

How to be a HomeStar Runner with Vim

A talk

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Goal of Talk is to:

- Convince you that typing is faster than mouse clicking

Why?

- Be a faster typist
- Ultimately be faster than your coworkers
- Wow your boss to make more money

One Solution

A keyboard-centric text editor (Vim) Together with a robust terminal (iTerm 2) and a terminal multiplexer (tmux)

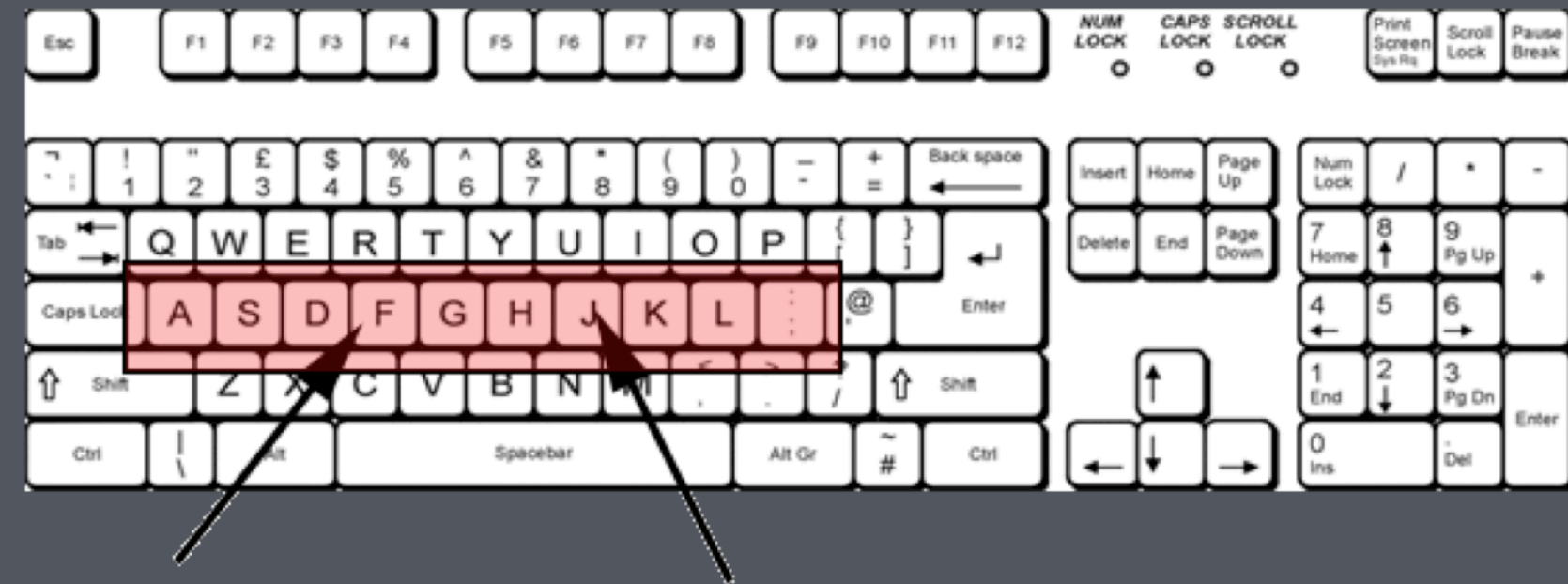


What Can Vim Do For You?

- comprehensive navigation
- navigate by word
- effortless cleaning of computer case
- fast file switching
- language contextual features (formatting, text highlighting)
- remove spills off desk

How to use Vim

Become acquainted with the home row



Ditch the



keys and the



pad

Learn



Navigation (Normal Mode)

word

word is a sequence of letters, digits, underscores, and other non-whitespace characters

The diagram illustrates the 'word' navigation command in Normal Mode. It shows the text 'HomeStars is a free service to help homeowners'. Above the text, the word 'cursor' has a downward arrow pointing to the space between 'free' and 'service'. To its right, the letter 'w' has a downward arrow pointing to the end of the word 'service'. Below the text, the letter 'b' has an upward arrow pointing to the start of the word 'service', and the letter 'e' has an upward arrow pointing to the end of the word 'service'.

WORD

WORD is a sequence of non-whitespace characters

Verb:

W



To Home-Star: e.g., He home-stared a good contractor



B

cursor

E

More Navigation (Normal Mode)

HomeStars is a free service to help homeowners

↑ ↑
^ 0

↑ ↑
g_ \$

Redaction (Insert Mode)

- x (delete character under cursor)
- X (delete previous character)
- c (change character under cursor)
- C (change all characters to the right of cursor until new line)
- i (enter insert mode)
- I (enter insert mode from beginning of line)
- A (enter insert mode from last character)

Text Selection (Visual Mode)

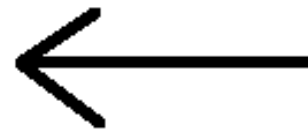
- v (visual mode)
- V (visual-line mode)
- ^v (visual-block mode)

Extensible File Editor

Plugins



vim



Configuration

Configuration

- Check out these [dotFiles](#) for sane configurations for your terminal, shell, Vim, and more
- Check out Kevin Jalbert's [gists](#)

Shell

Use zsh, it is like Bash, but more programmable!

- Supports both Vim and emacs keybindings (faster navigation!)
- ^r to search command history
- Fuzzy pattern matching for commands
- Robust prompt, e.g., display Git repository status
- Many more

tmux

The Terminal Multiplexer

- Supports multiple panes and tabs
- Copy text across shells and text editors

Read this book [tmux: Productive Mouse-Free Development](#)





But Wait, There is More!

For OS X

LaunchBar (paid, but oh so worth it) from Objective Development

- Do almost anything from the keyboard
- Supports Vim-bindings!

Vimium for both Chrome and Firefox

- Do almost anything from the keyboard
- Support for Vim-bindings

Visual Studio (on Windows)

ReSharper from JetBrains (paid and [open-source license](#) available)

- Supports keyboard shortcuts
- Provides superior code navigation
- Provides superior code refactoring

Be More Productive with a Mechanical Keyboard

- With mechanical switches
- I recommend the [Das Keyboard](#) with [blue switches](#)
- If it is too expensive then ask your employer to pay

You can find these slides at [http://
www.danofer.com/presentations/
keyboard](http://www.danofer.com/presentations/keyboard)