

vim

What is vim?

- Vim is a command line text editor
- It runs only in your chosen terminal application

Why use vim instead of a GUI editor like Sublime?

- If you need to SSH into a remote server that doesn't have a GUI - (many hosting boxes don't necessarily have a GUI installed), you can easily edit files
- Get up and running with a project really quickly, all from the command line
- Make minor changes to a file without having to open up a text editor while trying to run a project

Why use vim instead of a GUI editor like Sublime?

- Later on in this class, you'll be learning to deploy to Amazon Web Services - a virtual server/computer "in the cloud" with no desktop environment or Sublime Text...
- Vim, or something like it, becomes necessary in this case

vim Basics

- To open a file with vim, just invoke the program with its name and give the file as an argument:

```
vim index.html
```

- If you haven't created a file with this name, vim will open anyway and create the file if you use the write (save) command

vim Basics

- You can't use the mouse - Vim is an entirely keyboard driven program
- Vim doesn't work like other text editors: rather than just typing in text and using the arrow keys to navigate, you must be in the correct mode
- The mode that allows you to edit text as you normally would is called `insertion` mode. To enter it, use the `i` key. To exit any mode, press `escape`

vim Basics

- To access any of the things you'd normally do from the file menu, you must use command mode.
- Press escape to be sure you're not in another mode, then type a colon and a w.

:w

- This means that you've written the file you're editing out, or saved it

vim Basics

- To access any of the things you'd normally do from the file menu, you must use command mode.
- Press escape to be sure you're not in another mode, then type a colon and a q.

:q

- This will quit vim. You'll receive a warning if your file isn't saved, to ignore it, append a !:

:q!

Exercise

Open up a file in `vim`. Use the insert mode to add some text to it. Save the file and quit out of `vim`.

More vim

To save and exit a file at the same time, use

`:wq`

To delete a single character, use `x`.

To delete an entire line:

`dd`

To navigate to the end of a word:

`e`

More vim

Basic text search

/yoursearchterms

To undo:

u

To navigate to the end of a word:

e

Exercise: vimtutor

Type vimtutor at your command line. Complete the tutorial through lesson 6.4: COPY AND PASTE TEXT