

A very brief intro to vim

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What is vim?

A highly configurable text editor built for efficient text editing.

Can be used to replace an entire IDE through plugins and configuration

pros

- Available everywhere
- Startup time
- Lightweight
- Unlimited customization
- Efficiency
- Runs in terminal
- It's geeky!
- More than an editor

cons

- Initial learning curve
- Customization can lead to trouble using other people's machines
- Intimidating
- You will ype <esc> :wq in a web browser constantly

Modes

typing <esc> will toggle you in and out of modes

typing : will put you in command mode

typing i will put you in insert mode

typing v will put you in visual mode

typing <ctrl>-v will put you in visual block mode

basic movement: h j k l

(left, up , down, right)

Editing a file

`vim some_file.txt`

type `i` to enter enter some text

now save the file

`:w`

save the file and quit `:wq`

quit without saving `:q`

Tips to learning vim

`~/.vimrc` is a customizable configuration file for vim.

When beginning to learn vim, learning movement is the most important first step.

Most new users are tempted to use arrow keys to move around. I found it helpful to disable my arrow keys while in vim by editing my `~/.vimrc`

```
inoremap <Up> <NOP>
inoremap <Down> <NOP>
inoremap <Left> <NOP>
inoremap <Right> <NOP>
noremap <Up> <NOP>
noremap <Down> <NOP>
noremap <Left> <NOP>
noremap <Right> <NOP>
```

Vim is all about muscle memory

Learning vim requires creating habits

Once you have spent time with vim muscle memory will take over

Practice practice practice and learn new vim commands when you find yourself repeating

`vimtutor`