

vim (The Basics)



I'M SORRY M'AM, BUT
I DON'T KNOW WHAT
EDITOR THIS IS THAT
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.



LOOK, IT'S THE
'SIX' EDITOR. YOU
KNOW, THE ROMAN
NUMERAL SIX?

⚡ UH, YOU
MEAN 'VI'?

THIS IS THE
SAME LADY
WHO WAS
WORRIED
BECAUSE
SHE HEARD
WE USED
"A PATCHY"
WEB SERVER.



vim Text Editor

- Command line text editor
- Steep learning curve
- Not WYSIWYG
- Power tool
- Find documentation
- Display system information

Starting vim



Starting vim without a Filename

```
VIM - Vi IMproved

        version 7.0.237
        by Bram Moolenaar et al.
        Modified by <bugzilla@redhat.com>
Vim is open source and freely distributable


        Help poor children in Uganda!

type  :help iccf<Enter>          for information

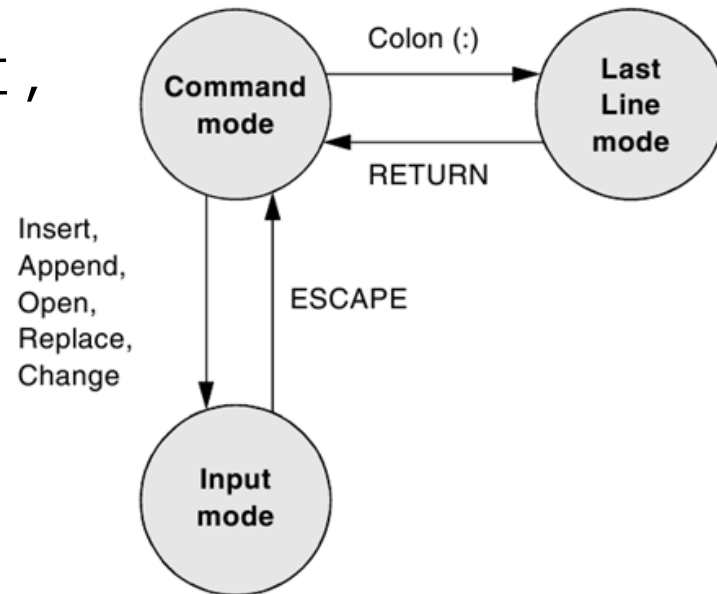
type  :q<Enter>                  to exit
type  :help<Enter> or <F1>       for on-line help
type  :help version7<Enter>     for version info
```

Modes of vim

- Command mode (<esc> to enter)
 - Starts with command mode
 - All key strokes are taken as commands

- Insert mode (i, a, I, A, r, etc. to enter)

- Most key strokes are interpreted as text



Enter Text

If you are not sure whether vim is in Input mode, press the ESCAPE key; vim returns to Command mode if it was in Input mode or beeps, flashes, or does nothing if it is already in Command mode. You can put vim back in Input mode by pressing the i or a key again.

```
-- INSERT --
```

4, 61

All

Basic Movement

- **h** – move to the left
- **l** – move to the right
- **j** – move up
- **k** – move down

Move Around the Cursor

- **0/\$** - go to the beginning/end of line
- **gg or 1G** – go to the beginning of file
- **G** – jump to end of file

Enter Text

- **a** – append after cursor
- **A** – append at the end of line
- **O/o** – open a line above/below current line

Delete Text

- **x** – delete a character
- **X** – delete a word
- **dd** – delete a line
- **J** – join current line with next, with a space
- **gJ** – join current line with next, without a space

Copy, Change, Replace and Undo/Redo

- **v/d** – mark the beginning and end of text, and save it in the memory
- **V/d** – mark the whole line, and save it in the memory
- **P** – paste
- **cw** – change a word
- **dw** – delete a word
- **dd** – delete a line
- **r** – replace
- **u/Ctrl+r** – undo/redo

Get Out of vim

- ZZ or :wq – save and quit
- :w – save without quitting
- :e or :q! – quit without saving
- :q – quit when no editing is made

Exercises

[Interactive vim Tutorial](#)