

# vi (and vim)

## ESCAPE commands

(press ESC key to enter escape/command mode)

i	enter insert mode, at cursor (type away)
a	enter append/insert mode, immediately to the right of cursor (even at end of line)
R	overwrite mode, at cursor [note capitalization]
x	delete a single character the cursor is on
dd	delete (cut) the entire line the cursor is on
10dd	delete (cut) 10 lines (this one and 9 below)
yy	yank (copy) this full line
3yy	yank (copy) three lines, this one and next two)
p	paste the most recently yanked/cut or deleted character or line(s) (immediately after this one)
u	undo last command (repeat to undo previous commands)
J	join this line and the next, with a space in between [note capitalization]
^	go to beginning of line the cursor is on
\$	go to end of line the cursor is on
ZZ	write file or save changes, and exit [note capitalization]

## Other commands

(generally must hit ENTER/RETURN key after each command)

/hello	search forward to find the next instance of word "hello" in text
/	repeat the last find
?hello	search backward to find the previous instance of word "hello" in text
:q!	do NOT write file or save changes, just exit
:w	write changes to this file
:w file2	copy the current state of this file to new file named file2, and start editing that file
:wq	write changes to file and quit (exit)
:\$	go to the last line of file
:1	go to the first line of file
:218	go to line number 218, if there is one (or to last line of file if shorter than 218 lines)
:set nu	turn on line numbers (use :set nu! to toggle line numbers back off)
:%s/delete/del/g	substitute/replace "delete" with "del", globally (entire file)
:%s/,//g	substitute/replace all commas, globally (careful! remember, :w to save first, u for undo, :q! to "bail out")
:%s/\$//g	globally remove (replace with nothing) all dollar signs (\$)
:!ls	run a shell command (ls, in this case), then return to editing this file
:UP ARROW	navigate UP (or DOWN) through previous commands used in this mode [note ENTER/RETURN not needed]