



A Closer Look at Vim

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Why Vim?



**OVER 1 YEAR, THE AVERAGE VIM USER
SAVES 11 MINUTES IN PRODUCTIVITY.**

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a man's face, likely from a movie. He has a pained or frustrated expression, with his mouth open as if shouting or crying. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows. The background is dark and out of focus. A computer monitor is visible in the lower-left corner.

**HOWEVER, THEY LOSE 27 HOURS THROUGH
EVANGELISING VIM TO NON-USERS.**

WHY VIM?

- It's powerful (modal editing, command composability)
- It's fun. Seriously...
- It will live longer than you
- It's not THAT hard to learn

**Who the hell even
uses Vim anymore?**

	2008	2009	2010	2012	2014	2015
VIM	16.6%	18.9% ▲ 2.4	25% ▲ 6.1	44.6% ▲ 19.6	35.4% ▼ -9.2	37.9% ▲ 2.5
Emacs	6.6%	6.3% ▼ -0.4	7.7% ▲ 1.5	5.2% ▼ -2.5	4.8% ▼ -0.4	4.5% ▼ -0.3
Textmate	56.5%	55.3% ▼ -1.2	48.6% ▼ -6.8	25.4% ▼ -23.1	7.1% ▼ -18.3	6.4% ▼ -0.7
Eclipse Based	4.2%	2.5% ▼ -1.7	2.5% ▲ 0	0.3% ▼ -2.2	0.8% ▲ 0.5	0.3% ▼ -0.5
Other	16.2%	17% ▲ 0.9	16.2% ▼ -0.8	6.5% ▼ -9.7	13.1% ▲ 6.6	9% ▼ -4.1
Sublime	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.9% ▲ 17.9	38.8% ▲ 20.9	36.1% ▼ -2.8
Atom	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.7% ▲ 5.7
Visual Studio	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1% ▲ 0.1
XCode	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

WHAT'S THE DEAL...



...WITH MODAL EDITING?

Movement

hkl

w

b

e

ge

f[char] / F[char]

t[char] / T[char]

gg / G

Movement	Commands
h j k l	d
w	c
b	y
e	p
ge	
f[char] / F[char]	
t[char] / T[char]	
gg / G	

Movement	Commands	Text Objects
<div data-bbox="554 619 653 680">hjkl</div> <div data-bbox="576 782 631 823">w</div> <div data-bbox="584 925 622 977">b</div> <div data-bbox="584 1079 622 1130">e</div> <div data-bbox="568 1232 639 1283">ge</div> <div data-bbox="373 1375 831 1436">f[char] / F[char]</div> <div data-bbox="373 1528 831 1590">t[char] / T[char]</div> <div data-bbox="502 1682 702 1743">gg / G</div>	<div data-bbox="1350 619 1388 670">d</div> <div data-bbox="1352 782 1385 823">c</div> <div data-bbox="1352 925 1385 977">y</div> <div data-bbox="1352 1079 1385 1130">p</div>	<div data-bbox="2112 619 2167 670">a*</div> <div data-bbox="2118 782 2162 823">i*</div>

HOW TO LEARN VIM

- Remap your caps lock to escape
- Build your knowledge gradually
- Don't be afraid to make mistakes – undos are cheap
- Ask!

THE FUTURE – NEOVIM

- Massive refactoring effort to bring Vim into the 21st century
- Asynchronous process execution
- Msgpack API for integrating Vim into GUIs (think Vim inside Atom)
- Built-in terminal emulator
- Lua as the scripting language, VimL-to-Lua transpiler
- More information:
<https://github.com/neovim/neovim/wiki/Introduction>

RESOURCES

- Practical Vim, Drew Neil
- Vimcasts
- Vimtutor
- Built-in help (:h[elp])

BLOG POSTS

- <http://stevelosh.com/blog/2010/09/coming-home-to-vim/>
- <http://yehudakatz.com/2010/07/29/everyone-who-tried-to-convince-me-to-use-vim-was-wrong/>
- <https://medium.com/@mkozlows/why-atom-cant-replace-vim-433852f4b4d1>
- <http://www.reddit.com/r/ProgrammerHumor/comments/338tx5/vim/cqiyma2>



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