

# Survival Kit

## for vi, vim, nvim

**ESC**

Leave edit mode. (pressing **ESC** multiple times does no harm)

**CTRL+g**

Show file status and the current position of the cursor (vim, nvim).

### quitting and writing

**:q** Quit without saving with checks. Will not quit if changes were made.

**:q!** Quit without saving and discard all changes.

**:qa** Quit all open files with checks.

**ZZ** **:x** Write the current file and quit.

**:xa** Write all open files and quit.

**:w** Write changes to the file and don't quit.

### undo/redo

**u** Undo the last command (with history).

**.** Repeat the last command at the current position of the cursor.

### enter edit mode

**i** Enter edit mode before the current cursor position (insert).

**a** Enter edit mode after the current cursor position (insert).

**o** Create a new line below the current line and enter edit mode.

**O** Create a new line above the current line and enter edit mode.

**s** Delete the character at the current position and enter edit mode.

**cc** Delete the current line and enter edit mode. (change line)

**C** Delete everything on the same line after the current cursor position and enter edit mode. (change)

### cut, copy and paste

**dd** Delete the current line and places the content into the paste buffer. (delete/cut line)

**D** Delete the rest of the line from the current position and places the content into the paste buffer.

**yy** Places the current line into the past buffer without deleting. (copy line)

**Y** Places the rest of the current line into the past buffer without deleting. (copy)

**p** Insert the paste buffer after the current cursor position. If it is a line then insert below the current line. (paste after)

**P** Insert the paste buffer before the current cursor position. If it is a line then insert above the current line. (paste before)

## search

Search as well as search-and-replace **cannot** be repeated with the dot-command (.)

Search and search-and-replace use basic regular expressions as search patterns.

Searches wrap to the beginning or end of the file, if no match is found.

### **/search-pattern**

Search for the given search-pattern from the current position towards the end of the file.

### **?search-pattern**

Search for the given search-pattern from the current position towards the beginning of the file.

**n** Go to the next match in the direction of the search.

**N** Go to the previous match in the direction of the search.

## search and replace

### **:s/search-pattern/replace-string**

Replace the first match of the search-pattern in the current line with the replace-string.

### **:s/search-pattern/replace-string/g**

Replace all matches of the search-pattern in the current with the replace-string.

### **:%s/search-pattern/replace-string**

Replace the first match of the search-pattern in every line with the replace string.

### **:%s/search-pattern/replace-string/g**

Replace all matches of the search-pattern in the current file with the replace-string.

### **:.,\$s/search-pattern/replace-string/g**

Replace all matches of the search-pattern from the current line to the end of the file with the replace-string.

### **:3,9s/search-pattern/replace-string**

Replace all matches of the search-pattern between line 3 and line 9 with the replace-string.

## moving the cursor quickly

Using the arrow keys repeatedly is often a problem when using vi over a connection to a remote computer, because key presses might be delayed or long key presses do not result in repeated keys.

Movement and Edit commands can be linked. E.g., **:cw** changes the current word

**:number** Move the cursor to the line with the provided number. E.g., **:12** moves to line 12 in the current file.

**^** Move to the beginning of the line.

**\$** Move to the end of the line.

**e** Move to the right-most character of the same character class.

**w** Move after the right-most character of the same character class.

**b** Move to the left-most character of the same character class.

**E** Move to the next whitespace

**B** Move to the previous whitespace