

## VIM QUICK REFERENCE CARD

**:viusage**.....Show a summary of all commands

### Movements

**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  
**0 ^ \$**.....beginning, first, last character of line  
**nG ngg**.....line *n*, default the last, first  
**n|**.....column *n* of current line  
**%**.....match of next brace, bracket, comment, **#define**  
**- +**.....line up, down on first non-blank character  
**B W**.....space-separated word left, right  
**gE E**.....end of space-separated word left, right  
**gO gm**.....beginning, middle of *screen* line  
**g^ g\$**.....first, last character of *screen* line  
**f c F c**.....next, previous occurrence of character *c*  
**t c T c**.....before next, previous occurrence of *c*

### 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

### 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*  
**:rg/p/c↵**...execute *Ex c* on range *r* where *p* matches

### Standard Mode Formatting/Filtering

Leave out *m* for visual mode commands  
**gqm gqgq**.....format movement *m*/current paragraph  
**: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

### 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

### Patterns (differences to Perl)

**:help pattern↵**.....show complete help on patterns  
**:help perl-patterns↵**...show comparison with perl  
**\< \>**.....start, end of word  
**\i \k \I \K**.....an identifier, keyword; excl. digits  
**\f \p \F \P**..a file name, printable char.; excl. digits  
**\e \t \r \b**.....*<esc>*, *<tab>*, *<↵>*, *<↵↵>*  
**\= \*** \+...match 0..1, 0..∞, 1..∞ of preceding atoms  
**\{-}**.....non-greedy match  
**\|**.....separate two branches (*≡ or*)  
**\( \)**.....group patterns into an atom  
**\& \1**.....the whole matched pattern, 1<sup>st</sup> ( ) group  
**\u \l**.....upper, lowercase character  
**\c \C**.....ignore, match case on next pattern  
**\%x**.....match hex character

```

\@= \@! ..... (?=pattern) (!pattern)
\@<= \@<! ..... (?<=pattern) (?<!pattern)
\@> ..... (?>pattern)
\_^ \_$. start-of-line/end-of-line, anywhere in pattern
\_. any single char, including end-of-line
\zs \ze ..... set start/end of pattern
\%^ \%$ ..... match start/end of file
\%v ..... match inside visual area
\'m ..... match with position of mark m
\%( \) ..... unnamed grouping
\[ ] ..... collection with end-of-line included
\[ ] ..... sequence of optionally matched atoms

```

### Spell Checking

```

:set spell spellang=de_20↔... activate spellcheck
]s ..... next misspelled word
zg zG ..... add good word (to internal word list)
zw zW ..... mark bad word (to internal word list)
z= ..... suggest corrections

```

### 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↔ ..... print the active marks list
:jumps↔ ..... 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↔ ..... jump to tag  $t$ 
:nta↔ ..... jump to  $n^{th}$  newer tag in list
^] ^T ... jump to the tag under cursor, return from tag
:ts t↔ ... list matching tags and select one for jump
:tj t↔ ... jump to tag or select one if multiple matches
:tags↔ ..... print tag list
:npo↔ :n^T↔ ..... jump back from, to  $n^{th}$  older tag
:tl↔ ..... jump to last matching tag
^W} :pt t↔ ..... preview tag under cursor, tag  $t$ 
^W] ..... split window and show tag under cursor
^Wz or :pc↔ ..... close tag preview window

```

### Multiple Files / Buffers (↔)

```

: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 .... buffer movement

```

### Scrolling & Multi-Windowing

```

^D ^U ..... scroll half a page up, down
^F ^B ..... scroll page up, down
zt zz zb ... current line to top, center, bottom of win.
zh zl ..... scroll one character to the right, left
zH zL ..... scroll half a screen to the right, left
:split↔ :vsplit↔ ..... split window in two (vert.)
:new↔ :vnew↔ ..... create new empty window (vert.)
:on↔ ..... 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
^Wn > ^Wn < ..... Increase/decrease window width

```

### Misc Ex Commands (↔)

```

:help holy-grail ..... show all Ex commands
:e f ..... edit file  $f$ , reload current file if no  $f$ 
:rw f ..... write range  $r$  to file  $f$  (current file if no  $f$ )
: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
: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

```

:set fmt=indent↔ ..... indent-foldmethod
zfm ..... create fold of movement  $m$ 
:rfo ..... create fold for range  $r$ 
zd zE ..... delete fold at cursor, all in window
zo zc zO 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
zm zM ..... fold more, close all folds
zr zR ..... fold less, open all folds
zn zN zi ..... fold non, fold normal, invert folding
:set foldcolumn=4↔ ..... show foldcolumn

```

### Compiling

```

:compiler c ..... set/show compiler plugins
:make↔ ..... run makeprg, jump to first error
:cope↔ ..... navigate errors from make
:cn↔ :cp↔ ..... display the next, previous error
:cl↔ :cf↔ ..... list all errors, read errors from file

```

### Miscellaneous

```

:sh↔ :!c↔ ... start shell, execute command  $c$  in shell
K ..... run keywordprg (man) on word under cursor
^L ..... redraw screen
^G ... show cursor column, line, and character position
:set cuc↔ ..... show cursor column visually
ga ..... show ASCII value of character under cursor
gf ..... open file which filename is under cursor
:mkview [f] ..... save view configuration [to file  $f$ ]
:loadview [f] ..... load view configuration [from file  $f$ ]
:set ff=dos↔ ..... convert file to dos eol format
:e ++ff=unix↔ ..... reopen file in unix eol format
:set hlsearch↔ ..... highlight searches

```