VIM Cheat Sheet

Moving the cursor:

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k Hint: The h key is at the left and moves left.

< h 1 > The l key is at the right and moves right.

j The j key looks like a down arrow.

v
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Exiting the editor:

Pressing the 'Esc' key will put you into Normal mode, then you can type <u>q!</u> to exit the editor (does not save changes).

Deleting in VIM:

Hover over the character you wish to delete with the cursor and press 'x' to delete it.

Inserting in VIM:

Place the cursor after the character you want to insert and press 'i' to enter Insert mode. You can press 'Esc' to exit this mode.

Appending text in VIM:

Place the cursor where you want to start typing, press 'a', and start typing. You can press 'Esc' to exit this mode.

Editing a file in VIM:

Type vim tutor <ENTER>. 'vim' is the command to start the Vim editor, 'tutor' is the name of the file you want to edit. Insert and delete text using the text editing previously stated. Save the file and exit vim with 'wq' command.

Deletion commands:

- 1. To delete from the cursor up to the text word type: dw
- 2. To delete from the cursor to the end of a line type: d\$
- 3. To delete a whole line type: dd
- 4. To repeat a motion prepend it with a number: 2w
- 5. The format for a change command is:

operator [number] motion

Where:

- operator is what to do, such as d for delete
- [number] is an optional count to repeat the motion
- motion moves over the text to operate on, such as w (word), \$ (to the end of the line), etc.
- 6. To move to the start of the line use a zero: 0
- 7. To undo previous actions, type: u (lowercase)

To undo all the changes on a line, type: U (capital)

To undo the undo's, type: CTRL-R

To put a line, delete the line using 'dd' which saves it in the Vim register, and place the cursor on the line below where you want to place the line and press p to paste it above.

To replace the character under the cursor, type 'r' and then the character you want to have there

The change operator allows you to change from the cursor to where the motion takes you. eg. Type 'ce' to change from the cursor to the end of the word, 'c\$' to change to the end of a line.

The format for change is:

c [number] motion

1. CTRL-G displays your location in the file and the file status.

G moves to the end of that file

number G moves to that line number

Gg moves to the first line

2. Typing / followed by a phrase searches forward for that phrase

Typing? followed by a phrase searches backward for that phrase

After a search type 'n' to find the next occurrence in the same direction or 'N' to search in the opposite direction. CTRL-O takes you back to older positions, CTRL-I to newer positions

3. Typing % while the cursor is on a (,), [,], {, or } goes to its match.

4. To substitute new for the first old in a line type

:s/old/new

To substitute new for all 'old's on a line type:

:s/old/new/g

To substitute phrases between two line #'s type:

:#,#s/old/new/g

To substitute all occurrences in the file type:

:%s/old/new/g

To ask for confirmation each time add 'c':

:%s/old/new/gc

- 1. !command executes an external command
- 2. :w FILENAME writes the current Vim file to disk with the name FILENAME
- 3. v motion: w FILENAME saves the Visually selected lines in file FILENAME
- 4. :r FILENAME retrieves disk file FILENAME and puts it below the cursor position
- 5. :r !dir reads the output of the dir command and puts it below the cursor position
- 1. Type o to open a line BELOW the cursor and start insert mode

Type O to open a line ABOVE the cursor

2. Type a to insert text AFTER the cursor

Type A to insert text after the end of the line

- 3. The e command moves to the end of a word
- 4. The y operator yanks (copies) text, p puts (pastes) it
- 5. Typing a capital R enters Replace mode until 'Esc' is pressed

6. Typing ":set xxx" sets the option "xxx". Some options are:

'Ic' 'ignorecase' ignore upper/lower case when searching
'Is' 'incsearch' show partial matches for a search phrase

'hls' 'hlsearch' highlight all matching phrases

- 7. Prepend "no" to switch an option off: :set noic
- 1. Type:help or press 'F1' to open help window
- 2. Type:help cmd to find help on cmd
- 3. Type CTRL-W CTRL-W to jump to another window
- 4. Type :q to close help window
- 5. Create a vimrc startup script to keep your preferred settings
- 6. When typing a : command, press CTRL-D to see possible completions. Press 'TAB' to use one completion