

# Philip's Reference to The editor

## → Insert mode

i	At (in front of) cursor
a	Past (after) the cursor
I	At start of line
A	At end of line
o	Create new line after current
O	Create new line before current

<Esc> to return to normal mode

## Motion

← h      j ↓      ↑ k      l →

Back/Start	Forward/End
b	Word
0	Line
(	Sentence
{	Paragraph
gg	File
	w
	\$
	)
	}
	G

% jumps to matching parenthesis, brace, or square bracket

Optionally prepend motion with a quantity.

## Actions

c<m>	Change (replace) <i>motion</i>
d<m>	Delete (cut) <i>motion</i>
y<m>	Yank (copy) <i>motion</i>

Repeating the letter as the motion operates on the current line.

x	Delete character under cursor
p	Paste (from Vim's internal buffer)
<, >	Decrease or increase indent
J	Join next line with current line
r<c>	Replace character under cursor with c

Period (.) repeats the last action. Insert mode is considered one action. Undo: u. Redo: C-r or :redo.

## Visual mode

v Enter line-based visual mode

V Enter character-based visual mode

o Select range with motions, then take action

## Search

/<exp>	Find string or regex
*	Search for word under cursor
n N	Repeat search forward / back

:set incsearch to search incrementally.  
Turn off search highlighting with :noh

## Substitute (replace)

:<rng>s/<exp>/<to>/<mod>

Range: **from,to** or % for all. Default: current line only.

Modifiers: g to replace all instances on each line,  
i for case-insensitive match  
c to confirm each replacement  
e —a lack of a match is not an error

Use regular expressions in "exp" strings. Escape RE elements, or start expression with \v.

## Macros

q<x>	Begin macro named x
q	Stop recording current macro
@<x>	Replay macro x (quantity opt'l)
@@	Replay last-replayed macro

## Named buffers

"<x> followed by text edit puts selection into buffer named x.

"<x>p pastes from named buffer x.

Tip: macros share namespace with buffers.

## Editor operations

ZZ	Save and quit	<Esc>	Abort / return to normal mode
:w	Save and remain in file	:sp	Split screen horizontally (filename opt'l)
:w!	Force save and remain in file	:vs	Split screen vertically (filename opt'l)
:q!	Abandon changes and quit	g C-g	Display word count / position