VIM Editor Commands

Vim is an editor to create or edit a text file.

There are two modes in vim. One is the command mode and another is the insert mode.

In the command mode, user can move around the file, delete text, etc.

In the insert mode, user can insert text.

Changing mode from one to another

From command mode **to** insert mode type **a/A/i/I/o/O** (see details below)

From insert mode **to** command mode type **Esc** (escape key)

Some useful commands for VIM

Text Entry Commands (Used to start text entry)

a Append text following current cursor position

A Append text to the end of current line

i Insert text before the current cursor position

I Insert text at the beginning of the cursor line

o Open up a new line following the current line and add text there

O Open up a new line in front of the current line and add text there

The following commands are used only in the commands mode.

Cursor Movement Commands

h Moves the cursor one character to the left

l Moves the cursor one character to the right

k Moves the cursor up one line

j Moves the cursor down one line

nG or :n Cursor goes to the specified (n) line

(ex. 10G goes to line 10)

^F (CTRl F) Forward screenful

^B Backward screenful

^f One page forward

^b One page backward

^U Up half screenful

^D Down half screenful

$ Move cursor to the end of current line

0 (zero) Move cursor to the beginning of current line

w Forward one word

b Backward one word

Exit Commands

:wq Write file to disk and quit the editor

:q! Quit (no warning)

:q Quit (a warning is printed if a modified file has not been saved)

ZZ Save workspace and quit the editor (same as :wq)

: 10,25 w temp

write lines 10 through 25 into file named temp. Of course, other line

numbers can be used. (Use :f to find out the line numbers you want.

Text Deletion Commands

x Delete character

dw Delete word from cursor on

db Delete word backward

dd Delete line

d$ Delete to end of line

d^ (d caret, not CTRL d) Delete to beginning of line

Yank (has most of the options of delete)-- VI's **copy** commmand

yy yank current line

y$ yank to end of current line from cursor

yw yank from cursor to end of current word

5yy yank, for example, 5 lines

Paste (used after delete or yank to recover lines.)

p paste below cursor

P paste above cursor

"2p paste from buffer 2 (there are 9)

u Undo last change

U Restore line

J Join next line down to the end of the current line

File Manipulation Commands

:w Write workspace to original file

:w file Write workspace to named file

:e file Start editing a new file

:r file Read contents of a file to the workspace

To create a page break, while in the insert mode, press the CTRL key

And l. ^L will appear in your text and will cause the printer to start

A new page.

Other Useful Commands

Most commands can be repeated n times by typing a number, n, before

the command. For example 10dd means delete 10 lines.

. Repeat last command

cw Change current word to a new word

r Replace one character at the cursor position

R Begin overstrike or replace mode � use ESC key to exit

:/ pattern Search forward for the pattern

:? pattern Search backward for the pattern

n (used after either of the 2 search commands above to

continue to find next occurrence of the pattern.

:g/pat1/s//pat2/g replace every occurrence of pattern1 (pat1) with

pat2

Example :g/tIO/s//Ada.Text_IO/g

This will find and replace tIO by Ada.text_IO everywhere in the file.

:g/a/s// /g replace the letter a, by blank

:g/a/s///g replace a by nothing

note: Even this command be undone by u

Examples

Opening a New File

Step 1 type **vim** *filename* (create a file named *filename*)

Step 2 type **i** (switch to insert mode)

Step 3 enter text (enter your Ada program)

Step 4 hit **Esc key** (switch back to command mode)

Step 5 type **:wq** (write file and exit vim)

Editing the Existing File

Step 1 type **vim** *filename* (edit the existing file named filename)

Step 2 move around the file using **h/j/k/l** key or any appropriate command

h Moves the cursor one character to the left

                    l Moves the cursor one character to the right

                    k Moves the cursor up one line

j Moves the cursor down one line

nG or :n Cursor goes to the specified (n) line

(ex. 10G goes to line 10)

Step 3 **edit** required text (replace or delete or insert)

Step 4 hit **Esc** key (exit from insert mode if you insert or replace text)

Step 5 type **:wq**