

## Commands Used to Start, Exit, Read, and Write Files in vi

Command	Usage
<code>vi myfile</code>	Start the <b>vi</b> editor and edit the <b>myfile</b> file
<code>vi -r myfile</code>	Start <b>vi</b> and edit <b>myfile</b> in recovery mode from a system crash
<code>:r file2&lt;ret&gt;</code>	Read in <b>file2</b> and insert at current position
<code>:w&lt;ret&gt;</code>	Write to the file
<code>:w myfile&lt;ret&gt;</code>	Write out the file to <b>myfile</b>
<code>:w! file2&lt;ret&gt;</code>	Overwrite <b>file2</b>
<code>:x&lt;ret&gt;</code> or <code>:wq&lt;ret&gt;</code>	Exit <b>vi</b> and write out modified file
<code>:q&lt;ret&gt;</code>	Quit <b>vi</b>
<code>:q!&lt;ret&gt;</code>	Quit <b>vi</b> even though modifications have not been saved

## Keystrokes Used When Changing Cursor Position in vi

Keys	Usage
<b>arrow keys</b>	To move up, down, left and right
<b>j</b> or <b>&lt;ret&gt;</b>	To move one line down
<b>k</b>	To move one line up
<b>h</b> or <b>Backspace</b>	To move one character left
<b>l</b> or <b>Space</b>	To move one character right
<b>0</b>	To move to beginning of line
<b>\$</b>	To move to end of line

<b>w</b>	To move to beginning of next word
<b>b</b>	To move back to beginning of preceding word
<b>:0 &lt;ret&gt; or 1G</b>	To move to beginning of file
<b>:n &lt;ret&gt; or nG</b>	To move to line n
<b>:\$ &lt;ret&gt; or G</b>	To move to last line in file
<b>Ctrl-f or Page Down</b>	To move forward one page
<b>Ctrl-b or Page Up</b>	To move backward one page
<b>^I</b>	To refresh and center screen

## Searching for Text in vi

Command	Usage
<b>/pattern&lt;ret&gt;</b>	Search forward for pattern
<b>?string&lt;ret&gt;</b>	Search backward for pattern

Key	Usage
<b>n</b>	Move to next occurrence of search pattern
<b>N</b>	Move to previous occurrence of search pattern

## Working with Text in vi

Key	Usage
<b>a</b>	Append text after cursor; stop upon Escape key
<b>A</b>	Append text at end of current line; stop upon Escape key
<b>i</b>	Insert text before cursor; stop upon Escape key
<b>I</b>	Insert text at beginning of current line; stop upon Escape key
<b>o</b>	Start a new line below current line, insert text there; stop upon Escape key
<b>O</b>	Start a new line above current line, insert text there; stop upon Escape key
<b>r</b>	Replace character at current position

<b>R</b>	Replace text starting with current position; stop upon Escape key
<b>x</b>	Delete character at current position
<b>Nx</b>	Delete N characters, starting at current position
<b>dw</b>	Delete the word at the current position
<b>D</b>	Delete the rest of the current line
<b>dd</b>	Delete the current line
<b>Ndd or dNd</b>	Delete N lines
<b>u</b>	Undo the previous operation
<b>yy</b>	Yank (copy) the current line and put it in buffer
<b>Nyy or yNy</b>	Yank (copy) N lines and put it in buffer
<b>p</b>	Paste at the current position the yanked line or lines from the buffer