

Coding With Vim



(Vi iMproved)

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Agenda

- What The Heck Is Vim and Why Would I Want To Use It?!
- I Just Want To Edit A File!
- Vim On Steroids
- Painful Quirks and Gotchas
- Always Vimproving

What The Heck Is Vim and Why Would I Want To Use It?

An open source **highly configurable** command line text editor

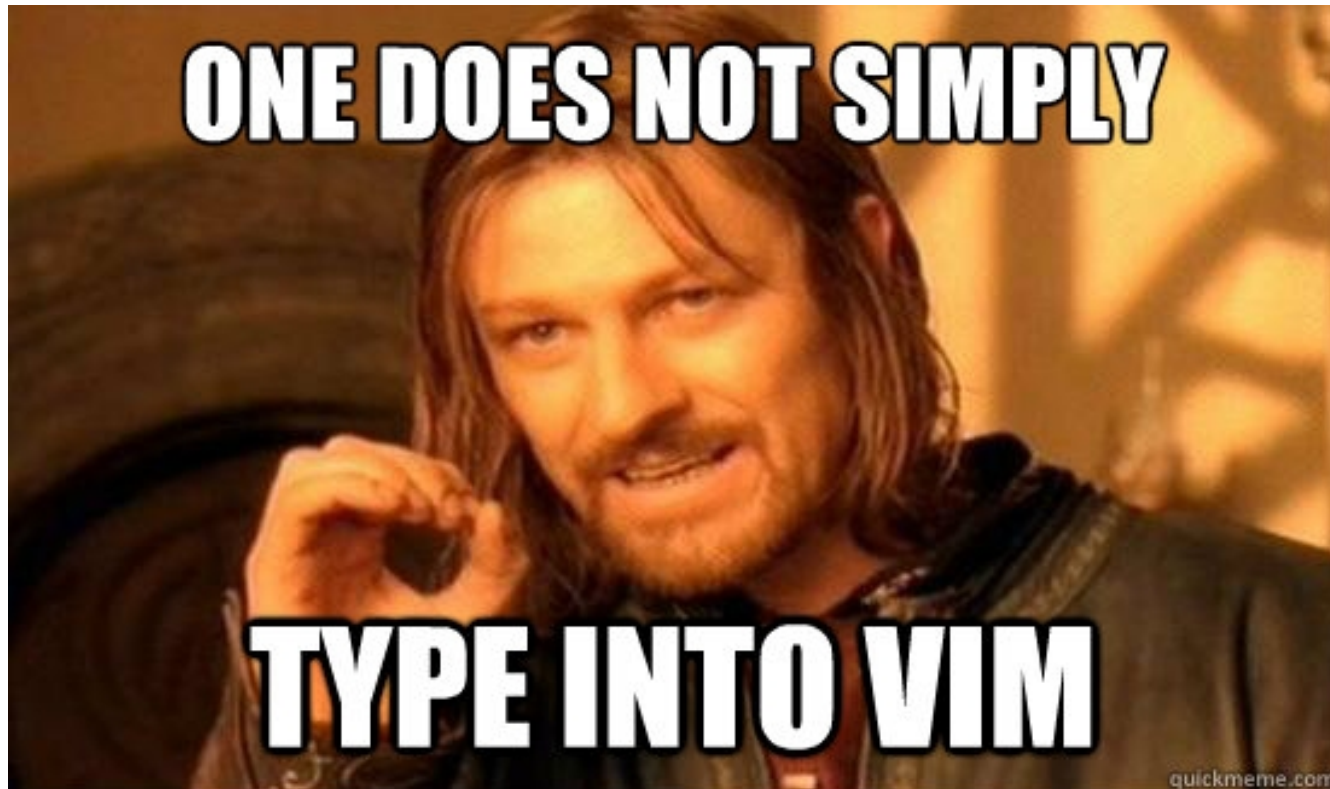
Available for all standard platforms

Customize once and transfer to any other machine

Works really well as an IDE

Best thing of all... **ITS FREE!**
(charitable donations)

I Just Want To Edit A File!



Normal Mode

<ESC>

- For performing edit commands
- Can always be reached from other modes by hitting escape

Undo Change: **u**

Redo Change: <CONTROL>**r**

Delete Line: **dd**

Copy Line (yank): **yy**

Paste After Cursor From Delete/Copy Buffer: **p**

Repeat Command X Times: <NUMBER><COMMAND>

Repeat Last Command: **.**

Tab Current Line Contents Right: <SHIFT>>

Tab Current Line Contents Left: <SHIFT><

Auto Format: **=**

Search For Next Word Under Cursor: <SHIFT>*

Start Recording Macro: **q**<KEY>

Stop Recording Macro: <ESC>**q**

Play Macro: <SHIFT>@<KEY>

Insert Mode

<ESC> i

- Direct keyboard edits

Auto Text Completion: <CONTROL>p

Select Mode

- Windows like operations

Select Line(s): <SHIFT><RIGHT CLICK HOLD AND DRAG>

Copy Selection To Clipboard:

<CONTROL><SHIFT>c OR <LEFT CLICK>

Paste From Clipboard: <CONTROL><SHIFT>v OR <LEFT CLICK>

Command Mode

<ESC>: <ESC>/ <ESC>?

- Search/Replacements
- Opening, closing, saving files
- Plugin commands

Reg Ex Search: <ESC>/<REGEX>

Reg Ex Replace: <ESC> :%s/<FIND>/<REPLACE>/gci

Save File: <ESC>:w

Close File: <ESC>:q

Force File Close: <ESC>:q!

Force Save: <ESC>:w!

Plugin Commands: <ESC>:<COMMAND>

View Vim Help File: <ESC>:help vim

View Bundle Help File:<ESC>:help<BundleName>

Visual Mode

<ESC>**v**

<ESC><CONTROL>**v**

- Edits with selection

Select Lines: <ARROW KEYS>

Tab Selected Line Right: <SHIFT>>

Tab Selected Line Left: <SHIFT><

Copy Selected Text To Buffer: **y**

Deleted Text To Buffer: **d**

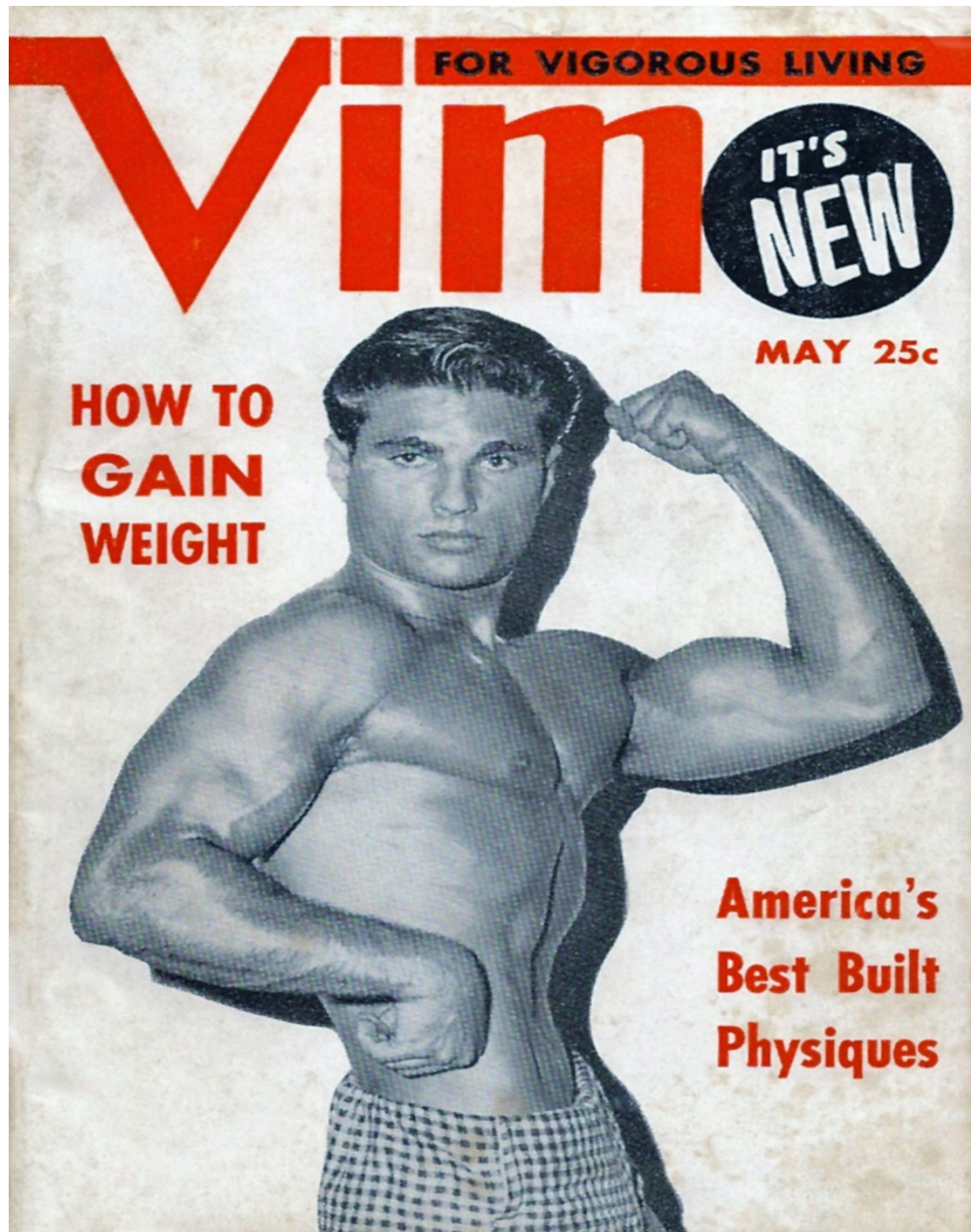
Regex search on selected: **/**<REGEX>

Replace on selected text: **:s**/**<FIND>**/**<REPLACE>**/**gci**

But Wait... There's More Modes!!!!

Ex-Mode - Like command mode but limited

Six ***mixed*** modes of the modes you just learned



On Steroids

VIMRC

Located at: ~/.vimrc

- If missing, simply create the file
- Where you customize your vim experience (plugins, key mappings, custom macros, vim environment)
- Automatically loaded when you open a file with vim



Plugins

Vundle - Plugin manager

Control P - Recursively search for files using regex

NerdTree - Directory listing viewer

vDebug - Code debugging using xDebug

cTags - Drill into code

tList - Source code structure

Syntastic - Syntax checker

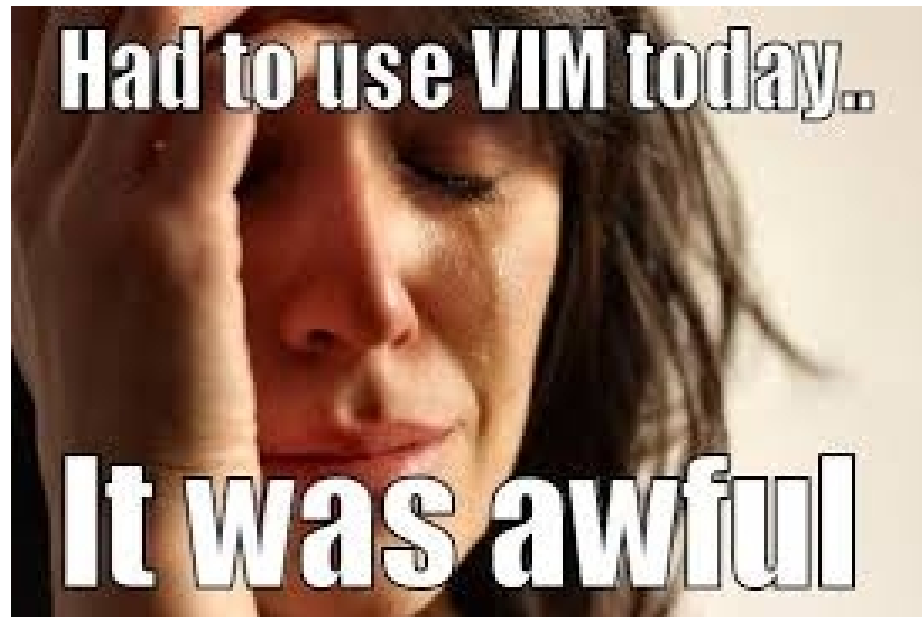
There's probably a plugin for that!

VIMDIFF

`vimdiff <file1> <file2>`

- For diffing 2 or more files
- Comes with vim installation
- Leverage a bash script to vimdiff changed repo files.
(see my guthub account for an example)

Painful Quirks and Gotchas!



- “<CONTROL> S” Accepts key strokes but quits echoing.
Recover: <CONTROL> Q
- Not all terminal emulators are created equal (putty, bash).
Expected key mappings may be overridden but can be changed in the terminal preferences.
- Steep Learning Curve

Always Vimproving



www.vim.org

vimtutor

Questions?

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