Vim Tips and Tricks I Learned But Sometimes Forget

Vim Help Files - Vim-Fu: Basic Vim Tips

Search

Use g* and g# to search pattern under cursor

- Using splat or hash without `g` prefix performs exact WORD match.
- Using `g*` or `g#` finds pattern in middle of WORD too.

Search Highlighting

- Use `:set hlsearch` to turn on.
- Use `:set nohls` to turn off.
- Change colors via `:hi Search ctermfg=blue ctermbg=gray` (or your favorite colors; use recognized color names, or 0-255 for Xterm colors (see `:help cterm-colors` for info).

Testing (changing of the) brackets and (parens and) curly {braces.}

Autocomplete

Autocomplete a Word

- Use `ctrl-p` (while in Insert Mode).
- Case sensitive.
- If multiple pattern candidates, list of choices appears.
    - Use arrow keys (not j k) to navigate list of choices.
- Text to be completed must be in the document.
    - Cannot be something that was deleted.
    - Can it be something in another open buffer?
        * Testing with "Polynomial". Yes, it works!
- Shift key (using capital P) seems to work the same.

Autocomplete a Line

- Use `ctrl-x ctrl-l` (while in Insert Mode).

Autocomplete Path, Filename

- Search path using `ctrl-x ctrl-f` (Insert Mode).
- Use [tab] key to autocomplete filenames in the current dir (Command Mode).
    - Example: `:e [tab]` cycles through files you could open.
- Use `ctrl-o` to open older buffers; `ctrl-i` to cycle back through newer buffers.

Vim Markdown Highlighting

By default, Vim assumes the `.md` file extension is for the Modulo programming language, not Markdown. I'm now using the `.mkd` file extension.

VimRC

Eventually, I'll set this up a proper .vimrc. For now, when I launch Vim, I :set my environment.

- `:set tabstop=8 wrap lbr tw=0 ruler nu rnu cursorline cursorcolumn fdm=marker`
- `:hi CursorLine cterm=NONE ctermbg=17 ctermfg=200`
- `:hi CursorColumn ctermbg=234 ctermfg=3`
- `:autocmd InsertEnter * set cul`
- `:autocmd InsertLeave * set nocul`
- `:nunmap <C-a>`