

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

Ctrl+o :w – save command :w-save for saving by shortcut Ctrl+o during insert mode

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

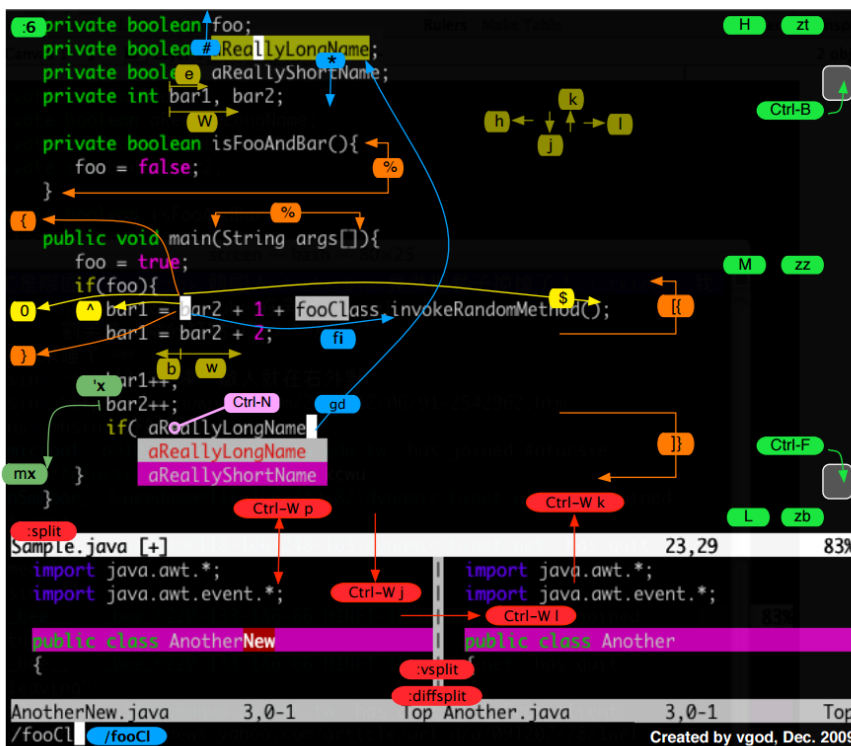
4) there are other editors, with different controls like **nano**.

5) terminal colorization – edit file in home directory ~/bashrc:

uncomment line:

#force_color_prompt=yes

Vim Visual Cheat Sheet



Movement/Range

Character	
h	j
k	l
←	→
↓	↑
word, WORD(all non-blank ch)	
w	b
W	B
e	E
Line	
0	\$
^	
Paragraph, Block	
{	}
[]
%	
Window, File	
H	zt
M	zz
L	zb
C-B	C-F
gg	G
mx	x
Search	
*	#
fx	
gd	
/xxx	
n	N

Mode Commands

ESC	C-I	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	C-P	auto-complete
C-X	C-F	next/prev keyword
		auto-complete file name

Split window

:vsp	:sp	vertically/horizontally split
:diffs		split and diff
C-W p		to last accessed window
C-W w		to next window