

Vim Cheat Sheet

Global

:help keyword - open help for keyword

:saveas file - save file as

:close - close current pane

K - open man page for word under the cursor

Cursor movement

h - move cursor left

j - move cursor down

k - move cursor up

l - move cursor right

H - move to top of screen

M - move to middle of screen

L - move to bottom of screen

w - jump forwards to the start of a word

W - jump forwards to the start of a word (words can contain punctuation)

e - jump forwards to the end of a word

E - jump forwards to the end of a word (words can contain punctuation)

b - jump backwards to the start of a word

B - jump backwards to the start of a word (words can contain punctuation)

% - move to matching character (default supported pairs: '()', '{}', '[]' - use **:h matchpairs** in vim for more info)

0 - jump to the start of the line

^ - jump to the first non-blank character of the line

\$ - jump to the end of

Editing

r - replace a single character

J - join line below to the current one with one space in between

gJ - join line below to the current one without space in between

gwap - reflow paragraph

cc - change (replace) entire line

C - change (replace) to the end of the line

c\$ - change (replace) to the end of the line

ciw - change (replace) entire word

cw - change (replace) to the end of the word

s - delete character and substitute text

S - delete line and substitute text (same as cc)

xp - transpose two letters (delete and paste)

u - undo

Ctrl + r - redo

. - repeat last command

Marking text (visual mode)

V - start visual mode, mark lines, then do a command (like y-yank)

V - start linewise visual mode

O - move to other end of marked area

Ctrl + v - start visual block mode

O - move to other corner of block

aw - mark a word

ab - a block with ()

aB - a block with {}

Cut and paste

yy - yank (copy) a line

2yy - yank (copy) 2 lines

yw - yank (copy) the characters of the word from the cursor position to the start of the next word

y\$ - yank (copy) to end of line

p - put (paste) the clipboard after cursor

P - put (paste) before cursor

dd - delete (cut) a line

2dd - delete (cut) 2 lines

dw - delete (cut) the characters of the word from the cursor position to the start of the next word

D - delete (cut) to the end of the line

d\$ - delete (cut) to the end of the line

x - delete (cut) character

Exiting

:w - write (save) the file, but don't exit

:w !sudo tee % - write out the current file using sudo

:wq or **:x** or **ZZ** - write (save) and quit

:q - quit (fails if there are unsaved changes)

:q! or **ZQ** - quit and throw away unsaved changes

:wqa - write (save) and quit on all tabs

Search and replace

/pattern - search for pattern

?pattern - search backward for pattern

Working with multiple files

:e file - edit a file in a new buffer

:bnext or **:bn** - go to the next buffer

:bprev or **:bp** - go to the previous buffer

:bd - delete a buffer (close a file)

:ls - list all open buffers

:sp file - open a file in a new buffer and split window

:vsp file - open a file in a new buffer and vertically split window

Ctrl + ws - split window

Ctrl + ww - switch windows

Ctrl + wq - quit a window

Ctrl + wv - split window vertically

Ctrl + wh - move cursor to the left window (vertical split)

Ctrl + wl - move cursor to the right window (vertical split)

Ctrl + wj - move cursor to the window below (horizontal split)

Ctrl + wk - move cursor to the window above (horizontal split)

Tabs

:tabnew or

:tabnew

{page.words.file} - open a file in a new tab

Ctrl + wT - move the current split window into its own tab

gt or **:tabnext** or **:tabn** - move to the next tab

gT or **:tabprev** or **:tabp** - move to the previous tab

#gt - move to tab number #

:tabmove # - move current tab to the #th position (indexed from 0)

:tabclose or **:tabc** - close the current tab and all its windows

:tabonly or **:tabo** - close all tabs except for the current one

:tabdo command - run the command on all tabs (e.g. **:tabdo q** - closes all opened tabs)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| the line | ib - inner block with () | \vpattern - 'very magic' pattern: non-alphanumeric characters are interpreted as special regex symbols (no escaping needed) |
| g_ - jump to the last non-blank character of the line | iB - inner block with {} | |
| gg - go to the first line of the document | Esc - exit visual mode | |
| G - go to the last line of the document | Visual commands | n - repeat search in same direction |
| 5G - go to line 5 | > - shift text right | N - repeat search in opposite direction |
| fx - jump to next occurrence of character x | < - shift text left | :%s/old/new/g - replace all old with new throughout file |
| tx - jump to before next occurrence of character x | y - yank (copy) marked text | :%s/old/new/gc - replace all old with new throughout file with confirmations |
| Fx - jump to previous occurrence of character x | d - delete marked text | :noh - remove highlighting of search matches |
| Tx - jump to after previous occurrence of character x | ~ - switch case | |
| ; - repeat previous f, t, F or T movement | Registers | Search in multiple files |
| , - repeat previous f, t, F or T movement, backwards | :reg - show registers content | :vimgrep /pattern/ {`{file}`} - search for pattern in multiple files |
| } - jump to next paragraph (or function/block, when editing code) | "xy - yank into register x | |
| { - jump to previous paragraph (or function/block, when editing code) | "xp - paste contents of register x | |
| zz - center cursor on screen | Marks | |
| Ctrl + e - move screen down one line (without moving cursor) | :marks - list of marks | |
| Ctrl + y - move screen up one line (without moving cursor) | ma - set current position for mark A | |
| Ctrl + b - move back one full screen | `a - jump to position of mark A | :cn - jump to the next match |
| Ctrl + f - move forward one full screen | y`a - yank text to position of mark A | :cp - jump to the previous match |
| Ctrl + d - move forward 1/2 a screen | Macros | :copen - open a window containing the list of matches |
| Ctrl + u - move back 1/2 a screen | qa - record macro a | |
| Insert mode - inserting/appendig text | q - stop recording macro | |
| i - insert before the | @a - run macro a | |
| | @@ - rerun last run macro | |

cursor

I - insert at the
beginning of the line

a - insert (append) after
the cursor

A - insert (append) at
the end of the line

o - append (open) a new
line below the current
line

O - append (open) a new
line above the current
line

ea - insert (append) at
the end of the word

Esc - exit insert mode