Vim Cheat Sheet

Global

`:h[elp] keyword` - open help for keyword

`:sav[eas] file` - save file as

`:clo[se]` - close current pane

`:ter[minal]` - open a terminal window

`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

`gj` - move cursor down (multi-line text)

`gk` - move cursor up (multi-line text)

`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)

`ge` - jump backwards to the end of a word

`gE` - jump backwards to the end 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 the line

`g_` - jump to the last non-blank character of the line

`gg` - go to the first line of the document

`G` - go to the last line of the document

Editing

`r` - replace a single character.

`R` - replace more than one character, until **ESC** is pressed.

`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

`gwip` - reflow paragraph

`g~` - switch case up to motion

`gu` - change to lowercase up to motion

`gU` - change to uppercase up to motion

`cc` - change (replace) entire line

`c$` or `C` - change (replace) to the end of the line

`ciw` - change (replace) entire word

`cw` or `ce` - 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

`U` - restore (undo) last changed line

`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 {}

`at` - a block with <> tags

`ib` - inner block with ()

`iB` - inner block with {}

`it` - inner block with <> tags

Macros

`qa` - record macro a

`q` - stop recording macro

`@a` - run macro a

`@@` - rerun last run macro

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

`yiw` - yank (copy) word under the cursor

`yaw` - yank (copy) word under the cursor and the space after or before it

`y$` or `Y` - yank (copy) to end of line

`p` - put (paste) the clipboard after cursor

`P` - put (paste) before cursor

`gp` - put (paste) the clipboard after cursor and leave cursor after the new text

`gP` - put (paste) before cursor and leave cursor after the new text

`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

`diw` - delete (cut) word under the cursor

`daw` - delete (cut) word under the cursor and the space after or before it

`:3,5d` - delete lines starting from 3 to 5

`:g/{pattern}/d` - delete all lines containing pattern

`:g!/{pattern}/d` - delete all lines not containing pattern

`d$` or `D` - delete (cut) to the end of the line

`x` - delete (cut) character

Indent text

`>>` - indent (move right) line one shiftwidth

`<<` - de-indent (move left) line one shiftwidth

`>%` - indent a block with () or {} (cursor on brace)

`<%` - de-indent a block with () or {} (cursor on brace)

Working with multiple files

`:e[dit] file` - edit a file in a new buffer

`:bn[ext]` - go to the next buffer

`:bp[revious]` - go to the previous buffer

`:bd[elete]` - delete a buffer (close a file)

`:b[uffer]#` - go to a buffer by index #

`:b[uffer] file` - go to a buffer by file

`:ls` or `:buffers` - list all open buffers

`:sp[lit] file` - open a file in a new buffer and split window

`:vs[plit] file` - open a file in a new buffer and vertically split window

`:vert[ical] ba[ll]` - edit all buffers as vertical windows

`:tab ba[ll]` - edit all buffers as tabs

`Ctrl` + `ws` - split window

`Ctrl` + `wv` - split window vertically

`Ctrl` + `ww` - switch windows

`Ctrl` + `wq` - quit a window

`Ctrl` + `wx` - exchange current window with next one

`Ctrl` + `w=` - make all windows equal height & width

`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)

`Ctrl` + `wH` - make current window full height at far left (leftmost vertical window)

`Ctrl` + `wL` - make current window full height at far right (rightmost vertical window)

`Ctrl` + `wJ` - make current window full width at the very bottom (bottommost horizontal window)

`Ctrl` + `wK` - make current window full width at the very top (topmost horizontal window)

Diff

`zf` - manually define a fold up to motion

`zd` - delete fold under the cursor

`za` - toggle fold under the cursor

`zo` - open fold under the cursor

`zc` - close fold under the cursor

`zr` - reduce (open) all folds by one level

`zm` - fold more (close) all folds by one level

`zi` - toggle folding functionality

`]c` - jump to start of next change

`[c` - jump to start of previous change

`do` or `:diffg[et]` - obtain (get) difference (from other buffer)

5gg or **5G** – go to line 5

gd – move to local declaration

gD – move to global declaration

fx – jump to next occurrence of character x

tx – jump to before next occurrence of character x

Fx – jump to the previous occurrence of character x

Tx – jump to after previous occurrence of character x

; – repeat previous f, t, F or T movement

, – repeat previous f, t, F or T movement, backwards

} – jump to next paragraph (or function/block, when editing code)

{ – jump to previous paragraph (or function/block, when editing code)

zz – center cursor on screen

zt – position cursor on top of the screen

zb – position cursor on bottom of the screen

Ctrl + **e** – move screen down one line (without moving cursor)

Ctrl + **y** – move screen up one line (without moving cursor)

Ctrl + **b** – move back one full screen

Ctrl + **f** – move forward one full screen

Ctrl + **d** – move forward 1/2 a screen

Ctrl + **u** – move back 1/2 a screen

Insert mode - inserting/appending text

i – insert before the 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

Ctrl + **h** – delete the character before the cursor during insert mode

Ctrl + **w** – delete word before the cursor during insert mode

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Esc or **Ctrl** + **c** – exit visual mode

Visual commands

> – shift text right

< – shift text left

y – yank (copy) marked text

d – delete marked text

~ – switch case

u – change marked text to lowercase

U – change marked text to uppercase

Registers

:reg[isters] – show registers content

"xy – yank into register x

"xp – paste contents of register x

"+y – yank into the system clipboard register

"+p – paste from the system clipboard register

Marks and positions

:marks – list of marks

ma – set current position for mark A

`a – jump to position of mark A

y`a – yank text to position of mark A

`0 – go to the position where Vim was previously exited

`" – go to the position when last editing this file

`. – go to the position of the last change in this file

`` – go to the position before the last jump

:ju[mps] – list of jumps

Ctrl + **i** – go to newer position in jump list

Ctrl + **o** – go to older position in jump list

:changes – list of changes

g, – go to newer position in change list

g; – go to older position in change list

Ctrl + **]** – jump to the tag under cursor

>ib – indent inner block with ()

>at – indent a block with <> tags

3== – re-indent 3 lines

=% – re-indent a block with () or {} (cursor on brace)

=iB – re-indent inner block with {}

gg=G – re-indent entire buffer

]p – paste and adjust indent to current line

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

\vpattern – 'very magic' pattern: non-alphanumeric characters are interpreted as special regex symbols (no escaping needed)

n – repeat search in same direction

N – repeat search in opposite direction

:%s/old/new/g – replace all old with new throughout file

:%s/old/new/gc – replace all old with new throughout file with confirmations

:noh[lsearch] – remove highlighting of search matches

Search in multiple files

:vim[grep] /pattern/ {`{file}`} – search for pattern in multiple files

:cn[ext] – jump to the next match

:cp[revious] – jump to the previous match

:cope[n] – open a window containing the list of matches

:ccl[ose] – close the quickfix window

Tabs

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dp or **:diffpu[t]** – put difference (to other buffer)

:diffthis – make current window part of diff

:dif[fupdate] – update differences

:diffo[ff] – switch off diff mode for current window

Ctrl + **j** - begin new line during insert mode

Ctrl + **t** - indent (move right) line one shiftwidth during insert mode

Ctrl + **d** - de-indent (move left) line one shiftwidth during insert mode

Ctrl + **n** - insert (auto-complete) next match before the cursor during insert mode

Ctrl + **p** - insert (auto-complete) previous match before the cursor during insert mode

Ctrl + **rx** - insert the contents of register x

Ctrl + **ox** - Temporarily enter normal mode to issue one normal-mode command x.

Esc or **Ctrl** + **c** - exit insert mode

: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 **:tabn[ext]** - move to the next tab

gT or **:tabp[revious]** - move to the previous tab

#gt - move to tab number #

:tabm[ove] # - move current tab to the #th position (indexed from 0)

:tabc[lose] - close the current tab and all its windows

:tabo[nly] - close all tabs except for the current one

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