ALX LESSON
vi vim

Shell - Editor

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01

OVERVIEW topics

OVERVIEW Topics

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02

Learning Objectives

What is vi?

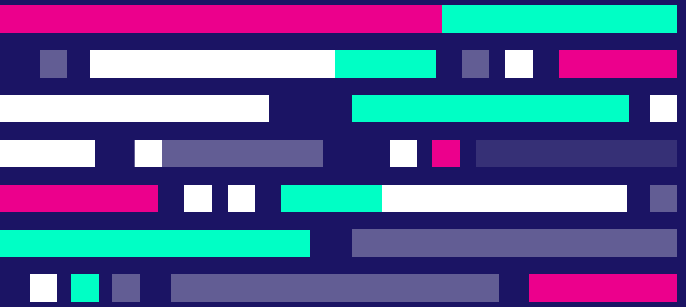
Vi is a text editor that was originally developed for the Unix operating system in the 1970s. It is a command-line editor, which means that it is used by typing commands into a terminal or console window rather than through a graphical user interface.

Who is Bill Joy?

Bill Joy is an American computer scientist and entrepreneur who is known for co-founding Sun Microsystems, a computer technology company that was later acquired by Oracle Corporation. Joy is also the creator of the vi text editor and the co-creator of the BSD Unix operating system.

Bill Joy

How to start and exit vi



To start Vi, open a terminal or console window and type the command "vi" followed by the name of the file you want to edit. For example:

vi myfile.txt

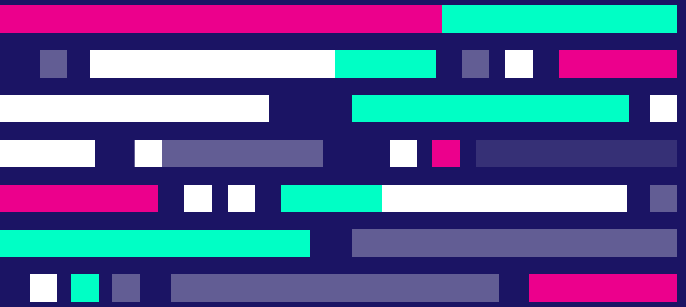
To exit Vi, you can use the following command:

:q! (! Used if you have changes want to discard it)

This will quit Vi without saving any changes to the file. If you have made changes to the file and want to save them before quitting, use the following command:

:wq

What are the command and insert modes, and how to switch from one to the other



Vi has two modes: command mode and insert mode.

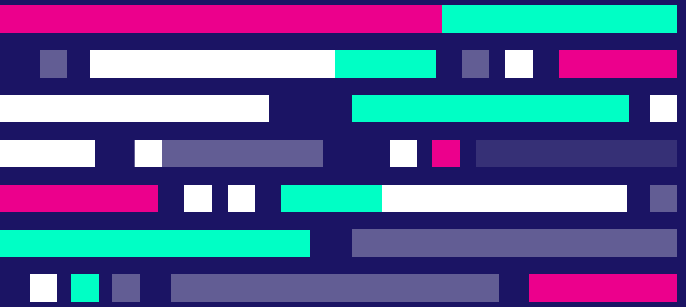
In command mode, you can use various commands to navigate and manipulate text.

In insert mode, you can enter text as you would in any other text editor.

To switch from command mode to insert mode, press the "i" key.

To switch back to command mode, press the "Esc" key.

How to edit text

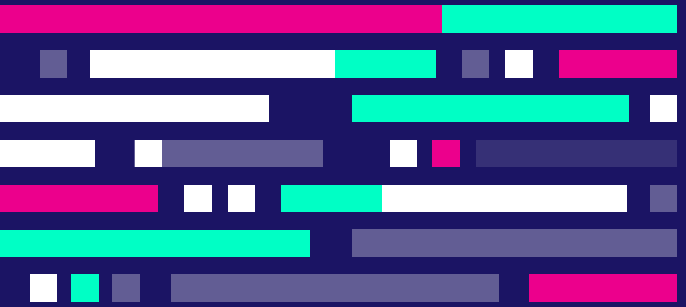


*In command mode, you can use various commands to edit text.
For example, to delete a character, move the cursor to the character and press the "x" key.

To delete a whole word, move the cursor to the beginning of the word and press "dw" (delete word).

*In insert mode, you can type text as you would in any other text editor.

How to cut and paste lines

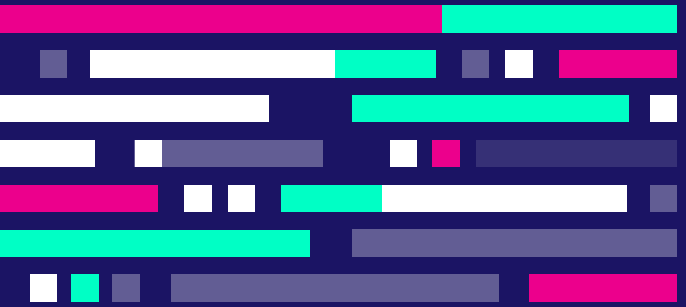


*In command mode

To cut a line, move the cursor to the beginning of the line and type "dd" (delete line).

To paste the cut line, move the cursor to the line where you want to paste the text and type "p" (paste).

How to search forward and backward



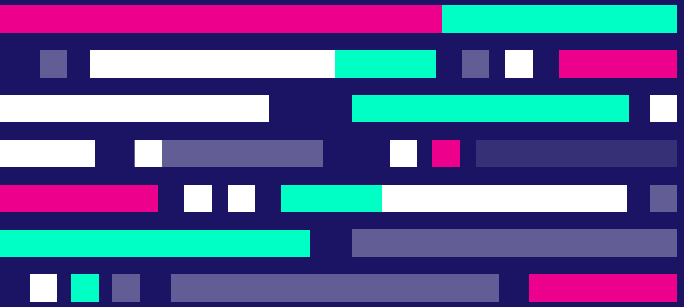
*In command mode

you can search forward for a pattern by typing "/pattern" and pressing Enter.

To search backward, type "?pattern" and press Enter.

Pattern here is the search key
For examble:
/make
It will search for word “make” forward

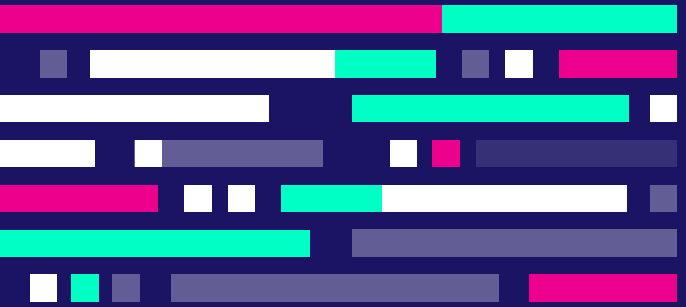
How to undo



*In command mode

you can undo the last command by typing "u".

How to quit vi



*In command mode

To quit Vi, use the following command:

:q (Return/Enter)

This will quit Vi without saving any changes to the file.

If you have made changes to the file and want to save them before quitting, use the following command:

:wq

03

Quiz questions

04

Hands on lab Practice

Have a Question
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Thanks