VIM QUICK REFERENCE CARD

Basic movement

h l k j . . . . character left, right; line up, down
b w . . . . word/token left, right
ge e . . . . end of word/token left, right
{ } . . . . beginning of previous, next paragraph
( ) . . . . beginning of previous, next sentence
0 gm . . . . beginning, middle of line
^ \$ . . . . first, last character of line
nG $n$gg . . . . line n, default the last, first
n% . . . . percentage n of the file *(n must be provided)*
n| . . . . column n of current line
% . . . . . match of next brace, bracket, comment, `#define`
nH nL . . . . line n from start, bottom of window
M . . . . middle line of window

Insertion & replace → insert mode

i a . . . . insert before, after cursor
I A . . . . insert at beginning, end of line
gI . . . . insert text in first column
o O . . . . . . open a new line below, above the current line
rc . . . . replace character under cursor with c
gr$c$ . . . . like r, but without affecting layout
R . . . . replace characters starting at the cursor
gR . . . . like R, but without affecting layout
cm . . . . change text of movement command m
cc *or* S . . . . change current line
C . . . . change to the end of line
s . . . . change one character and insert
~ . . . . switch case and advance cursor
g~m . . . . switch case of movement command m
gu$m$ gUm . . . lowercase, uppercase text of movement m
<m >m . . . . shift left, right text of movement m
n« n» . . . . shift n lines left, right

Deletion

x X . . . . delete character under, before cursor
dm . . . . delete text of movement command m
dd D . . . . delete current line, to the end of line
J gJ . . . . join current line with next, without space
:rd↩ . . . . delete range r lines
:rdx↩ . . . . delete range r lines into register x

Insert mode

^Vc ^Vn . . . . insert char c literally, decimal value n
^A . . . . insert previously inserted text
^@ . . . . same as ^A and stop insert → command mode
^Rx ^R^Rx . . . . insert content of register x, literally
^N ^P . . . . text completion before, after cursor
^W . . . . delete word before cursor
^U . . . . delete all inserted character in current line
^D ^T . . . . shift left, right one shift width
^K$c_1 c_2$ *or* c_1←c_2 . . . . enter digraph $\{c_1, c_2\}$
^Oc . . . . execute c in temporary command mode
^X^E ^X^Y . . . . scroll up, down
⟨esc⟩ *or* ^[. . . . . abandon edition → command mode

Copying

"x . . . . use register x for next delete, yank, put
:reg↩ . . . . show the content of all registers
:reg x↩ . . . . show the content of registers x
ym . . . . yank the text of movement command m
yy *or* Y . . . . yank current line into register
p P . . . . put register after, before cursor position
]p [p . . . . like p, P with indent adjusted
gp gP . . . . like p, P leaving cursor after new text

Advanced insertion

g?m . . . . perform rot13 encoding on movement m
n^A n^X . . . . +n, −n to number under cursor
gq$m$ . . . . format lines of movement m to fixed width
:$r$ce w← . . . . center lines in range r to width w
:$r$le i← . . . . left align lines in range r with indent i
:$r$ri w← . . . . . right align lines in range r to width w
!mc← . filter lines of movement m through command c
n!!c← . . . . filter n lines through command c
:r!c← . . . . filter range r lines through command c

Visual mode

v V ^V . . start/stop highlighting characters, lines, block
o . . . exchange cursor position with start of highlighting
gv . . . . start highlighting on previous visual area
aw as ap . . . . select a word, a sentence, a paragraph
ab aB . . . . select a block ( ), a block { }

Undoing, repeating & registers

u U . . . . . . undo last command, restore last changed line
. ^R . . . . repeat last changes, redo last undo
n. . . . . . . repeat last changes with count replaced by n
qc qC . . . . record, append typed characters in register c
q . . . . stop recording
@c . . . . execute the content of register c
@@ . . . . repeat previous @ command
:@c↩ . . . . execute register c as an *Ex* command
:rg/p/c↩ . . . . execute *Ex* command c on range r
⌊ where pattern p matches

Complex movement

- + ... line up, down on first non-blank character
B W . . . . space-separated word left, right
gE E . . . . end of space-separated word left, right
n_ . . . . down $n − 1$ line on first non-blank character
g0 . . . . beginning of *screen* line
g^ g\$ . . . . first, last character of *screen* line
gk gj . . . . *screen* line up, down
fc Fc . . . . next, previous occurence of character c
tc Tc . . . . before next, previous occurence of c
; , ... repeat last fFtT, in opposite direction
[[ ]] . . . . start of section backward, forward
[]][. . . . . end of section backward, forward
[( ]) . . . . unclosed (,) backward, forward
[{]} . . . . unclosed {, } backward, forward
[m]m . . . . . start of backward, forward *Java* method
[#]#. unclosed `#if`, `#else`, `#endif` backward, forward
[*]* . . . . start, end of `/* */` backward, forward

Search & substitution

/s← ?s← . . . . search forward, backward for s
/s/o← ?s?o← . . . . . search fwd, bwd for s with offset o
n *or* /← . . . . repeat forward last search
N *or* ?← . . . . repeat backward last search
* . . . search backward, forward for word under cursor
g# g* . . . . same, but also find partial matches
gd gD . . . local, global definition of symbol under cursor
:rs/f/t/x← . . . . substitute f by t in range r
⌊ x : g—all occurrences, c—confirm changes
:rs x← . . . . repeat substitution with new r & x

Special characters in search patterns

`.` `^` `$` . . . . any single character, start, end of line
`\<` `\>` . . . . start, end of word
`[`c_1`-`c_2`]` . . . . a single character in range $c_1..c_2$
`[^`c_1`-`c_2`]` . . . . a single character not in range
`\i` `\k` `\I` `\K` . . . . an identifier, keyword; excl. digits
`\f` `\p` `\F` `\P` . . a file name, printable char.; excl. digits
`\s` `\S` . . . . a white space, a non-white space
`\e` `\t` `\r` `\b` . . . . $\langle esc \rangle$, $\langle tab \rangle$, $\langle \leftarrow \rangle$, $\langle \leftarrow \rangle$
`\=` `*` `\+` . . . . match 0..1, 0..∞, 1..∞ of preceding atoms
`\|` . . . . separate two branches ($\equiv$ *or*)
`\(` `\)` . . . . group patterns into an atom
`\&` `\n` . . . . the whole matched pattern, n^{th} () group
`\u` `\l` . . . . next character made upper, lowercase
`\c` `\C` . . . . ignore, match case on next pattern

Offsets in search commands

n *or* `+`n . . . . n line downward in column 1
`-`n . . . . n line upward in column 1
`e+`n `e-`n . . . . n characters right, left to end of match
`s+`n `s-`n . . . . . n characters right, left to start of match
`;`sc . . . . execute search command sc next

Marks and motions

`m`c . . . . mark current position with mark $c \in [a..Z]$
`` ` ``c `` ` ``C . . . . go to mark c in current, C in any file
`` ` ``$0..9$ . . . . go to last exit position
`` `` `` `` `"` . . . . go to position before jump, at last edit
`` ` ``$[$ `` ` ``$]$ . . . . . go to start, end of previously operated text
`:marks`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . print the active marks list
`:jumps`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . print the jump list
n`^O` . . . . go to n^{th} older position in jump list
n`^I` . . . . go to n^{th} newer position in jump list

Key mapping & abbreviations

`:map` c $e$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . map $c \mapsto e$ in normal & visual mode
`:map!` c $e$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . map $c \mapsto e$ in insert & cmd-line mode
`:unmap` $c$$\hookleftarrow$ `:unmap!` $c$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . remove mapping c
`:mk` $f$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . write current mappings, settings... to file f
`:ab` c $e$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . add abbreviation for $c \mapsto e$
`:ab` $c$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . show abbreviations starting with c
`:una` $c$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . remove abbreviation c

Tags

`:ta` $t$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . jump to tag t
`:nta`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . jump to n^{th} newer tag in list
`^]` `^T` . . . jump to the tag under cursor, return from tag
`:ts` $t$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . list matching tags and select one for jump
`:tj` $t$$\hookleftarrow$ . .jump to tag or select one if multiple matches
`:tags`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . print tag list
`:n`po$\hookleftarrow$ `:n`^T$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . . .jump back from, to n^{th} older tag
`:tl`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . jump to last matching tag
`^W}` `:pt` $t$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . preview tag under cursor, tag t
`^W]` . . . . . . split window and show tag under cursor
`^Wz` *or* `:pc`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . close tag preview window

Scrolling & multi-windowing

`^E` `^Y` . . . . scroll line up, down
`^D` `^U` . . . . scroll half a page up, down
`^F` `^B` . . . . scroll page up, down
`zt` *or* `z`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . set current line at top of window
`zz` *or* `z.` . . . . set current line at center of window
`zb` *or* `z-` . . . . set current line at bottom of window
`zh` `zl` . . . . scroll one character to the right, left
`zH` `zL` . . . . scroll half a screen to the right, left
`^Ws` *or* `:split`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . split window in two
`^Wn` *or* `:new`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . create new empty window
`^Wo` *or* `:on`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . . . make current window one on screen
`^Wj` `^Wk` . . . . move to window below, above
`^Ww` `^W^W` . . . . move to window below, above (wrap)

Ex commands ($\hookleftarrow$)

`:e` f . . . . edit file f, unless changes have been made
`:e!` f . . . . edit file f always (by default reload current)
`:wn` `:wN` . . . . write file and edit next, previous one
`:n` `:N` . . . . edit next, previous file in list
`:`r`w` . . . . write range r to current file
`:`r`w` f . . . . write range r to file f
`:`r`w`$\gg$$f$ . . . . append range r to file f
`:q` `:q!` . . . . . quit and confirm, quit and discard changes
`:wq` *or* `:x` *or* `ZZ` . . . . write to current file and exit
$\langle up \rangle$ $\langle down \rangle$ . . . . recall commands starting with current
`:r` f . . . . insert content of file f below cursor
`:r!` c . . . . insert output of command c below cursor
`:args` . . . . display the argument list
`:`r`co` a `:`r`m` a . . . . copy, move range r below line a

Ex ranges

`,` `;` . . . . . . separates two lines numbers, set to first line
n . . . . an absolute line number n
`.` `$` . . . . the current line, the last line in file
`%` `*` . . . . entire file, visual area
`'`t . . . . position of mark t
`/`p`/` `?`p`?` . . . . the next, previous line where p matches
`+`n `-`n . . . . $+n$, $-n$ to the preceding line number

Folding

`zf`m . . . . create fold of movement m
`:`r`fo` . . . . create fold for range r
`zd` `zE` . . . . delete fold at cursor, all in window
`zo` `zc` `zO` `zC` . . . . open, close one fold; recursively
`[z` `]z` . . . . move to start, end of current open fold
`zj` `zk` . . . . move down, up to start, end of next fold

Miscellaneous

`:sh`$\hookleftarrow$ `:!`$c$$\hookleftarrow$ . . .start shell, execute command c in shell
`K` . . . . lookup keyword under cursor with `man`
`:make`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . . . start `make`, read errors and jump to first
`:cn`$\hookleftarrow$ `:cp`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . .display the next, previous error
`:cl`$\hookleftarrow$ `:cf`$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . list all errors, read errors from file
`^L` `^G` . . . . redraw screen, show filename and position
`g^G` . . .show cursor column, line, and character position
`ga` . . . . .show ASCII value of character under cursor
`gf` . . . . .open file which filename is under cursor
`:redir>`$f$$\hookleftarrow$ . . . . redirect output to file f
`:mkview` $[f]$ . . . . save view configuration [to file f]
`:loadview` $[f]$ . . . . load view configuration [from file f]
`^@` `^K` `^_` `\` `F`n `^F`n . . . . unmapped keys