

Useful Vim Commands

Command	Purpose
<code>vim file_name</code>	creates a new file with name <code>file_name</code> or opens <code>file_name</code> if it already exists
Control Commands	Purpose
<code>i</code>	puts you in insertion mode where you can start typing your text; to go back to control mode, hit the escape key
<code>a</code>	puts you in insertion mode to start typing immediately after the character where you currently were at
<code>x</code>	deletes the current character
<code>r</code>	replaces current character with the next character that you type
<code>u</code>	undo – undoes the last command
<code>dd</code>	deletes the line you are currently at (and puts a copy of it in the clipboard)
<code>/<word_or_letter(s)></code>	to look for or move directly to a word or string of letters, type a forward slash and the word or string of letters that you want to go to
<code>J</code>	appends the next lower line up to the current line
<code><number>dd</code>	deletes the number of lines specified starting on the line you are currently at (and puts a copy of it in the clipboard)
<code>yy</code> or <code><shift>y</code>	copies the line you are currently at and puts it in the clipboard
<code>p</code>	pastes what is copied on the next line beneath where you are
<code>j</code>	navigates down one line
<code><number>j</code>	navigates down the specified number of lines
<code>k</code>	navigates up one line
<code><number>k</code>	navigates up the specified number of lines
<code>l</code>	navigates one character to the right (or <code><number>l</code>)
<code>h</code>	navigates one character to the left (or <code><number>h</code>)
<code><shift>h</code>	brings you to the top of the screen
<code><shift>l</code>	brings you to the bottom of the screen
<code>:1</code>	brings you to the first line in the program
<code>:<number></code>	brings you to that specified numbered line in the program
<code><ctrl>f</code>	advances you an entire page down
<code><ctrl>b</code>	brings you back up an entire page at a time
<code><shift>4</code>	brings you to the end of the current line
<code>cw</code>	to change a word to a different word
<code>%</code> on top of a parenthesis	to find the matching parenthesis
<code><shift> d</code>	to erase the rest of the line starting from where the cursor is located
<code>:q</code>	quit the file without saving
<code>:q!</code>	force the quit file without saving
<code>:w</code>	save your work to the file but don't quit Vim
<code>:wq</code>	save your work to the file and quit Vim
<code>:w file_name</code>	save a copy of the current file to another file specified by the <code>file_name</code> but don't quit Vim (stay in the current file)