Vim Commands Cheat Sheet

phoenixNAP GLOBAL IT SERVICES

Moving

h	move cursor left
j	move cursor down
k	move cursor up
l	move cursor right
#h [j/k/l]	move in a specified direction multiple times
b / B	move to the start of a word / token
w / W	move to the start of the next word / token
e / E	move to the end of a word / token
0 (zero)	jump to the beginning of line
$	jump to the end of line
^	jump to the first (non-blank) character of line
#G / #gg / :#	move to a specified line number (replace # with the line number)

Moving by Screens

Ctrl+b	move back one full screen
Ctrl+f	move forward one full screen
Ctrl+d	move forward 1/2 a screen
Ctrl+u	move back 1/2 a screen
Ctrl+e	move screen down one line (without moving cursor)
Ctrl+y	move screen up one line (without moving cursor)
Ctrl+o	move backward through the jump history
Ctrl+i	move forward through the jump history
H	move to the top of the screen
M	move to the middle of the screen
L	move to the bottom of the screen

Searching

*	jump to the next instance of a word
#	jump to the previous instance of a word
/pattern	search forward for the specified pattern
?pattern	search backward for the specified pattern
n	repeat the search in the same direction
N	repeat the search in the opposite direction

Inserting

i	switch to insert mode before the cursor
I	insert text at the beginning of the line
a	switch to insert mode after the cursor
A	insert text at the end of the line
o	open a new line below the current one
O	open a new line above the current one
ea	insert text at the end of the word
Esc	exit insert mode

Editing

r	replace a single character (+ return to command mode)
cc	replace entire line (+ move into insert mode)
C / c$	replace from cursor to the end of line
cw	replace from cursor to the end of the word
s	delete a character (+ move into insert mode)
J	merge with line below, separated with a single space
gJ	merge with line below, with no space between
.	repeat last command

Undoing/Redoing

u / :u / :undo	undo changes made in last entry
#u	undo multiple changes
U	undo latest changes in line
Ctrl+r	redo the last undone entry
#Ctrl+r	redo multiple changes
:undolist	list undo branches

Deleting

dd / D	delete a single line
dw	delete a single word
#dd / d#d	delete multiple lines
:#,#d	delete a range of lines
:%d	delete all lines
:.,$d	delete from current line to the end of file
dgg	delete from current line to the beginning of file
:g /pattern/d	delete lines containing a specified pattern
:g!/pattern/d	delete lines that don't contain a specified pattern
:g/^$/d	delete all blank lines

Copying

yy	copy an entire line
#yy	copy the specified number of lines
yaw	copy a word with its trailing whitespace
yiw	copy a word without its trailing white-space
y$	copy everything right of the cursor
y^	copy everything left of the cursor
ytx	copy everything between the cursor and a specified character (x)
yfx	copy everything between the cursor and a specified character (including that character)

Cutting

dd	cut the entire line
#dd	cut a specified number of lines
d$	everything right of the cursor

Pasting

p	paste text after the cursor
P	paste text before the cursor

Marking

v	marking text using character mode
V	mark lines using line mode
Ctrl+v	mark text using block mode
o	move from one end of the marked text to the other
aw	mark a word
ab	mark a block with ()
aB	mark a block with {}
at	mark a block with <>
ib	mark inner block ()
iB	mark inner block {}
it	mark inner block <>

Visual Commands

y	yank (copy) the marked text
d	delete (cut) the marked text
p	paste the text after the cursor
u	change the marked text to lowercase
U	change the marked text to uppercase

Color Schemes

:colorscheme [colorscheme_name]	change to specified scheme
:colorscheme [space]+Ctrl+d	list available Vim color scheme

Marks and Jumps

m[a-z]	marking text using character mode [from a to z]
m[a-z]	mark lines using line mode [from a to z]
`a	jump to position marked a
`y`a	yank text to position marked a
`.	jump to last change in file
`"	jump to last edit in file
`0	jump to position where Vim was last existed
``	jump to last jump
:marks	list all marks
:jumps	list all jumps
:changes	list all changes
Ctrl+i	move to next instance in jump list
Ctrl+o	move to previous instance in jump list
g,	move to next instance in change list
g;	move to previous instance in change list

Macros

qa	record macro a
q	stop recording macro
@a	run macro a
@@	run last macro again

Multiple Files

:e file_name	open a file in a new buffer
:bn	move to next buffer
:bp	go back to previous buffer
:bd	close buffer
:b#	move to the specified buffer (by number)
:b file_name	move to the specified buffer (by name)
:ls	list all buffers
:sp file_name	open a file in a new buffer and split viewpoint horizontally
:vs file_name	open a file in a new buffer and split viewpoint vertically
:vert ba	edit all files as vertical viewports
:tab ba	edit all buffers as tabs
gt	move to next tab
gT	move to previous tab
Ctrl+ws	split viewport horizontally
Ctrl+wv	split viewport vertically
Ctrl+ww	switch viewports
Ctrl+wq	quit a viewport
Ctrl+wx	exchange current viewport with next one
Ctrl+=	make all viewports equal height and width