

Below you can see some of the most important **vi** commands.

### Starting, Exiting, Reading and Writing Files in vi

Command	Description
<b>vi myfile</b>	Start <b>vi</b> and edit <b>myfile</b>
<b>vi -r myfile</b>	Start <b>vi</b> and edit <b>myfile</b> in recovery mode from a system crash
<b>:r file2&lt;RET&gt;</b>	Read in <b>file2</b> and insert at current position
<b>:w&lt;RET&gt;</b>	Write out the file
<b>:w myfile&lt;RET&gt;</b>	Write out the file to <b>myfile</b>
<b>:w! file2&lt;RET&gt;</b>	Overwrite <b>file2</b>
<b>:x&lt;RET&gt;</b> or <b>:wq&lt;RET&gt;</b>	Exit <b>vi</b> and write out modified file
<b>:q&lt;RET&gt;</b>	Quit <b>vi</b>
<b>:q!&lt;RET&gt;</b>	Quit <b>vi</b> even though modifications have not been saved

### Changing Position in vi

Command	Description
arrow keys	Use the arrow keys for up, down, left and right; or:
<b>j</b> or <b>&lt;RET&gt;</b>	One line down
<b>k</b>	One line up
<b>h</b> or Backspace	One character left
<b>l</b> or Space	One character right
<b>0</b>	Move to beginning of line
<b>\$</b>	Move to end of line
<b>w</b>	Move to beginning of next word
<b>b</b>	Move back to beginning of preceding word
<b>:0 &lt;RET&gt;</b> or <b>1G</b>	Move to beginning of file
<b>:n &lt;RET&gt;</b> or <b>nG</b>	Move to line n
<b>:\$ &lt;RET&gt;</b> or <b>G</b>	Move to last line in file
<b>^f</b> or <b>PageDown</b>	Move forward one page
<b>^b</b> or <b>PageUp</b>	Move backward one page
<b>^l</b>	Refresh and center screen

### Searching for Text in vi

Command	Description
<b>/pattern&lt;RET&gt;</b>	Search forward for pattern
<b>n</b>	Move to next occurrence of search pattern
<b>string&lt;RET&gt;</b>	Search backward for pattern
<b>N</b>	Move to previous occurrence of search pattern



## Changing, Adding and Deleting Text in vi

Command	Description
<b>a</b>	Append text after cursor; stop upon <b>Escape</b> key
<b>A</b>	Append text at end of current line; stop upon <b>Escape</b> key
<b>i</b>	Insert text before cursor; stop upon <b>Escape</b> key
<b>I</b>	Insert text at beginning of current line; stop upon <b>Escape</b> key
<b>o</b>	Start a new line below current line, insert text there; stop upon <b>Escape</b> key
<b>O</b>	Start a new line above current line, insert text there; stop upon <b>Escape</b> key
<b>r</b>	Replace character at current position
<b>R</b>	Replace text starting with current position; stop upon <b>Escape</b> key
<b>x</b>	Delete character at current position
<b>Nx</b>	Delete <b>N</b> characters, starting at current position
<b>dw</b>	Delete the word at the current position
<b>D</b>	Delete the rest of the current line
<b>dd</b>	Delete the current line
<b>Ndd</b> or <b>dNd</b>	Delete N lines
<b>u</b>	Undo the previous operation
<b>yy</b>	Yank (cut) the current line and put it in buffer
<b>Nyy</b> or <b>yNy</b>	Yank (cut) N lines and put it in buffer
<b>p</b>	Paste at the current position the yanked line or lines from the buffer

Mark as completed

