

## VIM QUICK REFERENCE CARD

### Basic movement

h l k j ..... character left, right; line up, down  
b w ..... word/token left, right  
ge e ..... end of word/token left, right  
{ } ..... beginning of previous, next paragraph  
( ) ..... beginning of previous, next sentence  
O ^ \$ ..... beginning, first, last character of line  
nG ngg ..... line *n*, default the last, first  
n% ..... percentage *n* of the file (*n must be provided*)  
n| ..... column *n* of current line  
% ..... match of next brace, bracket, comment, #define  
nH nL ..... line *n* from start, bottom of window  
M ..... middle line of window

### Insertion & replace → insert mode

i a ..... insert before, after cursor  
I A ..... insert at beginning, end of line  
gI ..... insert text in first column  
o O ..... open a new line below, above the current line  
rc ..... replace character under cursor with *c*  
grc ..... like **r**, but without affecting layout  
R ..... replace characters starting at the cursor  
gR ..... like **R**, but without affecting layout  
cm ..... change text of movement command *m*  
cc or S ..... change current line  
C ..... change to the end of line

### Deletion

x X ..... delete character under, before cursor  
dm ..... delete text of movement command *m*  
dd D ..... delete current line, to the end of line  
J gJ ..... join current line with next, without space  
:rd↔ ..... delete range *r* lines  
:rdx↔ ..... delete range *r* lines into register *x*

### Insert mode

^Vc ^Vn ..... insert char *c* literally, decimal value *n*  
^A ..... insert previously inserted text  
^@ ..... same as ^A and stop insert → command mode  
^Rx ^R Rx ..... insert content of register *x*, literally

^N ^P ..... text completion before, after cursor  
^W ..... delete word before cursor  
^U ..... delete all inserted character in current line  
^D ^T ..... shift left, right one shift width  
^Kc<sub>1</sub>c<sub>2</sub> or c<sub>1</sub>↔c<sub>2</sub> ..... enter digraph {*c*<sub>1</sub>, *c*<sub>2</sub>}  
^Oc ..... execute *c* in temporary command mode  
^X^E ^X^Y ..... scroll up, down  
<esc> or ^[ ..... abandon edition → command mode

### Copying

"x ..... use register *x* for next delete, yank, put  
:reg↔ ..... show the content of all registers  
:reg x↔ ..... show the content of registers *x*  
ym ..... yank the text of movement command *m*  
yy or Y ..... yank current line into register  
p P ..... put register after, before cursor position  
]p [p ..... like **p**, **P** with indent adjusted  
gp gP ..... like **p**, **P** leaving cursor after new text

### Standard mode formatting/filtering

gqm ..... format lines of movement *m* to fixed width  
:rce w↔ ..... center lines in range *r* to width *w*  
:rle i↔ ..... left align lines in range *r* with indent *i*  
:rri w↔ ..... right align lines in range *r* to width *w*  
!mc↔ ..... filter lines of movement *m* through command *c*  
n!|c↔ ..... filter *n* lines through command *c*  
:r!c↔ ..... filter range *r* lines through command *c*  
~ ..... switch case and advance cursor  
g~m ..... switch case of movement command *m*  
gum gUm ... lowercase, uppercase text of movement *m*  
<m >m ..... shift left, right text of movement *m*  
n<< n>> ..... shift *n* lines left, right

### Visual mode

v V ^V .. start/stop highlighting characters, lines, block  
o ... exchange cursor position with start of highlighting  
gv ..... start highlighting on previous visual area  
aw as ap ..... select a word, a sentence, a paragraph  
ab aB ..... select a block ( ), a block { }  
n> n< = ..... indent/unindent *n* levels, reindent

### Undoing, repeating & registers

u U ..... undo last command, restore last changed line  
. ^R ..... repeat last changes, redo last undo  
n. .... repeat last changes with count replaced by *n*  
qc qC .... record, append typed characters in register *c*  
q ..... stop recording  
@c ..... execute the content of register *c*  
@@ ..... repeat previous @ command  
:@c↔ ..... execute register *c* as an *Ex* command  
:rg/p/c↔ ..... execute *Ex* command *c* on range *r*  
[ where pattern *p* matches

### Complex movement

- + ..... line up, down on first non-blank character  
B W ..... space-separated word left, right  
gE E ..... end of space-separated word left, right  
n\_ ..... down *n* - 1 line on first non-blank character  
gO gm ..... beginning, middle of *screen* line  
g^ g\$ ..... first, last character of *screen* line  
gk gj ..... *screen* line up, down  
fc Fc ..... next, previous occurrence of character *c*  
tc Tc ..... before next, previous occurrence of *c*  
; , ..... repeat last fFtT, in opposite direction  
[[ ]] ..... start of section backward, forward  
[] [] ..... end of section backward, forward  
[( )] ..... unclosed (, ) backward, forward  
[{ }] ..... unclosed {, } backward, forward  
[m ]m ..... start of backward, forward *Java* method  
[# ]#.unclosed #if, #else, #endif backward, forward  
[\* ]\* ..... start, end of /\* \*/ backward, forward

### Search & substitution

/s↔ ?s↔ ..... search forward, backward for *s*  
/s/o↔ ?s/o↔ ..... search fwd, bwd for *s* with offset *o*  
n or /↔ ..... repeat forward last search  
N or ?↔ ..... repeat backward last search  
# \* ... search backward, forward for word under cursor  
g# g\* ..... same, but also find partial matches  
gd gD ... local, global definition of symbol under cursor  
:rs/f/t/x↔ ..... substitute *f* by *t* in range *r*  
[ *x* : g—all occurrences, c—confirm changes  
:rs x↔ ..... repeat substitution with new *r* & *x*

### Special characters in search patterns

. ^ \$ ..... any single character, start, end of line  
< > ..... start, end of word  
[ $c_1$ - $c_2$ ] ..... a single character in range  $c_1$ .. $c_2$   
[ $\sim c_1$ - $c_2$ ] ..... a single character not in range  
\i \k \I \K ..... an identifier, keyword; excl. digits  
\f \p \F \P .. a file name, printable char.; excl. digits  
\s \S ..... a white space, a non-white space  
\e \t \r \b .....  $\langle esc \rangle$ ,  $\langle tab \rangle$ ,  $\langle \leftarrow \rangle$ ,  $\langle \leftarrow \rangle$   
\= \* \+ .... match 0..1, 0.. $\infty$ , 1.. $\infty$  of preceding atoms  
\| ..... separate two branches ( $\equiv or$ )  
\( \) ..... group patterns into an atom  
\& \n ..... the whole matched pattern,  $n^{th}$  () group  
\u \l ..... next character made upper, lowercase  
\c \C ..... ignore, match case on next pattern

### Offsets in search commands

$n$  or  $+n$  .....  $n$  line downward in column 1  
 $-n$  .....  $n$  line upward in column 1  
 $e+n$   $e-n$  .....  $n$  characters right, left to end of match  
 $s+n$   $s-n$  .....  $n$  characters right, left to start of match  
;sc ..... execute search command  $sc$  next

### Marks and motions

mc ..... mark current position with mark  $c \in [a..Z]$   
'c 'C ..... go to mark  $c$  in current,  $C$  in any file  
'0..9 ..... go to last exit position  
' ' " ..... go to position before jump, at last edit  
'[ '[' ..... go to start, end of previously operated text  
:marks $\leftarrow$  ..... print the active marks list  
:jumps $\leftarrow$  ..... print the jump list  
 $n^0$  ..... go to  $n^{th}$  older position in jump list  
 $n^I$  ..... go to  $n^{th}$  newer position in jump list

### Tags

:ta  $t \leftarrow$  ..... jump to tag  $t$   
:nta $\leftarrow$  ..... jump to  $n^{th}$  newer tag in list  
^] ^T ..... jump to the tag under cursor, return from tag  
:ts  $t \leftarrow$  .... list matching tags and select one for jump  
:tj  $t \leftarrow$  .jump to tag or select one if multiple matches  
:tags $\leftarrow$  ..... print tag list

:npo $\leftarrow$  :n^T $\leftarrow$  ..... jump back from, to  $n^{th}$  older tag  
:tl $\leftarrow$  ..... jump to last matching tag  
^W} :pt  $t \leftarrow$  ..... preview tag under cursor, tag  $t$   
^W] ..... split window and show tag under cursor  
^Wz or :pc $\leftarrow$  ..... close tag preview window

### Multiple files / buffers ( $\leftarrow$ )

:tab ball ..... show buffer tablist  
:buffers ..... show list of buffers  
:buffer  $n$  ..... switch to buffer  $n$   
:badd f.txt ..... load file into new buffer  
:bdelete  $n$  ..... delete buffer  $n$  (also with filename)  
:bnext :bprev :bfirst :blast move between buffers

### Scrolling & multi-windowing

^D ^U ..... scroll half a page up, down  
^F ^B ..... scroll page up, down  
zt or z $\leftarrow$  ..... set current line at top of window  
zz or z. .... set current line at center of window  
zb or z- ..... set current line at bottom of window  
zh zl ..... scroll one character to the right, left  
zH zL ..... scroll half a screen to the right, left  
^Ws or :split $\leftarrow$  ..... split window in two  
^Wn or :new $\leftarrow$  ..... create new empty window  
^Wo or :on $\leftarrow$  ..... make current window one on screen  
^Wj ^Wk ..... move to window below, above  
^Ww ^WW ..... move to window below, above (wrap)  
^Wn+ ^Wn- ... Increase/decrease window size by  $n$  lines

### Misc Ex commands ( $\leftarrow$ )

:help holy-grail ..... show all Ex commands  
:e f ..... edit file  $f$ , unless changes have been made  
:e! f ..... edit file  $f$  always (by default reload current)  
:rw ..... write range  $r$  to current file  
:rw f ..... write range  $r$  to file  $f$   
:rw>>f ..... append range  $r$  to file  $f$   
:q :q! ..... quit and confirm, quit and discard changes  
:wq or :x or ZZ ..... write to current file and exit  
:r f ..... insert content of file  $f$  below cursor  
:r! c ..... insert output of command  $c$  below cursor  
:args ..... display the argument list  
:rc a :rm a ..... copy, move range  $r$  below line  $a$

### Ex ranges

, ; ..... separates two lines numbers, set to first line  
 $n$  ..... an absolute line number  $n$   
. \$ ..... the current line, the last line in file  
% \* ..... entire file, visual area  
't ..... position of mark  $t$   
/p/ ?p? ..... the next, previous line where  $p$  matches  
+n -n ..... + $n$ , - $n$  to the preceding line number

### Folding

zfm ..... create fold of movement  $m$   
:rfo ..... create fold for range  $r$   
zd zE ..... delete fold at cursor, all in window  
zo zc z0 zC ..... open, close one fold; recursively  
[z ]z ..... move to start, end of current open fold  
zj zk ..... move down, up to start, end of next fold

### Spell checking

:set spell spelllang=en\_us $\leftarrow$  ... activate spellcheck  
]s ..... next misspelled word  
zg ..... add good word  
zw ..... mark bad word  
z= ..... suggest corrections

### Miscellaneous

:sh $\leftarrow$  :!c $\leftarrow$  ... start shell, execute command  $c$  in shell  
K ..... run keywordprg (man) on word under cursor  
:make $\leftarrow$  ..... start make, read errors and jump to first  
:cope $\leftarrow$  ..... navigate errors from make  
:cn $\leftarrow$  :cp $\leftarrow$  ..... display the next, previous error  
:cl $\leftarrow$  :cf $\leftarrow$  ..... list all errors, read errors from file  
^L ..... redraw screen  
^G .... show cursor column, line, and character position  
ga ..... show ASCII value of character under cursor  
gf ..... open file which filename is under cursor  
:redir>f $\leftarrow$  ..... redirect output to file  $f$   
:mkview [f] ..... save view configuration [to file  $f$ ]  
:loadview [f] .... load view configuration [from file  $f$ ]