Global

- :help keyword open help for keyword
- :saveas file save file as
- :close close current pane
- K open man page for word under the cursor

Cursor movement

- h move cursor left
- j move cursor down
- k move cursor up
- 1 move cursor right
- H move to top of screen
- M move to middle of screen
- L move to bottom of screen
- W jump forwards to the start of a word
- W jump forwards to the start of a word (words can contain punctuation)
- e jump forwards to the end of a word
- E jump forwards to the end of a word (words can contain punctuation)
- b jump backwards to the start of a word
- B jump backwards to the start of a word (words can contain punctuation)
- % move to matching character (default supported pairs: '()', $'\{\}'$, '[]' - use : h matchpairs in vim for more info)
- 0 jump to the start of the line
- ^ jump to the first non-blank character of the line
- \$ jump to the end of the line
- g_ jump to the last non-blank character of
- gg go to the first line of the document
- G go to the last line of the document
- **5G** go to line 5
- fx jump to next occurrence of character x
- $t\,x$ jump to before next occurrence of
- Fx jump to previous occurence of character x
- Tx jump to after previous occurence of
- ; repeat previous f, t, F or T movement
- repeat previous f, t, F or T movement, backwards
- } jump to next paragraph (or function/block, when editing code)
- { jump to previous paragraph (or function/ block, when editing code)
- zz center cursor on screen
- Ctrl + e move screen down one line (without moving cursor)
- Ctrl + y move screen up one line (without moving cursor)
- Ctrl + b move back one full screen
- Ctrl + f move forward one full screen
- Ctrl + d move forward 1/2 a screen
- Ctrl + u move back 1/2 a screen

Tip Prefix a cursor movement command with a number to repeat it. For example, 4j moves down 4 lines.

Insert mode - inserting/appending text

- i insert before the cursor
- I insert at the beginning of the line
- a insert (append) after the cursor
- A insert (append) at the end of the line
- O append (open) a new line below the current line
- 0 append (open) a new line above the current line
- ea insert (append) at the end of the word
- ESC exit insert mode

Editing

- r replace a single character
- J join line below to the current one with one space in between
- $g\,J\,$ $\bar{j}oin$ line below to the current one without space in between

- gwip reflow paragraph
- cc change (replace) entire line
- c\$ change (replace) to the end of the line
- \mathtt{Ciw} change (replace) entire word
- S delete character and substitute text
- S delete line and substitute text (same as cc)
- xp transpose two letters (delete and paste)

CW - change (replace) to the end of the word

- u undo
- Ctrl + r redo
- . repeat last command

Marking text (visual mode)

- V start visual mode, mark lines, then do a command (like y-yank)
- V start linewise visual mode
- O move to other end of marked area
- Ctrl + v start visual block mode
- 0 move to other corner of block
- aw mark a word
- ab a block with ()
- aB a block with {}
- ib inner block with ()
- iB inner block with {}
- ESC exit visual mode

Visual commands

- > shift text right
- < shift text left
- y yank (copy) marked text
- d delete marked text
- ~ switch case

Registers

- : reg show registers content
- "xy yank into register x
- "xp paste contents of register x

Tip Registers are being stored in ~/.viminfo, and will be loaded again on next restart of vim. Tip Register 0 contains always the value of the last yank command.

Marks

- :marks list of marks
- ma set current position for mark A
- `a jump to position of mark A
- y`a yank text to position of mark A

Macros

- qa record macro a
- q stop recording macro
- @a run macro a
- @@ rerun last run macro

Cut and paste

- yy yank (copy) a line
- 2yy yank (copy) 2 lines
- yw yank (copy) the characters of the word from the cursor position to the start of the next word
- y\$ yank (copy) to end of line
- p put (paste) the clipboard after cursor
- P put (paste) before cursor
- dd delete (cut) a line
- 2dd delete (cut) 2 lines
- dw delete (cut) the characters of the word from the cursor position to the start of the next word
- D delete (cut) to the end of the line
- d\$ delete (cut) to the end of the line
- x delete (cut) character

Exiting

- :w write (save) the file, but don't exit
- :w !sudo tee % write out the current file using sudo

- :wq or :x or ZZ write (save) and quit
- : q quit (fails if there are unsaved changes)
- :q! or ZQ quit and throw away unsaved changes
- :wqa write (save) and quit on all tabs

Search and replace

- /pattern search for pattern
- ?pattern search backward for pattern
- \vpattern 'very magic' pattern: nonalphanumeric characters are interpreted as special regex symbols (no escaping needed)
- n repeat search in same direction
- N repeat search in opposite direction
- :%s/old/new/g replace all old with new throughout file
- :%s/old/new/gc replace all old with new throughout file with confirmations
- : noh remove highlighting of search matches

Search in multiple files

:vimgrep /pattern/ {file}search for pattern in multiple files

e.g.:vimqrep /foo/ **/*

- : cn jump to the next match
- : Cp jump to the previous match
- : copen open a window containing the list of matches

Working with multiple files

- :e file edit a file in a new buffer
- :bnext or :bn go to the next buffer
- :bprev or :bp go to the previous buffer
- :bd delete a buffer (close a file) :1s - list all open buffers
- :sp file open a file in a new buffer and split window
- :vsp file open a file in a new buffer and vertically split window
- Ctrl + ws split window
- Ctrl + ww switch windows
- Ctrl + wq quit a window
- Ctrl + wv split window vertically
- Ctrl + wh move cursor to the left window (vertical split)
- Ctrl + wl move cursor to the right window (vertical split)
- Ctrl + wj move cursor to the window below (horizontal split)
- Ctrl + wk move cursor to the window above (horizontal split)

Tabs

- :tabnew or :tabnew file open a file in a new tab
- Ctrl + wT move the current split window into its own tab
- gt or :tabnext or :tabn move to the
- next tab gT or :tabprev or :tabp - move to the
- previous tab #gt - move to tab number #
- :tabmove #-move current tab to the #th position (indexed from 0)
- :tabclose or :tabc close the current
- tab and all its windows :tabonly or :tabo - close all tabs except for the current one
- : tabdo command run the command on all tabs (e.g.:tabdo q - closes all opened tabs)