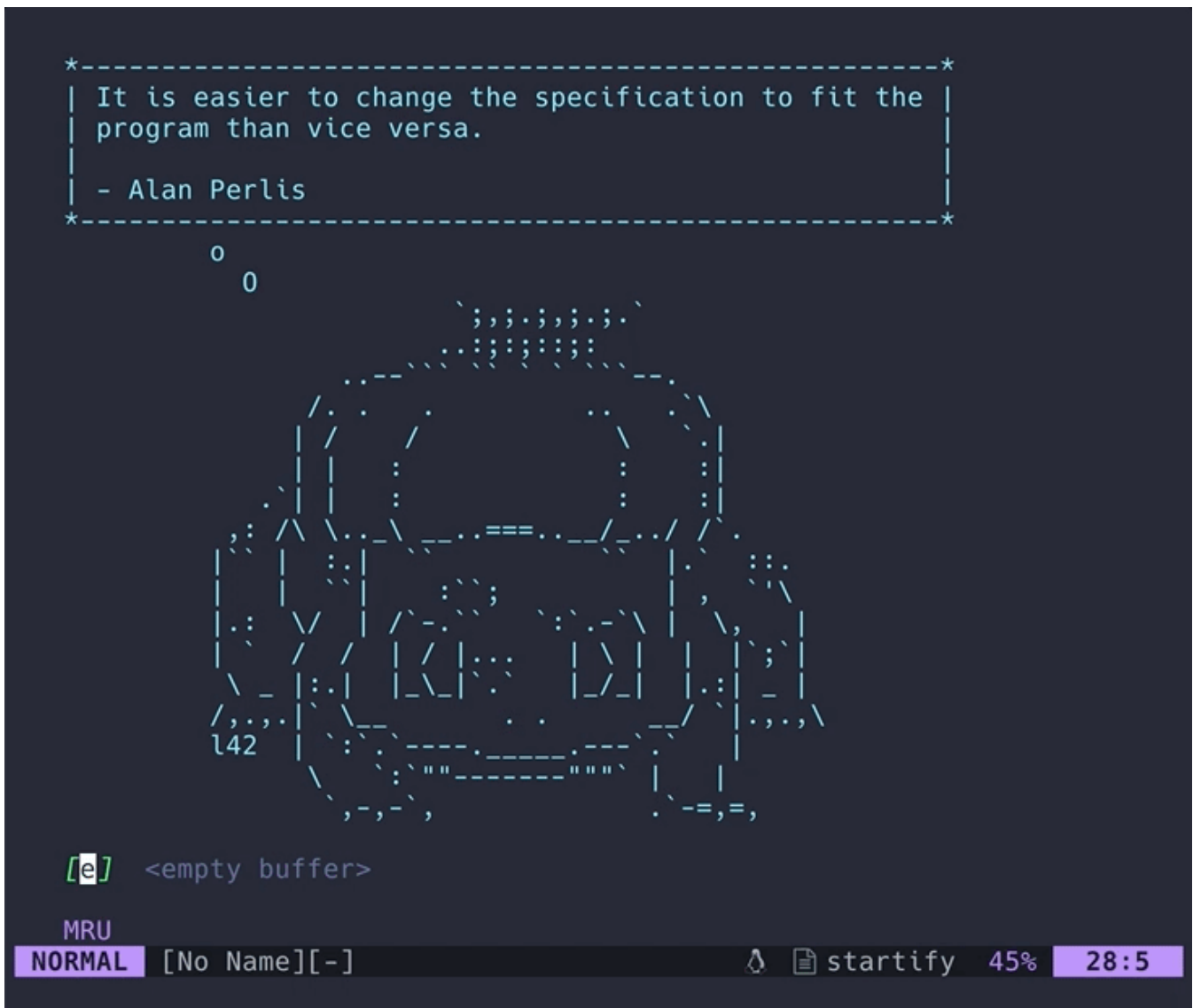
Jake Manger · Follow

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Some inspirational quotes from ascii art characters. Image by Author.

If you use vim, you're probably just like me. You spend way too much time customising your config files to optimize your keyboard shortcuts and make things look pretty. If you're new to vim or have yet to customise your config files, I apologise. By the time you've read this post, you'll have a new addiction.

Today we are going to make a nice startup page for your vim (or `neovim`) setup. Each time you open vim, you'll get a new random inspirational quote spoken by a random ascii art character.

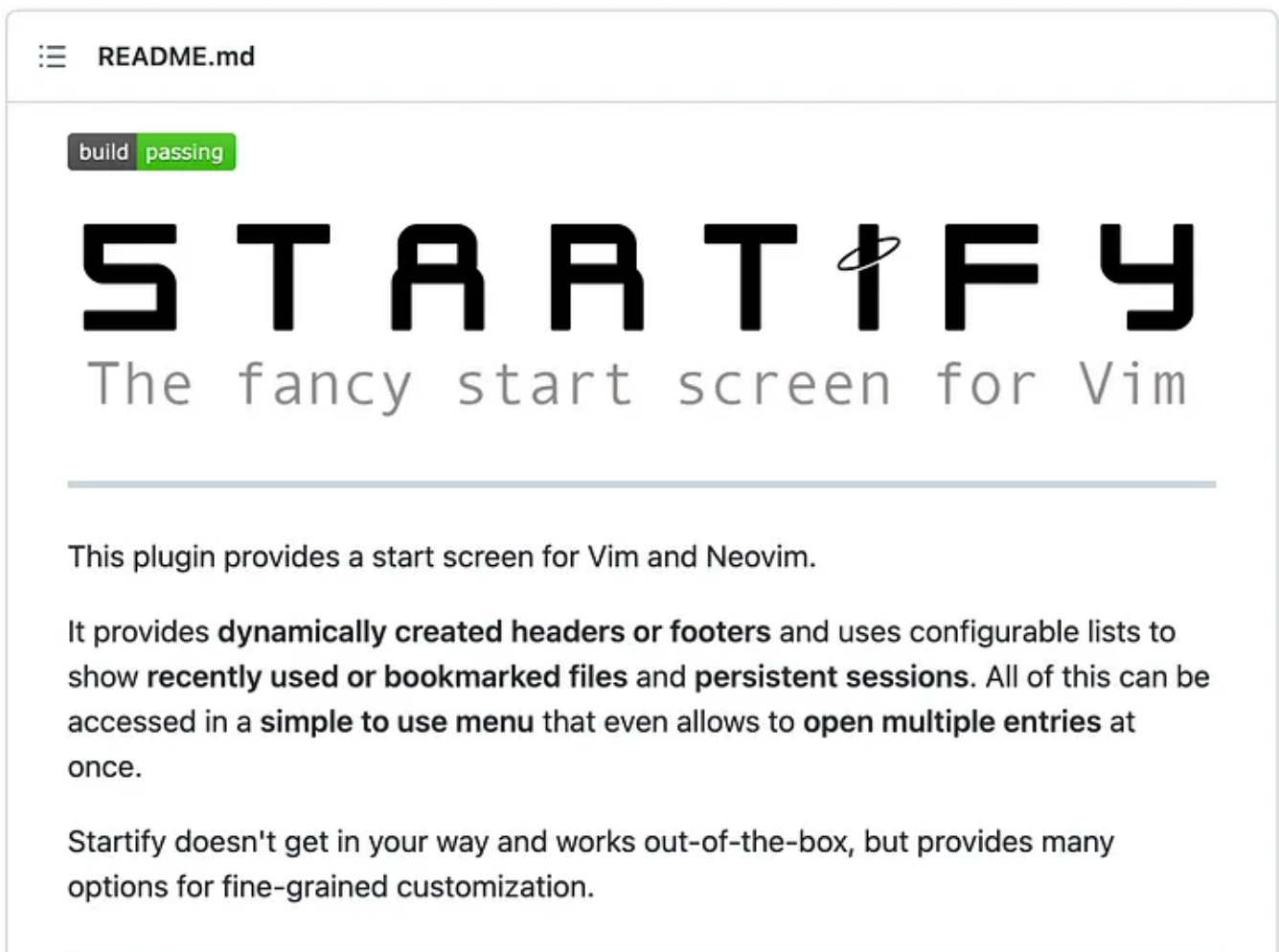
*If you're unfamiliar with vim, it's a simple command-line text editor pre-installed on pretty much every Linux or mac machine, runnable with the command: `vim`. If you're on windows, you'll be able to use it with Windows Subsystem for Linux in the exact same way as I do in this post. You may also follow along after setting vim up with a non-Windows Subsystem for Linux Windows guide [here](#). Much of the vim community (including me) has*

shifted to neovim, a fork with a bunch of new features, so I'll be providing instructions for both here.

You can install neovim with `brew install neovim` on mac or `sudo apt install neovim` on ubuntu.

## Installing a plugin

To achieve what we want, we need to customize a plugin called `vim-startify` — the fancy start screen for vim. But first, we need to install it!



Screenshot of the vim-startify [readme](#).

Installation is made using a plugin manager like vim-plug (click the link for installation instructions) and is specified in your vim config file. With vim this file is found at `~/.vimrc`. With neovim, this file is found at `~/.config/nvim/init.vim`.

If you're using vim-plug like me, add `Plug 'mhinz/vim-startify'` to your vim config file like so:

```
call plug#begin(stdpath('data') . '/plugged')  
  
Plug 'mhinz/vim-startify'  
" the rest of your plugins...  
  
call plug#end()  
  
" the rest of your vim config file...
```

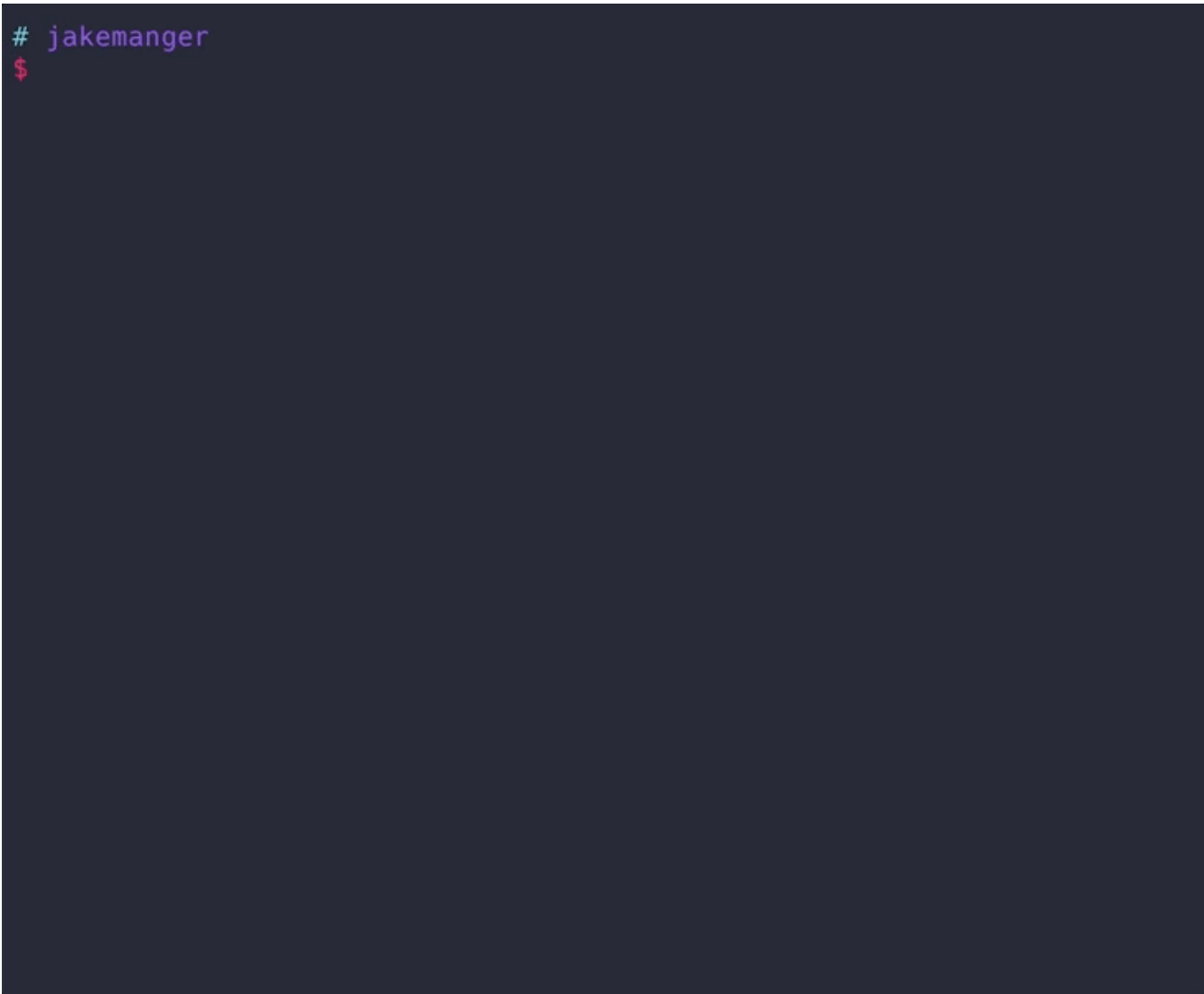
Then close and reopen vim and install with the `:PlugInstall` command.

If you're using another plugin manager, see that managers instructions for use.

You'll just need to add `'mhinz/vim-startify'` somewhere else in your config file and run a similar command.

## Default vim-startify configuration

By default, `vim-startify` looks pretty nice. Now, when you open vim, you should see the following:



```
# jakemanger  
$
```

Default vim-startify configuration. Image by Author.

However, the whole point of this article is to add different ascii art characters and quotes. Let's do that now.

## Customizing the vim-startify configuration

To customize our ASCII art character and quotes, we can add the below code to our vim config file (found at `~/.vimrc` with vim and `~/.config/nvim/init.vim` on neovim). If you want to be a bit neater, you can also put this into a file that loads after the plugins are loaded at:

- `~/.vim/after/plugin/vim-startify.vim` on vim.
- `~/.config/nvim/after/plugin/vim-startify.rc.vim` on neovim.

```

1  let g:startify_custom_header_quotes = [
2      \ ["Debugging is twice as hard as writing the code in the first place. Therefore, if
3      \ ["If you don't finish then you're just busy, not productive."],
4      \ ['Adapting old programs to fit new machines usually means adapting new machines to
5      \ ['Fools ignore complexity. Pragmatists suffer it. Some can avoid it. Geniuses remov
6      \ ['It is easier to change the specification to fit the program than vice versa.', ''
7      \ ['Simplicity does not precede complexity, but follows it.', '', '- Alan Perlis'],
8      \ ['Optimization hinders evolution.', '', '- Alan Perlis'],
9      \ ['Recursion is the root of computation since it trades description for time.', '',
10     \ ['It is better to have 100 functions operate on one data structure than 10 function
11     \ ['There is nothing quite so useless as doing with great efficiency something that s
12     \ ["If you don't fail at least 90% of the time, you're not aiming high enough.", '',
13     \ ['I think a lot of new programmers like to use advanced data structures and advance
14     \ ['I would rather die of passion than of boredom.', '', '- Vincent Van Gogh'],
15     \ ['If a system is to serve the creative spirit, it must be entirely comprehensible t
16     \ ["The computing scientist's main challenge is not to get confused by the complexiti
17     \ ["Progress in a fixed context is almost always a form of optimization. Creative act
18     \ ['The essence of XML is this: the problem it solves is not hard, and it does not sc
19     \ ['A good programmer is someone who always looks both ways before crossing a one-way
20     \ ['Patterns mean "I have run out of language."', '', '- Rich Hickey'],
21     \ ['Always code as if the person who ends up maintaining your code is a violent psych
22     \ ['Unix was not designed to stop its users from doing stupid things, as that would a
23     \ ['Contrary to popular belief, Unix is user friendly. It just happens to be very sel
24     \ ['Perfection is achieved, not when there is nothing more to add, but when there is
25     \ ['There are two ways of constructing a software design: One way is to make it so si
26     \ ["If you don't make mistakes, you're not working on hard enough problems.", '', '-
27     \ ["If you don't start with a spec, every piece of code you write is a patch.", '', '
28     \ ['Caches are bugs waiting to happen.', '', '- Rob Pike'],
29     \ ['Abstraction is not about vagueness, it is about being precise at a new semantic l
30     \ ["dd is horrible on purpose. It's a joke about OS/360 JCL. But today it's an interr
31     \ ['All loops are infinite ones for faulty RAM modules.'],
32     \ ['All idioms must be learned. Good idioms only need to be learned once.', '', '- Al
33     \ ['For a successful technology, reality must take precedence over public relations,
34     \ ['If programmers were electricians, parallel programmers would be bomb disposal exp
35     \ ['Computers are harder to maintain at high altitude. Thinner air means less cushion
36     \ ['Almost every programming language is overrated by its practitioners.', '', '- Lar
37     \ ['Fancy algorithms are slow when n is small, and n is usually small.', '', '- Rob F
38     \ ['Methods are just functions with a special first argument.', '', '- Andrew Gerranc
39     \ ['Care about your craft.', '', 'Why spend your life developing software unless you
40     \ ["Provide options, don't make lame excuses.", '', "Instead of excuses, provide opti
41     \ ['Be a catalyst for change.', '', "You can't force change on people. Instead, show
42     \ ['Make quality a requirements issue.', '', "Involve your users in determining the p
43     \ ['Critically analyze what you read and hear.', '', "Don't be swayed by vendors, mec
44     \ ["DRY - Don't Repeat Yourself.", '', 'Every piece of knowledge must have a single,
45     \ ['Eliminate effects between unrelated things.', '', 'Design components that are sel
46     \ ['Use tracer bullets to find the target.', '', 'Tracer bullets let you home in on y
47     \ ['Program close to the problem domain.', '', "Design and code in your user's langua
48     \ ['Iterate the schedule with the code.', '', 'Use experience you gain as you implem

```

```

48 \ Iterate the schedule with the code. ', ', 'Use experience you gain as you implement
49 \ ['Use the power of command shells.', '', 'Use the shell when graphical user interface
50 \ ['Always use source code control.', '', 'Source code control is a time machine for
51 \ ["Don't panic when debugging", '', 'Take a deep breath and THINK! about what could
52 \ ["Don't assume it - prove it.", '', 'Prove your assumptions in the actual environment
53 \ ['Write code that writes code.', '', 'Code generators increase your productivity and
54 \ ['Design With contracts.', '', 'Use contracts to document and verify that code does
55 \ ['Use assertions to prevent the impossible.', '', 'Assertions validate your assumptions
56 \ ['Finish what you start.', '', 'Where possible, the routine or object that allocates
57 \ ["Configure, don't integrate.", '', 'Implement technology choices for an application
58 \ ['Analyze workflow to improve concurrency.', '', 'Exploit concurrency in your user's
59 \ ['Always design for concurrency.', '', 'Allow for concurrency, and you'll design clean
60 \ ['Use blackboards to coordinate workflow.', '', 'Use blackboards to coordinate display
61 \ ['Estimate the order of your algorithms.', '', 'Get a feel for how long things are
62 \ ['Refactor early, refactor often.', '', 'Just as you might weed and rearrange a garden
63 \ ['Test your software, or your users will.', '', 'Test ruthlessly. Don't make your users
64 \ ["Don't gather requirements - dig for them.", '', 'Requirements rarely lie on the surface
65 \ ['Abstractions live longer than details.', '', 'Invest in the abstraction, not the details
66 \ ["Don't think outside the box - find the box.", '', 'When faced with an impossible
67 \ ['Some things are better done than described.', '', 'Don't fall into the specification
68 \ ["Costly tools don't produce better designs.", '', 'Beware of vendor hype, industry
69 \ ["Don't use manual procedures.", '', 'A shell script or batch file will execute the
70 \ ["Coding ain't done 'til all the Tests run.", '', 'Nuff said.'],
71 \ ['Test state coverage, not code coverage.', '', 'Identify and test significant program
72 \ ['English is just a programming language.', '', 'Write documents as you would write
73 \ ["Gently exceed your users' expectations.", '', 'Come to understand your users' expectations
74 \ ['Think about your work.', '', 'Turn off the autopilot and take control. Constantly
75 \ ["Don't live with broken windows.", '', 'Fix bad designs, wrong decisions, and poor
76 \ ['Remember the big picture.', '', 'Don't get so engrossed in the details that you forget
77 \ ['Invest regularly in your knowledge portfolio.', '', 'Make learning a habit.'],
78 \ ["It's both what you say and the way you say it.", '', 'There's no point in having
79 \ ['Make it easy to reuse.', '', 'If it's easy to reuse, people will. Create an environment
80 \ ['There are no final decisions.', '', 'No decision is cast in stone. Instead, consider
81 \ ['Prototype to learn.', '', 'Prototyping is a learning experience. Its value lies in
82 \ ['Estimate to avoid surprises.', '', 'Estimate before you start. You'll spot potential
83 \ ['Keep knowledge in plain text.', '', 'Plain text won't become obsolete. It helps
84 \ ['Use a single editor well.', '', 'The editor should be an extension of your hand;
85 \ ['Fix the problem, not the blame.', '', 'It doesn't really matter whether the bug is
86 \ ["\"select\" isn't broken.", '', 'It is rare to find a bug in the OS or the compiler
87 \ ['Learn a text manipulation language.', '', 'You spend a large part of each day working
88 \ ["You can't write perfect software.", '', 'Software can't be perfect. Protect your
89 \ ['Crash early.', '', 'A dead program normally does a lot less damage than a crippled
90 \ ['Use exceptions for exceptional problems.', '', 'Exceptions can suffer from all the
91 \ ['Minimize coupling between modules.', '', 'Avoid coupling by writing "shy" code and
92 \ ['Put abstractions in code, details in metadata.', '', 'Program for the general case
93 \ ['Design using services.', '', 'Design in terms of services-independent, concurrent
94 \ ['Separate views from models.', '', 'Gain flexibility at low cost by designing your
95 \ ["Don't program by coincidence.", '', 'Rely only on reliable things. Beware of accidents

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96  \ ['Test your estimates.', '', 'Mathematical analysis of algorithms doesn't tell you
97  \ ['Design to test.', '', 'Start thinking about testing before you write a line of co
98  \ ["Don't use wizard code you don't understand.", '', 'Wizards can generate reams of
99  \ ['Work with a user to think like a user.', '', 'It's the best way to gain insight i
100 \ ['Use a project glossary.', '', 'Create and maintain a single source of all the spe
101 \ ["Start when you're ready.", '', 'You've been building experience all your life. Do
102 \ ["Don't be a slave to formal methods.", '', 'Don't blindly adopt any technique with
103 \ ['Organize teams around functionality.', '', 'Don't separate designers from coders,
104 \ ['Test early. Test often. Test automatically.', '', 'Tests that run with every buil
105 \ ['Use saboteurs to test your testing.', '', 'Introduce bugs on purpose in a separat
106 \ ['Find bugs once.', '', 'Once a human tester finds a bug, it should be the last tim
107 \ ['Sign your work.', '', 'Craftsmen of an earlier age were proud to sign their work.
108 \ ['Think twice, code once.'],
109 \ ['No matter how far down the wrong road you have gone, turn back now.'],
110 \ ['Why do we never have time to do it right, but always have time to do it over?'],
111 \ ['Weeks of programming can save you hours of planning.'],
112 \ ['To iterate is human, to recurse divine.', '', '- L. Peter Deutsch'],
113 \ ['Computers are useless. They can only give you answers.', '', '- Pablo Picasso'],
114 \ ['The question of whether computers can think is like the question of whether subma
115 \ ["It's ridiculous to live 100 years and only be able to remember 30 million bytes.
116 \ ["The city's central computer told you? R2D2, you know better than to trust a stran
117 \ ['Most software today is very much like an Egyptian pyramid with millions of bricks
118 \ ["I've finally learned what \"upward compatible\" means. It means we get to keep al
119 \ ["There are two major products that come out of Berkeley: LSD and UNIX. We don't be
120 \ ["The bulk of all patents are crap. Spending time reading them is stupid. It's up t
121 \ ['Controlling complexity is the essence of computer programming.', '', '- Brian Ker
122 \ ['Complexity kills. It sucks the life out of developers, it makes products difficul
123 \ ['The function of good software is to make the complex appear to be simple.', '', '
124 \ ["There's an old story about the person who wished his computer were as easy to use
125 \ ['There are only two industries that refer to their customers as "users."', '', '-
126 \ ['Most of you are familiar with the virtues of a programmer. There are three, of co
127 \ ['Computer science education cannot make anybody an expert programmer any more than
128 \ ['Optimism is an occupational hazard of programming; feedback is the treatment.', '
129 \ ['First, solve the problem. Then, write the code.', '', '- John Johnson'],
130 \ ['Measuring programming progress by lines of code is like measuring aircraft buildi
131 \ ["Don't worry if it doesn't work right. If everything did, you'd be out of a job.",
132 \ ['A LISP programmer knows the value of everything, but the cost of nothing.', '', '
133 \ ['All problems in computer science can be solved with another level of indirection.
134 \ ['Functions delay binding; data structures induce binding. Moral: Structure data la
135 \ ['Easy things should be easy and hard things should be possible.', '', '- Larry Wal
136 \ ['Nothing is more permanent than a temporary solution.'],
137 \ ["If you can't explain something to a six-year-old, you really don't understand it
138 \ ['All programming is an exercise in caching.', '', '- Terje Mathisen'],
139 \ ['Software is hard.', '', '- Donald Knuth'],
140 \ ['They did not know it was impossible, so they did it!', '', '- Mark Twain'],
141 \ ['The object-oriented model makes it easy to build up programs by accretion. What t
142 \ ['Question: How does a large software project get to be one year late?', 'Answer: C
143 \ ['The first 90% of the code accounts for the first 90% of the development time. The

```



```

143 \ [The first 50% of the code accounts for the first 50% of the development time. The
144 \ ["In software, we rarely have meaningful requirements. Even if we do, the only meas
145 \ ["If debugging is the process of removing bugs, then programming must be the proces
146 \ ["640K ought to be enough for anybody.', '', '- Bill Gates, 1981'],
147 \ ["To understand recursion, one must first understand recursion.', '', '- Stephen Ha
148 \ ["Developing tolerance for imperfection is the key factor in turning chronic starte
149 \ ["Every great developer you know got there by solving problems they were unqualifie
150 \ ["The average user doesn't give a damn what happens, as long as (1) it works and (2
151 \ ["Walking on water and developing software from a specification are easy if both ar
152 \ ["Be curious. Read widely. Try new things. I think a lot of what people call intell
153 \ ["What one programmer can do in one month, two programmers can do in two months.',
154 \ ]
155
156 function! Get_random_offset(max) abort
157     return str2nr(matchstr(reltimestr(reltime()), '\.\zs\d\+') [1:]) % a:max
158 endfunction
159
160 " asciis sourced from the interwebs on free ascii sites,
161 " mostly from https://www.asciiart.eu/
162 let g:asciis = [
163     \ [
164     \ '          `;;,;;,;;,;\',
165     \ '          ..;;,;;,;;, ',
166     \ '          ..--""""""""--.. ',
167     \ '      /..  .      ..  .\',
168     \ '      | /  /      \  \. |',
169     \ '      | |  :      :  : |',
170     \ '      .| |  :      :  : |',
171     \ ' ,: /\ \.. \ __..==.._/_.. / \.',
172     \ '|^ | :. | ^ ^      ^ ^ |. :.',
173     \ '| | ^ | : ^ ;      | , ^ ^ \',
174     \ '|.: \ / | ^-. ^ ^ ^ ^ \ | \ , |',
175     \ '| ^ / / | / |... | \ | | | ^ |',
176     \ ' \ _ | :. | | \ | ^ ^ | / _ | | :. | _ |',
177     \ '/,.,. | \ _      . .      _/ ^ ,.,. \',
178     \ '142 | ^ : ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ |',
179     \ '      \ ^ : ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ |',
180     \ '      ^ , ^ , ^ ,      ^ ^ ^ , ^ , ^ ,',
181     \ ],
182     \ [
183     \ '  @@@.      @@@@ ',
184     \ '  @@:  \  @@@@  @@@@ ',
185     \ '  @:  \  @@@@  @@@@ ',
186     \ '  @:  \  @@@@  @@@@ ',
187     \ '  @:  \  @@@@  @@@@ ',
188     \ '  @:  \  @@@@  @@@@ ',
189     \ '  @:  \  @@@@  @@@@ ',
190     \ '  @:  \  @@@@  @@@@ ',

```

<https://betterprogramming.pub/how-to-show-an-ascii-art-welcome-screen-at-the-top-of-the-vim-terminal-b8787f6ea9f4>

```
239 \ '  . . . . .',
240 \ '  . . . . .',
241 \ '  . . . . .',
242 \ '  . . . . .',
243 \ '  . . . . .',
244 \ '  . . . . .',
245 \ '  . . . . .',
246 \ '  . . . . .',
247 \ '  . . . . .',
248 \ '  . . . . .',
249 \ ],
250 \ [
251 \ '  . . . . .',
252 \ '  . . . . .',
253 \ '  . . . . .',
254 \ '  . . . . .',
255 \ '  . . . . .',
256 \ '  . . . . .',
257 \ '  . . . . .',
258 \ '  . . . . .',
259 \ '  . . . . .',
260 \ '  . . . . .',
261 \ '  . . . . .',
262 \ '  . . . . .',
263 \ '  . . . . .',
264 \ '  . . . . .',
265 \ ],
266 \ [
267 \ '  _ _ _',
268 \ '  // _ \ _',
269 \ '  . " \ \ " .',
270 \ ' / \',
271 \ ' | \',
272 \ ' | , -- . - .)',
273 \ ' \ / o \ o \',
274 \ ' / \ \ \ / _ /',
275 \ ' ( _ . ` -- ` _ )',
276 \ ' | . - ` \',
277 \ ' | . - ` . )',
278 \ ' | ( _ / -- . - `',
279 \ ' | ` . _ _ .',
280 \ ' (',
281 \ ],
282 \ [
283 \ ' | \ \ , .',
284 \ ' / ` ` | , - ,',
285 \ ' / / _',
```

```

286 \ ' _/          /',
287 \ '(.--.--.    /',
288 \ '/o/  o \    /',
289 \ '\_\    /    _/',
290 \ '(__`--`    _)',
291 \ ' /          |',
292 \ '(___,`    \ hjw',
293 \ '  \_      _\ ',
294 \ '    `._...-`',
295 \ ],
296 \ [
297 \ '      /\  /\ ',
298 \ '  __/  \  \__ ',
299 \ ' |          /',
300 \ ' |          /_ ',
301 \ ' /    \_ | \_ | /',
302 \ '/      \  \  \ ',
303 \ '\      (o  )o  )',
304 \ ' \ /c  \_ /  --.',
305 \ ' | \_ ,    -`',
306 \ ' | _ | ` \_____',
307 \ '  ||      _)',
308 \ '   |      |',
309 \ '   ooooooo',
310 \ '  /        \ ',
311 \ ],
312 \ [
313 \ ' (',
314 \ ' \ _--._--._    )',
315 \ ' / ( ,      ,`-._ /',
316 \ ' ( ,^--^-. ;--^--/ ( \ ',
317 \ ' :`      \ /      \ ) /',
318 \ ' ( o  ( o  |( \ ',
319 \ ' \ ,----\      /(-.)',
320 \ ' ,``-\_  `_.__,` ,. )',
321 \ ',`      _/ ',
322 \ '`-._._____|,---,',
323 \ '      `^;--^--^-\ | `-----',
324 \ '      ( `-----` .,`-._/ ',
325 \ '      ;.____,--` / \ ',
326 \ ' -hrr- (      / \ ',
327 \ '      (`-      / \ ',
328 \ '      \      ,` \ ',
329 \ '      / ) _,-` \ ',
330 \ '      / (-` \ \ ',
331 \ ],
332 \ [
333 \ '      ,---.',

```

```

334 \ ' ,.-. \',
335 \ ' ( ( ,""""-.',
336 \ ' ,X \',
337 \ ' / \ \_',
338 \ ' ( , ,_\',
339 \ ' | ,---,`o`.',
340 \ ' | / o \ )',
341 \ ' \ ,. ( .___',
342 \ ' \| \ \___, \',
343 \ ' ``\ \ \___, \',
344 \ ' \ ,-- ,-\ \',
345 \ ' ( C , \',
346 \ ' \-- \ |',
347 \ ' | | .0 |',
348 \ ' _| \ ,-\_',
349 \ ' / \L \_ \_',
350 \ ' / \---_ \_, \_',
351 \ ' \-. /\ | \. ( ,\ \',
352 \ ' _/ \-._ / \ |-- ( \',
353 \ ' \-. `` \/\'. \. )',
354 \ ' \ -hrr- \ \. | |',
355 \ ],
356 \ [
357 \ ' .....-',
358 \ ' \ ( \_ ( ) _ \',
359 \ ' \ | \_) ( ) |',
360 \ ' \_.)\ ..... /',
361 \ ' |(\. | / .-\-. \ |',
362 \ ' \ 0| | ( 0| 0) | o|',
363 \ ' | _ | .---_.\_-. |',
364 \ ' \ ( ) | o -' .-' |',
365 \ ' | \ |'-._ _ _ \ /',
366 \ ' \ | | \. | _| _| |',
367 \ ' | o | \_ \ | -.-.',
368 \ ' |.-. \ \---.- 0 | \.-.-.',
369 \ ' \_.\_ | \.-.- /-._ \.-.',
370 \ ' \.-.-.\_|=.=.=.=.=.=|._/_ \.-.-.',
371 \ ' \-._ \. |____/\____| \.-.-.',
372 \ ' \. ) .| '= '= \ \ '= '|',
373 \ ' \_.\_ \-----',
374 \ ' //__\ //__\',
375 \ ' || ||',
376 \ ' LGB ||_.-. ||_.-.',
377 \ ' (_.-_) (_.-_)',
378 \ ],
379 \ [
380 \ ' _',

```

```

381 \ ' _____( _@_ )_____',
382 \ ' | POLICE          BOX | ',
383 \ ' |_____ | ',
384 \ ' | _____ | _____ | ',
385 \ ' | |###| | |###| | ',
386 \ ' | |###| | |###| | ',
387 \ ' | _____ | _____ | ',
388 \ ' | || || | || || | ',
389 \ ' | ||_|| | ||_|| | ',
390 \ ' | _____ |$_____ | ',
391 \ ' | || || | || || | ',
392 \ ' | ||_|| | ||_|| | ',
393 \ ' | _____ | _____ | ',
394 \ ' | || || | || || |   ',
395 \ ' | ||_|| | ||_|| |   ',
396 \ ' |           |           |   ',
397 \ ' *****',
398 \ ],
399 \ [
400 \ '                               Exterminate! ',
401 \ '                               / ',
402 \ '                               _ ',
403 \ '          D>=G===` ` `.',
404 \ '          |=====| ',
405 \ '          |=====| ',
406 \ '          )--/]IIIIII] ',
407 \ '          |_____ | ',
408 \ '          C O O O D ',
409 \ '          C O  O  O D ',
410 \ '          C  O  O  O D ',
411 \ '          C _O _O _O _D ',
412 \ 'snd      [_____ ] ',
413 \ ],
414 \ [
415 \ '      _ ',
416 \ '      ( ) ',
417 \ '      H ',
418 \ '      H ',
419 \ '      _H _ ',
420 \ '      .-`-.-.-.-.',
421 \ ' /          \ ',
422 \ ' |           | ',
423 \ ' | .-----`._ ',
424 \ ' | / / `.` `.` \ ',
425 \ ' | \ \ @   @ / / ',
426 \ ' | `-----`      ',
427 \ ' | _____ | ',
428 \ ' | .`-+-+--+|  ',

```

A7C

```

476 \ ],
477 \ [
478 \ '  ___-___  o==o=====  .  .  .  .  .',
479 \ '===== ||//',
480 \ '      \ \ ||/_',
481 \ '      #_____/ ',
482 \ ],
483 \ [
484 \ '          _ ',
485 \ '          .` .` .',
486 \ '          :      : ',
487 \ '          | _ _ | ',
488 \ '          .-.|(o)(o)|.-.      _-      _- ',
489 \ '          ( ( | .--. | ) )      .` _ ` .      .` _ ` . ',
490 \ '          ^-/( ) ^-`      / / ^ \ \ _ / / ^ \ \ ',
491 \ '          / ^--` \      / /      \ .` `./      \ \ ',
492 \ '          \ "====" /      ^-`      : _ _ :      ^-` ',
493 \ '          ^\      / ^          |(o)(o)| ',
494 \ '          ^\ / ^          |      | ',
495 \ '          / ^--` \      /      \ ',
496 \ '          _...;\_/V\_/..._      /      .--.      \ ',
497 \ '          .`/...;\ / ^ \ /...;\ .      | ( ) | ',
498 \ '          / /...;\ | | /...;\ \      _\ ^--` / _ ',
499 \ 'jgs / /...;\ _/...;\ \ \ .` ^-` _-` ^-` ^-` ',
500 \ ],
501 \ [
502 \ '          .-""-. ',
503 \ '          .--./      ^-`      .-""-. ',
504 \ '          .` ^-` _-` "\ \ _-` .` _-` \ ',
505 \ '          : _ _ :      \ ^ " " ^ \ / ',
506 \ '          .-| _ _ |- .  Y      Y      ^-` ',
507 \ '          ((_| (0)(0) |_) ) | _ _ | ',
508 \ '          ^-| .--. ^-` | (o)(o) | ',
509 \ '          .-` ( ) ^-` / _ _ \ ',
510 \ '          / .-` _-` _-` \ | /# \ | ',
511 \ '          ( ( n   uuuu   n ) ) | \ _/ | ',
512 \ '          ^-` "nnnnnnn=" ^-` \      / _ ',
513 \ '          ^-` _-` _-` ^-` _-` _-` ^-` / )- ',
514 \ '          _\| | / \ _ .` ^-` " " ^-` ( / / ) ',
515 \ '          .w`/\ \ _/ /\w/      | _/ / ) ',
516 \ '          .-\w(( \/ \/ ))|      |      ^-` ( _/ ',
517 \ '          / |ww\ \ \ / //w|      |      | \ ',
518 \ '          / |www\ \ ^ \ /ww|      |      | \ \ ',
519 \ '          / |www\ \ //www|      |      | \ \ ',
520 \ ' /      /www\ \ //www\ \ |      |      | \hjw\ ',
521 \ ],
522 \ [
523 \ '          .-` \ _/ .-` ',

```



```

524 \ '      \.-\/=\/.-/' ,
525 \ '      \-./___|=|___\.-`' ,
526 \ '      .--| \|/"`\" \|/ |--.' ,
527 \ '      (((_)\ .---. /(_)))' ,
528 \ '      \ \ \_- . .-`_/ /_-' ,
529 \ '      \ . _ _ .`(_))' ,
530 \ '      / \ // ,
531 \ '      | | _.`/ ,
532 \ '      \ /--`' ,
533 \ 'jgs .-.-, -` .-.-. `-----' ,
534 \ '      `-----`--` `-----`' ,
535 \ ],
536 \ [
537 \ '      .==.' ,
538 \ '      ()``()-.' ,
539 \ '      .----. ;--; /' ,
540 \ '      .`_:___". _..` _.' ,
541 \ '      | _ ---==|`-`"" \ ...;' ,
542 \ '      [ ] :[ | |---\ ,
543 \ '      | _ | I=[ | .` _.' ,
544 \ '      / / ___| : _.' ,
545 \ '      |-/ .___.` | : :' ,
546 \ 'snd /___\ /___\ `-.` _-----' ,
547 \ [
548 \ ],
549 \ '      _____' ,
550 \ '      _ ,.-Y | | Y-._' ,
551 \ '      .-~" || | | | "-.' ,
552 \ '      I" ""=="|" !""! "|"[ ]""| _____' ,
553 \ '      L__ [ ] |..-----|: _[----I" .-{"-.' ,
554 \ '      I__| ..| 1____|1_ [__L]_[I_/r(=)-P' ,
555 \ '      [L_____L_[_____]_____j~ `-=c_]/=-^' ,
556 \ '      \_I_j.-.-.\==I|I==/_.-L_] ,
557 \ '      [_(==(=[`-----"])(=)j' ,
558 \ '      I--I"~""~""~""~I--I' ,
559 \ '      |[ ]| [ ]|' ,
560 \ '      1_j 1_j' ,
561 \ '      |!!| |!!|' ,
562 \ '      |..| |..|' ,
563 \ '      ([ ]) ([ )' ,
564 \ '      ]--[ ]--[ ' ,
565 \ '      [_L] [_L] -Row (the Ascii-Wizard of Oz)' ,
566 \ '      /|..|\ /|..|\ ,
567 \ '      `=}{--{=` `=}{--{=` ,
568 \ '      .-^--p-^-. .-^--p-^-. ,
569 \ '~~~~~' ,
570 \ [

```

```

571      \ ],
572      \ '      __.-.-_',
573      \ '      `-._"7`',
574      \ '      /\.-c',
575      \ '      | /T',
576      \ 'snd _)/LI',
577      \ [
578      \ ],
579      \ '      .-.-',
580      \ '      |_-|_',
581      \ '      /(_Y_)\'',
582      \ '      ( \M\ / )',
583      \ '      _.-/-`-\`-._',
584      \ '      _/.-`[[[[]`--.\_',
585      \ '      _/ _ : |::" | : `.\_',
586      \ '      _/ / _ / |oUU| \. ` : \_',
587      \ '      _ : _.-` \_|__|_ / : : |',
588      \ '      _ : _ ` |[_]_| : : \',
589      \ '      [::\ | : | | : ; : \',
590      \ '      _.-` \V`_| |. \ .;` |',
591      \ '      | \ _ \ `.-` : : |',
592      \ '      | \ _ \ .: : : | |',
593      \ '      | \ _ | `.-` : : \ |',
594      \ '      / _ _ \ .: .; : |',
595      \ '      / _ _ | | : _/ : \ \',
596      \ '      | | | _ \ : | \ | | |',
597      \ '      / _ \ : : | : / | _ / |',
598      \ '      snd | _ : : _/_ / ^.-\ `--|_ \',
599      \ '      /__.-/_|-` \ \ \',
600      \ '      `.-`',
601      \ [
602      \ ],
603      \ '      ____',
604      \ '      _.-` : `._',
605      \ '      .-.-` ; .-.-.-',
606      \ '      _ / : __\ ; /__ ; \ _',
607      \ '      ,`_ ""---:;"";.-." : : "-.-:;_---"" _',
608      \ '      :` `t""---. `<@.`;_ `,@>` .---""j.` `',
609      \ '      `:-.-_J `.-.-L_ `-- ` L_.-;`',
610      \ '      "-._ ; .-" "-. : _.-"',
611      \ '      L ` /.------.\ ` J',
612      \ '      "-. " --" .-"',
613      \ '      __.1"-:-_JL_-";_._',
614      \ '      .-j/`.; ;"""" / `.\`-.-',
615      \ '      .` /:.` "-.: .-" .`; `.',
616      \ '      .-" / ; "-. "-.-.-" .-" : "-.-',
617      \ '      .+"-.- : : "-._.-" ;-._ \',
618      \ '      ; \ `.; ; : : "+. ; bug :F_P',

```

[patternprogramming.pub/how-to-show-an-ascii-art-welcome-screen-](https://www.patternprogramming.pub/how-to-show-an-ascii-art-welcome-screen-)

713 \ ' . - - / - - . ' ,

```

714 \ ' .` .----. `',
715 \ ' / .-----\ ',
716 \ ' / .----. \ ',
717 \ ' | . . . | ',
718 \ ' | / \ / \ | ',
719 \ ' \ | .- | .- | /',
720 \ ' `-._| | | | | | _.-'',
721 \ ' | `-' | `-' | ',
722 \ ' \__/\__/',
723 \ ' _.-` / \ `-._',
724 \ ' .` _.-| | _.-`'',
725 \ ' ` _...-| | _...'',
726 \ ' | | ',
727 \ ' `._.`,
728 \ ' | | ',
729 \ ' _| | _',
730 \ ' /\( )/\',
731 \ ' / ` ` \',
732 \ ' | | | | ',
733 \ ],
734 \ [
735 \ ' , , , , ',
736 \ ' ,;) .` ; ; ; ; `',
737 \ ' ; ; ; , _.-. ; ; ; ` _ | I \ ; ; ; / ) , _ ',
738 \ ' `` ; ; ; / : | : ) { ; ; ; | | \ ; / / ; ; ; \ _ ',
739 \ ' L ; / - ` ; / \ ; \ , / ; \ ; ; ; . ` \ ',
740 \ ' . : ```` - \ ; ; ` _ / ; ; ; / . _ - _ _ ',
741 \ ' .` / \ \ \ ; ; ; ; ; / .` 7 : . ` ) . \ _ ',
742 \ ' .` / | ` _ ) ; } ; // .` ` - : ` , L ',
743 \ ' .` / \ ( | ; ; ; / _ / \ . _ / ; \ _ _ ',
744 \ ' . / | \ ( / ; ; / _ ` ; ; ; \ ; ; ; _ ',
745 \ ' . / ) _ ( / ; ; / _ ( ; ; ```` ',
746 \ ' / _ : ` ; ; ; ; ; ` - _ ) ; ',
747 \ ' / / \ \ ```` - - .` - _ \ ',
748 \ ' .` .` .` ,` .` - ,',
749 \ ' / / r-- , _ . \ ',
750 \ ' .` .` .` .` .` - _ _ | ',
751 \ ' ( : . ( ; > _ .` - ` ; / ',
752 \ ' | / : ; ( , _ ` ; ( _ _ .`,
753 \ ' ` - - " | : / ( ; ; ; - - - ',
754 \ ' | ; / ; ; ( ',
755 \ ' snd `` / ; ; | ',
756 \ ' \ ; ; | ',
757 \ ' \ ',
758 \ ],
759 \ [
760 \ ' .-` - .',
761 \ ' /` | ',

```

```

762 \ '      /\_-.---`-,`-',
763 \ '      `-,|`  a `<- .  []',
764 \ '      \    _\_) \=' ',
765 \ '      C_ `    ,_/ ',
766 \ 'jgs      | ;----` ',
767 \ ],
768 \ [
769 \ '      ____',
770 \ '      /\_ .---. ',
771 \ '      | /  o o\ ',
772 \ '      _\ ` .    |_',
773 \ '      \>\    )    .-` ',
774 \ '      `~` _~. ` ',
775 \ '      __/ /__ ',
776 \ 'jgs /(( ` ` ))\ ',
777 \ '      / `===== ` \ ',
778 \ ],
779 \ [
780 \ '      .-"""-.' ',
781 \ '      /      \ ',
782 \ '      \      / ',
783 \ '      .-"""-.-.-.-.-< _ ',
784 \ '      /      _,-\ ()()_/:) ',
785 \ '      \      / , ` ` `| ',
786 \ '      `-.--| \-. ,__ / ',
787 \ '      \ `-. _/ / ',
788 \ '      jgs / `-. _.-\ ` ',
789 \ '      / /|    __\ ',
790 \ '      ( ( |.-"" ` ` \ ',
791 \ '      \ \ /    {}{} | ',
792 \ '      \|      / ',
793 \ '      \      , / ',
794 \ '      ( __` ;;-` __` ) ',
795 \ '      \ / ^ ` ` || ` ',
796 \ '      _//      || ',
797 \ '      .-""-._, ( _ )    .( _ ) .-""-.-. ',
798 \ ' /      \      /      \ ',
799 \ '\      /      \      / ',
800 \ ' ``-----` `-----` ',
801 \ ],
802 \ [
803 \ '      .-""-.-. ',
804 \ '      / _ _ \ ',
805 \ '      \@ @ / ',
806 \ '      (> _ ) ',
807 \ '      `)( _ ',
808 \ '      / ( _ ) _ ',

```

etterprogramming pub/how-to-show-an-ascii-art-wel

```

857 \ '.((/"\))          \\\|//',
858 \ '//)w)(w(````---.._/'',
859 \ 'm(\,_))_____.'`ldb',
860 \ ],
861 \ [
862 \ '                ,____',
863 \ '                |---.\',
864 \ '                ____|  '\',
865 \ '                / .-\  ./=)',
866 \ '                | |"|_/\|',
867 \ '                ; | -;| /_ |',
868 \ '                / \_| | / \ |',
869 \ '                /      \ \ ( |',
870 \ '                | / | ` ) |',
871 \ '                / \ _/   |',
872 \ '                /---._/ \   |',
873 \ '                \ / |    /',
874 \ '                /      |   |',
875 \ '                .'      |   |',
876 \ 'jgs /              \   |',
877 \ '    ( _.-. _.-. _.-. /   |',
878 \ ],
879 \ [
880 \ '    .-.-.',
881 \ '    .`  `.',
882 \ '    :g g  :',
883 \ '    : o   `.',
884 \ '    :      `.',
885 \ '    :      `.',
886 \ '    :      .`.',
887 \ '    :      `.',
888 \ '    :      `.',
889 \ '    :      `.',
890 \ '    :      `.',
891 \ ' jgs  `.'      `.',
892 \ '      `.'      `.',
893 \ ],
894 \ [
895 \ '    .-.-.',
896 \ ' (o o) boo!',
897 \ '| 0 \',
898 \ ' \   \',
899 \ '  ~~~',
900 \ ],
901 \ [
902 \ ' <=====}]=====',
903 \ '    --.  /|',

```



```

904 \ ' _\"/_.'/',
905 \ ' .'._._.',
906 \ ' :/ \{/ ',
907 \ '(L /--',-----_',
908 \ ' | \',
909 \ ' : /-\ .'-' \ / |',
910 \ 'snd \, || \',
911 \ ' \ / || ||',
912 \ ],
913 \ [
914 \ ' ,,_',
915 \ ' .. .. / o._) .---.',
916 \ ' /--' /-- \-' || .---. .' .',
917 \ ' / \_ / | . \.. \..',
918 \ ' .\ \_\ \_.'.' i-._',
919 \ ' )\ | )\ | _.',
920 \ ' // \ \ // \ \',
921 \ ' ||_ \ \_ \ \_',
922 \ 'mrf `--` `--` `--'',
923 \ ],
924 \ [
925 \ ' _ _',
926 \ ' (.) (.)',
927 \ ' ,-. (____.) ,-. ',
928 \ ' ( \ \ `--' / / )',
929 \ ' \ \ / ,. \ / /',
930 \ ' ) `| || |` ( mrf',
931 \ '0o0` - 0o0``0o0 -`0o0',
932 \ ],
933 \ [
934 \ ' __',
935 \ ' .';;.',
936 \ ' /_ _ \ \ _',
937 \ ' ;a/ e= J/-" `.',
938 \ ' \ ~_ ( -` ( ;_ ,.',
939 \ ' L~" _ . - . \ ./ )',
940 \ ' ,`-'`-._ _; )` (' ,
941 \ ' .'. _.'") \ \ ( |',
942 \ ' / ( .-' _\{` , \ |',
943 \ ' / .' / _.-' " ; / |',
944 \ ' / / `-. _.-, // \ (',
945 \ ' _/ ( _ ,;` .-' / / /_-' _',
946 \ '"`-`~` ccc.` _.'` \j\ \',
947 \ ' .=/|\7 ',
948 \ ' snd ',
949 \ ],
950 \ [
951 \ ' _.-;-._',

```

```

952 \ '          ;_JL___; ',
953 \ '          F"-/\_-7L',
954 \ '          | a/ e | \',
955 \ '          ,L,c;,,.=`/;;',
956 \ '          _-;;S::S;;: ` `--._',
957 \ '          ;. \;;s::s;;: .` /\',
958 \ '          / \ ;:::;; / / \',
959 \ '          / , k ;S`;;`S.` j __,l',
960 \ '          ,---/| / /S /S `. |` ;',
961 \ '          ,Ljzj |/.` s .` s \ L |',
962 \ '          LL,_ ]( \ / . .` .|| ;',
963 \ '          ||\ > / ;-.`_--.__\.-`(|=="(',
964 \ '          JJ," / | _ [ ] _]| /',
965 \ '          LL\ ,` `--` `-----` \ ( ',
966 \ '          || ; | | >',
967 \ '          JJ | | \ | /',
968 \ '          LL | | ` | ',
969 \ '          || | | . | ',
970 \ '          JJ /_ || ;_ | ',
971 \ '          LL L "===`|i=====`_ | ',
972 \ '          || i----` `-----`;',
973 \ '          JJ `;-----.-----,`-',
974 \ '          LL L_.__J,`---;`',
975 \ '          || | ,| (',
976 \ '          JJ .`= (| ,_ | ',
977 \ '          LL / .`L_ \',
978 \ 'snd || `---` `.__>',
979 \ ],
980 \ [
981 \ ' ,_ ',
982 \ ' ,` ` \,_ ',
983 \ ' |_,-`_) ',
984 \ ' /##c ` \ ( ',
985 \ ' ` |` -{. )',
986 \ ' /\__-` \[ ]',
987 \ ' /'-_` \ ',
988 \ ' ` \ ',
989 \ 'hjm',
990 \ ],
991 \ [
992 \ ' .---,',
993 \ ' .-. __,__,_/_ |',
994 \ ' / \-` ` `-./_',
995 \ ' | | `)',
996 \ ' \ ` \ ;',
997 \ ' / , , |',
998 \ ' | / : 0 /_ ',
999 \ ' , , ^

```

• • • • •

Essentially what we've done here is created a list of quotes and a list containing a collection of ASCII art I found online (mostly from [www.asciart.eu](http://www.asciart.eu)). Where there was attribution via the artist's name, I have left that in the art.

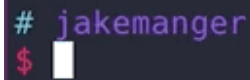
There is a function here that randomly selects the art piece to display each time you open vim. Feel free to add ASCII art you personally like in the same format, but ensure you swap out `'` characters for `"` or ```, as the `'` character is used to specify the end of a string in vimscript.

I also like to add these `vim-startify` settings to view recent files at startup and set bookmarks (to my config files so I can customize even more), openable with shortcuts `v` and `c`.

```
let g:startify_list = [
  \ { 'header': ['    Bookmarks'], 'type': 'bookmarks' },
  \ { 'header': ['    MRU'], 'type': 'files' },
  \ { 'header': ['    MRU ', getcwd()], 'type': 'dir' },
  \ ]

let g:startify_bookmarks = [
  \ { 'v': '~/.vimrc' },
  \ { 'c': '~/.config/' },
  \ ]

if has("nvim")
  let g:startify_bookmarks = [
    \ { 'v': '~/.config/nvim/init.vim' },
    \ { 'c': '~/.config/' },
    \ ]
endif
```

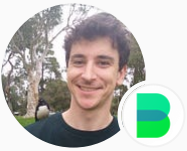


```
# jakemanger
$
```

After you've customised your vim-startify configuration. Image by Author.

That's all. Thanks for reading.

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