

# Vim tutorial

“Vi” not the same as “Vim”

Donation to children’s hospital in Uganda.

i → insert text, escape to exit

hijkl keys to move (instead of/in addition to arrow keys)

Movements: lots of them! [https://wikileaks.org/ciav7p1/cms/files/vim-shortcuts\\_1280x800.png](https://wikileaks.org/ciav7p1/cms/files/vim-shortcuts_1280x800.png)  
(others available)

Follow almost any command with a movement to apply it to multiple lines or characters.

Prefix any command with a number to do it multiple times.

d → delete, follow by a movement, e.g. “d\$” - delete to end

dap → delete a paragraph

di” → delete text inside quotes. Also di[, di(, di{ etc

ci" → change text inside quotes. Like di" followed by i

ca" → change text inside quotes, including the quotes.

o → open a new line below current one. O → open above

J → join line with next one

y → copy text (followed by movement)

p → paste the last deleted (or copied) text (P → paste it before the current position instead of after)

"ad → delete to register "a" (use any letter).

"ap → paste from register "a" (use any letter).

zz → centre the window on the cursor (recommendation: map this one to space bar!)

. → do the last thing again. Make maximum use by finding ways to change text that can be repeated easily in slightly different circumstances.

16G → go to line 16

G → go to last line

gg → go to first line

H, M, L → go to top, middle or bottom of current view

/text → search for text, then "n" for next, "N" for previous

:s/text/new/ → replace "text" with "new". Add "g" on the end to replace all copies in line. Prefix with "%" to apply to all lines in file.

:e file.txt → open file

`:e!` → re-load current file from disk

`Ctrl-W, v` → split view vertically (h for horizontal)

`Ctrl-W W` → move through windows (recommendation: map this to ">")

`qk` → start recording macro "k". "q" to stop. "@q" to replay.

`:set mouse=n` → use mouse in normal mode (not insert mode etc) to place cursor.

Run `"ctags src/*.{c,h}"` to generate ctags file, then put cursor on function call and press `Ctrl+]` to jump to definition. `Ctrl+o` to go back again. `Ctrl+i` does the opposite of `Ctrl+o`. Think "in" and "out".

**And LOADS more. Find some nice videos on YouTube.**

## Plugin recommendations

Airline: <https://github.com/vim-airline/vim-airline> (highly recommended, especially if you're working with multiple windows, files etc). Needs some extra fonts installing (see its documentation).

Ctrl-P: <https://ctrlpvim.github.io/ctrlp.vim/> - fuzzy file searching

GitGutter: <https://github.com/airblade/vim-gitgutter> - show changes in Git

Remap ALL THE THINGS:

Configure Caps Lock to be Escape. Easy in KDE and Mac (and GNOME somehow), or use `xmodmap`. Configure both shift keys together to be Caps Lock, but you'll never use it.

`:nnoremap g :something`

See my `.vimrc` in this folder, although most of it is specific to me.