

vi Command Summary

Movement Commands		Editing Commands	
Character h, j, k, l	Left, down, up, right (←, ↓, ↑, →)	Insert i, a I, A o, O	Insert text before, after cursor Insert text at beginning, end of current line Open a new line for text below, above cursor
Text w, W, b, B e, E , (Forward, backward by word End of word Beginning of next, previous sentence	Change r ~ cm	Replace with next typed character Change case of character under cursor Change text block defined by movement command <i>m</i> (cw or cL for word or line)
Lines 0, \$ ^ + - n H M L nH nL	First, last position of current line First character of current line (ignore spaces) First character of next, previous line Column <i>n</i> of current line Top line of screen Middle line of screen Bottom line of screen <i>n</i> (number) of lines after top of screen <i>n</i> (number) of lines before bottom of screen	cc C R s S	Change current line Change to end of line Type over characters Delete character and substitute text Delete current line and substitute text Note: r and ~ leave you in command mode, all other commands put you in insert mode
Screens Ctrl-F, Ctrl-B Ctrl-D, Ctrl-U Ctrl-E, Ctrl-Y z RETURN z. z-	Scroll forward, backward one screen Scroll down, up one-half screen Show one more line at bottom, top of screen Reposition current line to top of screen Reposition current line to middle of screen Reposition current line to bottom of screen	Delete, Move x X dm dd D p, P "np	Delete character Delete character before cursor Delete text block defined by movement command <i>m</i> (dw or d) for word or sentence) Delete current line Delete to end of current line Put last delete after, before cursor Put text from delete buffer <i>n</i> after cursor
Searches /expr ?expr n, N /, ? fx Fx ; (semicolon) , (comma)	Search forward for <i>expr</i> Search backwards for <i>expr</i> Repeat last search in same, opposite direction Repeat previous search forward, backwards Search forward for character <i>x</i> in current line Search backwards for character <i>x</i> in current line Repeat previous current-line search Repeat previous current-line search in opposite direction	Yank (Copy) ym yy, Y "ayy p, P "aP	Yank (copy) text block defined by movement command <i>m</i> (yw or y) or y} for word, sentence or paragraph) Yank current line Yank current line to named buffer <i>a</i> Put yanked text after, before cursor Put yanked text from named buffer <i>a</i> before cursor
Line Number Ctrl-G nG G :n	Show current line number Position cursor on line <i>n</i> Position cursor on last line of file Position cursor on line <i>n</i>	Other Commands .(period) u, U J Ctrl-L, Ctrl-R	Repeat last edit command Undo last edit, restore current line Join two adjacent lines Redraw screen
Marking mx `x `` 'x " (2 apostrophes)	Mark current position as <i>x</i> Return cursor to <i>x</i> Return to previous mark Move to beginning of line containing <i>x</i> Return to beginning of line containing previous mark	Other ex Commands	
Command Line Options		ex Commands : :sh Ctrl-D :! <i>command</i> :r <i>newfile</i> :r ! <i>command</i>	Invoke ex command from <i>vi</i> Invoke Unix shell Return to editor from shell Execute Unix <i>command</i> Read <i>newfile</i> into current file Read output of <i>command</i> into current file
Exit Commands		Abbreviations :ab <i>abbr phrase</i> :unab <i>abbr</i> :map <i>x sequence</i> :unmap <i>x</i> :map! <i>x sequence</i> :unmap! <i>x</i>	Abbreviate <i>phrase</i> as <i>abbr</i> , when <i>abbr</i> is typed in insert mode, it expands to <i>phrase</i> Disable abbreviation for <i>abbr</i> Define keystroke <i>x</i> as a command <i>sequence</i> Disable the definition for <i>x</i> Define <i>x</i> as a command <i>sequence</i> in insert mode Disable insert mode mapping of <i>x</i>
Exit Commands		Setting Options :set <i>option</i> :set <i>option</i> = <i>value</i> :set <i>nooption</i> :set :set all :set <i>option</i> ?	Activate option Assign value to option Deactivate option Display options set by user Display current list of options, both default and those set by user Display value of option Note: when used in .exrc file, omit the leading colon for set commands
ZZ :x :wq :q :q! Q :e <i>file2</i> :e # :n :e!	Write (save) and quit Write (save) and quit Write (save) and quit Quit Quit and abandon edits since last write Quit to <i>ex</i> Exit current file and begin editing <i>file2</i> Edit alternate file Edit next file (when starting with <i>vi file1 file2 ...</i>) Return to version of current file at last save		