

Intro to VIM

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Overview

1. What is Vim?

- An overview of what vim is, and why you should know how to use it.

2. How can I use Vim?

- An overview of how you can install vim, or simply how to use setup Vim keybinds in an editor of your choice

3. Vim Basics

- An overview of the basic commands you will use in vim just to get around

4. Interactive Vim Tutorial

- Finally, we'll get you set up on an interactive tutorial for vim

What is Vim?

- Vim stands for Vi iMproved
 - Vi is an old text editor, so Vim is an improved version of this old text editor
- It's primary draw is the many keyboard shortcuts
- It's installed on pretty much every Linux machine
- Extensibility through plugins

Why use keybinds?

- Less strain on wrists
 - Do not have to switch back to mouse
- Increase in speed
- Uniform across editors

Invocations

- vim - Read from STDIN
- vim +99 Jump to line
- vim -u NONE "Debug" mode

Legend

- [A]** Key press
- [A]** ^a, <C-a>, <Ctrl>+a
- [A]** Hold shift to modify usage

Registers

- [d]** Cut line to default register
- [P]** Paste from default register
- [a]** Paste from
- [c]** Cut line to
- [E]** Append 3 lines to

Normal Mode

- [d]** Save & Close
- [Q]** Close
- [S]** Swap files
- [g]** Open file under cursor
- [:]** Command Mode

Insert Mode

- [a]** Complete...
- [n]** Autocomplete
- [F]** File
- [L]** Line
- [g]** Tag
- [E]** Return to Normal Mode

Options

- [set wrap lbr]** Notepad "mode"
- [set ft?]** Check filetype
- [set list et]** Spaces only
- [set ru no so]** Inspect "mode"
- [set sw=4 sts=4]** Tab-to-space ratio
- [set ts=8]** Reset textwidth
- [set nohl]** Disable search highlighting

Command Mode

- [Enter]** Submit command
- [quit]** Exit Vim
- [write]** Save file
- [pwd]** Current directory
- [ls]** List open files
- [cd]** Change directory
- [set]** Set options

Manual

- [F]** History
- [edit]** Open file
- [:split]** Vertical
- [:close]** Close split
- [:bn]** Go to file n
- [:help]** Learn Vim
- [:reg]** List all registers

<https://thingsfitttogether.com/product/vim-cheat-sheet-basics-print/>

How can I use Vim?

1. On Windows you can download Vim from their website, or using WSL (Windows Subsystem for Linux) will also have Vim installed
2. If you're on a Linux machine, you already (most likely) have it installed, run "vim" in the terminal
3. MacOS has Vim installed by default, but it is a limited version, you can install the full version using homebrew

The screenshot shows the vim.org/download.php page. The browser's address bar displays 'www.vim.org/download.php'. The page has a header with 'SPONSOR Vim development' and 'VOTE for features' buttons, and a logo for 'the editor'. A sidebar on the left contains navigation links: Home, Advanced search, About Vim, Community, News, Sponsoring, Trivia, Documentation, Download (highlighted), Vim from GitHub, Vim from Mercurial, List of Mirrors, Sources, Patches, Development, Runtime files, Script links, and Translations. The main content area is titled 'Downloading Vim' and states: 'Vim is available for many different systems and there are several versions. This page will help you decide what to download.' Under 'Most popular:', it lists recent and signed MS-Windows files available on the 'vim-win32-installer site', including the latest stable snapshot version (gvim 9.1.0821_x64.exe and gvim 9.1.0821_x86.exe) and a zip package (gvim 9.1.0821_x86.zip and gvim 9.1.0821_x64.zip). It also mentions signed MS-Windows builds available from the same site (v9.1.0): gvim 9.1.0_x86_signed.exe (32bit installer), gvim 9.1.0_x64_signed.exe (64bit installer), gvim 9.1.0_x86_signed.zip (32bit zip package), and gvim 9.1.0_x64_signed.zip (64bit zip package). A note suggests checking the 'vim-win32-installer site' for the latest signed versions and mentions 'Winget' packages (vim.vim (stable) and vim.vim nightly (nightly builds)). At the bottom, it provides instructions for Unix (referencing GitHub, Mercurial, and AppImage) and Mac (referencing MacVim and Homebrew).

download : vim online

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www.vim.org/download.php

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Downloading Vim

Vim is available for many different systems and there are several versions. This page will help you decide what to download.

Most popular:

Recent and signed MS-Windows files are available on the [vim-win32-installer site](#)
The latest stable snapshot version is [gvim 9.1.0821_x64.exe](#) (64bit installer) and [gvim 9.1.0821_x86.exe](#) (32bit installer).
A zip package (32bit and 64bit) is also available: [gvim 9.1.0821_x86.zip](#) and [gvim 9.1.0821_x64.zip](#)

Signed MS-Windows builds are available from the vim-win32-installer site (v9.1.0):

MS-Windows:

- [gvim 9.1.0_x86_signed.exe](#) (32bit installer)
- [gvim 9.1.0_x64_signed.exe](#) (64bit installer)
- [gvim 9.1.0_x86_signed.zip](#) (32bit zip package)
- [gvim 9.1.0_x64_signed.zip](#) (64bit zip package)

Please also check the [vim-win32-installer site](#) for the latest signed versions (search for *This release includes signed files*).
[Winget](#) packages are also available: [vim.vim \(stable\)](#) and [vim.vim nightly \(nightly builds\)](#)

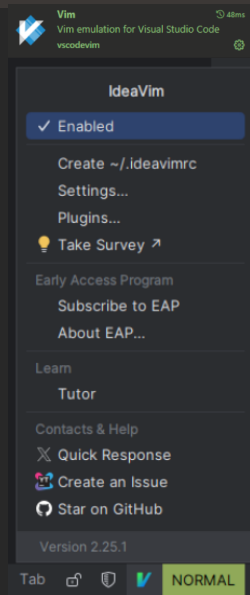
Unix: See the [GitHub](#) page, or [Mercurial](#), if you prefer that. There is also an [Appimage](#) which is build daily and runs on many Linux systems.

Mac: See the [MacVim](#) project for a GUI version and [Homebrew](#) for a terminal version

How can I use Vim?

How can I use Vim keybinds?

- For pretty much every major editor,
you have two options
 - Enable Vim mode if built-in
 - Install a Vim keybinds plugin



Vim Basics

TODO: Make intro page for vim basics

Modes

What are modes?

- Modes are how you operate using vim, and each mode does different things. You can switch modes at pretty much any time.
 - This may be kind of confusing to think about at first, but you already are familiar with this concept if you use another development environment!
- For instance, if you are writing code in visual studio code, and you then use your mouse to highlight text, you can think of it as "switching" into visual mode.
- You can see what mode your in by checking the bottom left, but this may be changed by different vim configurations.

Modes

What modes are there?

- Normal Mode

- Vim “home base”, allows you to switch to different modes
- Also used for things like rearranging text (copying and pasting)

- Insert Mode

- The most common mode, in this mode any text you write will actually be written to the file

- Visual Mode

- Allows you to select larger blocks of text visually, useful for copying and pasting, or deleting large sections

- Command Mode

- Allows you to enter commands to Vim, which is used for things like saving, among plenty of other things

- Replace Mode

- Like Insert Mode, but will directly write over text rather than adding new text

Buffers

- Buffers are like the clipboard on your computer
 - The buffer is separate from your clipboard
 - Things you copy in vim will not copy to your clipboard, and vice versa
- You can have as many buffers as you want
 - For this example we will stick to only 26, the characters in the English alphabet.
- Before inputting a command that uses buffers (you will see some in a second), you input double quote (") followed by the name of the buffer.