

VI TEXT EDITOR BRIEF START

1) **vi/vim** (slightly modernized vi) is a common text editor in majority of UNIX distributions, it is fully configurable and useful – it needs only a few commands to know to start editing:

```
#touch someTextFile.txt && vim someTextFile.txt
```

Esc – starting base command mode

a – insert text (append mode)

Esc – return to command (normal) mode

:w – save document

:q – close document without saving

:q! - force closing document without saving changes

:wq – save and close

Ctrl + p – word/variables auto filling

v – visual mode (highline text fragment):

y – copy highlined

p – paste highlined after cursor

Esc – return to command (normal mode)

2) vim configuration file (add after line „syntax on”):

```
#sudo vi /etc/vim/vimrc
```

set autoindent

```
set ts=4
```

```
set sw=4
```

```
set mouse=a
```

set number

It sets line autoindent, tab space number, block autoindent, mouse handling and line numbers.

3) view – vi file viewer

4) there are other editors, with different controls like **nano**.

Vim Visual Cheat Sheet

| Movement/Range | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Character | |
| h | ← |
| j | ↓ |
| k | ↑ |
| l | → |
| word, WORD(all non-blank ch) | |
| w | next/prev word |
| W | next/prev WORD |
| e | end of word/WORD |
| Line | |
| 0 | begin/end of line |
| ^ | begin (non-blank) of line |
| Paragraph, Block | |
| { | prev/ next paragraph |
| [{ } | begin/end of block |
| % | matching parenthesis |
| Window, File | |
| H | top of win |
| M | mid of win |
| L | btm of win |
| C-B | prev/next page |
| gg | begin/end of file |
| mx | mark/jump to x |
| Search | |
| * | find current word backward/forward |
| fx | to character x to right |
| gd | to definition of current word |
| /xxx | search xxx |
| n | next/prev search result |

| Mode Commands | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| [ESC] | enter normal mode |
| V | enter visual mode |
| V | enter visual line mode |
| [C-v] | enter visual block mode |
| i | enter insert mode |
| R | enter replace mode |
| a | append |
| A | append at end of line |
| General Commands | |
| y | yank/copy (range) |
| d | delete/cut (range) |
| c | modify (range) |
| x | delete/cut (character) |
| D | delete to end of line |
| C | modify to end of line |
| p | paste after cursor |
| J | join lines |
| r | replace (character) |
| > | indent |
| < | indent leftward |
| . | redo |
| u | undo |
| EX Commands | |
| :w | save(:wq save and quit) |
| :q | quit(:q! quit anyway) |
| :e x | edit file x |
| :n | new window |
| :h | vim help |
| :xx | jump to line #xx |

| Auto-completion [insert mode] | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| C-N | auto-complete |
| C-P | next/prev keyword |
| C-X C-F | auto-complete file name |
| Split window | |
| :vsp | vertically/horizontally split |
| :diffs | split and diff |
| C-W p | to last accessed window |
| C-W w | to next window |