vim

[operator][count][motion]

:h operator — :h navigation

d delete/cut

y yank/copy

c change

gU make uppercase — **~** swap case — **<** shift left — **=** indent

Any motion can follow an operator. Marks and searches count as motions, too! `d/foo` will delete from the cursor to the next instance of "foo". `y3fi` will yank from the cursor to the third "i" on the line after it. Counts can also come before operators: `5dd` will delete five lines.

w	word
W	WORD
s	sentence
[,]	[ ] block
(,)	( ) block
<, >	< > block
t	XML/HTML tag
{, }	{ } block
", '	quoted string

:h text-objects

starting cursor position

(use text-objects)

iw — iW — i(

Up-down motions (:h up-down-motions)

Key	Motion
gg	first line
^b	up 1 page
^u	up ½ page
k	up 1 line
j	down 1 line
^d	down ½ page
^f	down 1 page
G	last line

Left-right motions (:h left-right-motions)

beginning of line **0** — first non-blank character **^** — previous WORD **B** — previous word **b** — previous character **h** — next character **l** — end of word **e** — beginning of next word **w** — end of WORD **E** — beginning of next WORD **W** — end of line **$**

Word motions (:h word-motions)

7 words

http://www.vimcheatsheet.com

1 WORD

Tabs (:h tabstop)

	ts	sw	sts	et
use spaces only	n	n	n	on
use tabs only	n	n	0	off

Set *n* to desired tab width (default 8)

tabstop	ts	Columns per tabstop
shiftwidth	sw	Columns per `<<`
softtabstop	sts	Spaces per tab
expandtab	et	`<Tab>` inserts spaces

MIXING TABS AND SPACES IS RIGHT OUT. (that means don't do it.)

:retab — Replace all tabs with spaces according to current tabstop setting

fileformat	ff	Try changing this if your line-endings are messed up
list		Display whitespace visibly according to listchars

Help (:h help)

:h *cmd*	Normal mode *cmd* help
:h i_*cmd*	Insert mode *cmd* help
:h v_*cmd*	Visual mode *cmd* help
:h c_*cmd*	Command-line editing *cmd* help
:h :*cmd*	Command-line *cmd* help
:h '*option*'	*Option* help
:helpgrep	Search through all help docs!

Tags (:h tags-and-searches)

^]	Jump to tag under cursor, including [tags] in help files
^t	Jump back up the tag-list
g^]	Jump to tag if it's the only match; else list matching tags

Keycodes (:h keycodes)

<CR>	^m	\r	Enter
<Tab>	^i	\t	Tab
<C-*n*>	^n		Ctrl-*n*
<M-*n*>			Alt-*n*
<Esc>	^[		Escape
<BS>	^h	\b	Backspace
<Del>			Delete

SEARCHING (:h pattern-searches)

Prev	Next	Forward	Backward	Matches
N	n	/*foo*	?*foo*	*foo*
		*	#	word under cursor
;	,	t*x*	T*x*	upto *x*
		f*x*	F*x*	find *x*

Marks (:h mark-motions)

m*m*	set mark *m* (a-z) in file	m*M*	set mark *M* (A-Z) across files	'[	jump to first char of just-changed text
'*m*	jump to first char of line containing *m*	\`*m*	jump to exact character of *m*	''	jump back to last jump

Pass a directory to the `:edit` command to open a directory explorer. Instructions for usage are at the top of the screen.

Normal mode commands

p	paste after cursor	P	paste before cursor	^[	return to Normal mode
u	undo	^r	redo	.	repeat
gf	find file under cursor in path and jump to it (file-searching)	dd	delete current line	yy	yank current line
x	delete character after cursor	%	jump to matching paren	r	replace char under cursor
*n*G	jump to line *n*	^o	jump back	^i	jump forward (jump-motions)
zz	center screen on cursor	zt	align top of screen with cursor	zb	align bottom of screen with cursor
==	auto-indent current line	<<	shift current line left by shiftwidth	>>	shift current line right by shiftwidth

Using `^[` to return to Normal mode lets you keep your fingers on the home row. It's even easier if you map Caps Lock to Control!

ENTERING INSERT MODE

beginning of line **I** — before cursor **i** — after cursor **a** — end of line **A**

previous line **O** — next line **o** — substitute character **s** — substitute line **S** — line from cursor **C**

COOL INSERT MODE STUFF (:h insert.txt)

^w	delete word before cursor	^u	delete line before cursor
^r*r*	insert the contents of register *r*	^r=	use the expression register (try `^r=5*10`)
^t	increase line indent by shiftwidth	^d	decrease line indent by shiftwidth
^x^l	line completion	^n	find next completion suggestion according to complete

ENTERING VISUAL (SELECT) MODE

v — The most basic type. Use Visual mode to select characters within a line.

V — Useful for moving chunks of a program around the file. Use Visual Line mode to select one or more lines.

^v — Great for working with tables made of text, or anything that happens to be conveniently aligned. Visual Block mode can be used to select boxes across lines.

switch cursor to start/end **o** (:h v_o) — re-select previous area **gv** (:h gv) — prepend to each Visual block line **I** (:h v_b_I) — jump to start of prior area **'<** (:h '<)

COMMAND-LINE MODE ONLY (:h cmdline.txt)

edit using Normal mode **^f** (cmdwin) — insert word under cursor **^r^w** (cmdline-editing) — completion suggestions **^d** (cmdline-completion)

Put `cnoremap %% <C-R>=expand('%:h').'/'<CR>` in your `.vimrc` so you can type `%%` in Command-line mode to refer to the directory of the current file, regardless of `pwd`.

Supply `%` as a range to the `:substitute` command to run it on every line in the file.

`:%s/Scribbl/Design/` — "Scribbled" -> "Designed"

Specify the "g" flag to apply the substitution to *every* match on a line.

`:s/[dla]//g` — "badly" -> "by" (:h s_flags, :h /[])

Vim supports many regular expression features.

`:s/..k/ax/` — "Mook" -> "Max" (:h usr_27, :h /.)

Use `\_.` instead of `.` if you want to search across multiple lines.

`:%s/heat\_.*Bungle/anto/` — "Cheatsheet\nBungler" -> "Cantor" (:h /_.)

Special escapes can be used to change the case of substitutions.

`:s_\(f..\)_\U\1\E_` — "foobar" -> "FOObar" (:h sub-replace-special)

Use `:global` to perform a command on matching lines.

`:g/foobar/delete` — Delete all lines containing "foobar"

If your pattern contains slashes, just use a different character as your delimiter.

`:s_Data/Lore_Brent Spiner_`

Use `\=` to evaluate expressions with replacement groups.

`:s_\d_\=submatch(0) + 1_g` — "10 25" -> "21 36" (:h sub-replace-\=)

File commands

ZZ	Write current file, if modified, and quit	ZQ	Quit without checking for changes (like `:q!`)

:write	Write current file
:wq	Write current file and quit

Use `:scriptnames` to list all files sourced during initialization.

:syntax	Enable and configure syntax highlighting. Use `:sy sync fromstart` to redraw broken highlights
:make	Run a compiler and enter quickfix mode (:h quickfix)

:!	Execute external shell command	!	Filter motion with shell command

Use `:earlier` and `:later` to quickly jump backward and forward in a file's history.

:read	Read external program output into current file

Options (:h options)

:set *opt*?	View current value of *opt*
:set no*opt*	Turn off flag *opt*
:set *opt*	Turn on flag *opt*
:set *opt*=*val*	Overwrite value of *opt*
:set *opt*+=*val*	Append to value of *opt*
:echo &*opt*	Access *opt* as a variable

hidden	hid	Lets you switch buffers without saving
laststatus	ls	Show status line never (0), always (2) or with 2+ windows (1)
hlsearch	hls	Highlight search matches. Also see 'highlight'
number	nu	Show line numbers
showcmd	sc	Show commands as you type them
ruler	ru	Show line and column number of the cursor
backspace	bs	Set to '2' to make backspace work like sane editors
wrap		Control line wrapping
background	bg	Set to 'dark' if you have a dark color scheme

Use `a` instead of `i` when beginning text-object motions to include delimiters or surrounding whitespace. For example, `di(` will change "(foo)" into "()", but `da(` will delete the parentheses as well.

Buffers (:h buffers)

:ls	List all open files
:b *path*	Jump to unique file matching *path*. Use <Tab> to scroll through available completions!
:b*n*	Jump to file *n*, number from first column of :ls
:bnext	Jump to next file
:bprev	Jump to previous file
:bdelete	Remove file from the buffer list
:edit	Open a file for editing
:enew	Open a blank new file for editing

Windows (:h windows)

:split	Split current window horizontally
:vsplit	Split current window vertically
^w hjkl	Move cursor to window left, below, above or to the right of the current window
^w HJKL	Move current window to left, bottom, top, or right of screen
^w r	Rotate windows clockwise
^w +-<>	Increase/decrease current window height/width
^w T	Move current window to a new tab
:only	Close all windows except current window
:bufdo	Execute a command in each open file

REGISTERS are CLIPBOARDS (:h registers)

All commands that delete, copy, or paste text use registers. To change which register is used by a command, type the register before the command. The default register is called "the unnamed register", and it is invoked with a pair of double-quotes (`""`). Typing `dd` or `yy` is the same as typing `""dd` or `""yy`. Think of the first `"` as a short way of saying "register", so `""` is pronounced "register `"`", and `"a`, "register `a`".

:registers		View all current registers
:echo @*r*		Access register *r* as a variable
"/	Last search pattern register	Contains the last pattern you searched for
"_	The black hole register	Use this to delete without clobbering any register (`"_dd`)
"0	Last yank register	Contains the last text you yanked
"1	Last big delete register	Contains the last line(s) you deleted
"2-"9	Big delete register stack	Every time `"1` is written to, its content is pushed to `"2`, then `"2` to `"3`, and so on
"-	Small delete register	Contains the last text you deleted within a single line
"+	System clipboard	If the OS integration gods smile upon you, this register reads and writes to your system clipboard.
"a-"z	Named registers	26 registers for you to play with
"A-"Z	Append registers	Using upper-case to refer to a register will append to it rather than overwrite it
q*r*	Record	Record into register *r*. Stop recording by hitting `q` again
@*r*	Playback	Execute the contents of register *r*
@@	Repeat last playback	Repeat the last @*r*, this is particularly useful with a count

Use `:map` to view all current custom key mappings. Read `:h map-which-keys` for a guide on which keys are best for your own custom mappings. Get used to Vim's help system - it's a fantastic resource!

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and others!

vim one-liner used to sort the list of names by length:

```
:exe 'g/^/let @x = len(getline("."))| normal "xPa ' | sort n | :g//normal dw
```