

Vim Reference Card

In general, stay out of insert mode when moving around. Enter insert mode only when you're actually typing, and leave it when you're done.

Starting Vim

`vi filename` Open *filename* in Vim
`vi + filename` Open *filename* at EOF

Leaving Vim

`:x` Save changes and exit
`:q!` Quit without saving

Getting Help

`:help` Show help screen
`:help x` Help for command *x*

Files

`:e filename` Edit *filename* in new buffer
`:w filename` Write (save as) *filename*
`:e!` Discard unsaved changes

Moving Around

`h j k l` ← ↓ ↑ →
`gdirection` Move one display line in *direction*
`0` Beginning of line
`^` Beginning of sentence
`$` End of line
`w` Start of next word
`e` End of next word
`b` Back a word
`{` Back a paragraph
`}` Forward a paragraph
`1G` Go to first line
`G` Go to last line
`nG` or `:n` Go to line *n*
`%` Matching parenthesis
`ma` Set mark *a*
`'a` Goto mark *a*

Inserting Text

`i` Insert mode
`A` Append to current line
`o` New line below current
`Esc` Exit insert mode
`u` Undo
`Ctrl + r` Redo
`cw` Change word under cursor (try with `*`, `n`, and `.`)
`.` Repeat last command

Moving Text

`v` Visual selection mode
`Ctrl + v` Block visual mode
`I` Insert before cursor
`y` Yank (copy) text
`yy` Yank entire line
`x` Kill char under cursor
`dm` Kill text for movement *m*
`dd` Kill entire line
`D` Kill line after cursor
`>` Shift right
`<` Shift left
`p` Paste

Searching

`/term` Search for *term*
`*` Search for word under cursor
`#` Search backwards for word under cursor
`n` Next match
`N` Next match backwards
`:%s/query/replace/g` Substitute *replace* for *query*
`:%s/query/replace/gc` With confirmation

Buffers

`:e filename` Edit *filename* in new buffer
`:b filename` Switch to buffer *filename*
`:bn` Next buffer
`:bp` Previous buffer
`:bd` Delete (close) buffer
`Ctrl + wv` Split window vertically
`Ctrl + ww` Switch windows
`Ctrl + wq` Quit window

Macros

`qletter` Start recording macro to *letter*
`q` Stop recording macro
`@letter` Run macro *letter*
`@@` Run macro again
`n@letter` Run *n* times

Other

`:set tw=n` Set text width (wrap) to *n* cols
`:set spell` Turn on spellchecking
`zg` Add word under cursor to dictionary
`:%! command` Pipe entire file through *command*

~/.Vimrc

```
" Use 4 spaces for a tab.  
set softtabstop=4 shiftwidth=4 expandtab
```

```
" Use colors for a dark terminal background  
set background=dark
```

```
" Enhanced tab completion  
set wildmenu
```

```
" Git commit spellcheck, width  
autocmd FileType gitcommit setlocal spell textwidth=72
```

Compiled by Mike Kasberg.
Free to redistribute and modify.
<https://github.com/mkasberg/vim-refcard>