Table of Contents

Keymap

- Mappings marked (**LSP**) require an active language server for the file.
- Mappings marked (**TS**) require a tree-sitter grammar for the filetype.

Normal mode Movement

NOTE: Unlike vim, f, F, t and T are not confined to the current line.

Key	Description
h, Left	Move left
j, Down	Move down
k, Up	Move up
l, Right	Move right
w	Move next word start
b	Move previous word start
e	Move next word end
W	Move next WORD start
B	Move previous WORD start
E	Move next WORD end
t	Find 'till next char
f	Find next char
T	Find 'till previous char
F	Find previous char
G	Go to line number <n>
Alt-.	Repeat last motion (f, t or m)
Home	Move to the start of the line
End	Move to the end of the line
Ctrl-b, PageUp	Move page up
Ctrl-f, PageDown	Move page down
Ctrl-u	Move half page up
Ctrl-d	Move half page down
Ctrl-i	Jump forward on the jumplist
Ctrl-o	Jump backward on the jumplist
Ctrl-s	Save the current selection to the jumplist

Normal mode Changes

Key	Description
r	Replace with a character
R	Replace with yanked text
~	Switch case of the selected text
`	Set the selected text to lower case
Alt-`	Set the selected text to upper case
i	Insert before selection
a	Insert after selection (append)
I	Insert at the start of the line
A	Insert at the end of the line
o	Open new line below selection
O	Open new line above selection
.	Repeat last change
u	Undo change
U	Redo change

Alt-u	Move backward in history
Alt-U	Move forward in history
y	Yank selection
p	Paste after selection
P	Paste before selection
" <reg>	Select a register to yank to or paste from
>	Indent selection
<	Unindent selection
=	Format selection (currently nonfunctional/disabled) (**LSP**)
d	Delete selection
Alt-d	Delete selection, without yanking
c	Change selection (delete and enter insert mode)
Alt-c	Change selection (delete and enter insert mode, without yanking)
Ctrl-a	Increment object (number) under cursor
Ctrl-x	Decrement object (number) under cursor
Q	Start/stop macro recording to the selected register (experimental)
q	Play back a recorded macro from the selected register (experimental)

Normal mode Shell

Key	Description
|	Pipe each selection through shell command, replacing with output
Alt-|	Pipe each selection into shell command, ignoring output
!	Run shell command, inserting output before each selection
Alt-!	Run shell command, appending output after each selection
$	Pipe each selection into shell command, keep selections where command returned 0

Normal mode Selection manipulation

Key	Description
s	Select all regex matches inside selections
S	Split selection into subselections on regex matches
Alt-s	Split selection on newlines
&	Align selection in columns
_	Trim whitespace from the selection
;	Collapse selection onto a single cursor
Alt-;	Flip selection cursor and anchor
Alt-:	Ensures the selection is in forward direction
,	Keep only the primary selection
Alt-,	Remove the primary selection
C	Copy selection onto the next line (Add cursor below)
Alt-C	Copy selection onto the previous line (Add cursor above)
(	Rotate main selection backward
)	Rotate main selection forward
Alt-(	Rotate selection contents backward
Alt-)	Rotate selection contents forward
%	Select entire file
x	Select current line, if already selected, extend to next line
X	Extend selection to line bounds (line-wise selection)
J	Join lines inside selection
K	Keep selections matching the regex
Alt-K	Remove selections matching the regex
Ctrl-c	Comment/uncomment the selections
Alt-k, Alt-up	Expand selection to parent syntax node (**TS**)
Alt-j, Alt-down	Shrink syntax tree object selection (**TS**)

Key	Description
Alt-h, Alt-left	Select previous sibling node in syntax tree (**TS**)
Alt-l, Alt-right	Select next sibling node in syntax tree (**TS**)

Normal mode Search

Search commands all operate on the / register by default. Use "<char> to operate on a different one.

Key	Description
/	Search for regex pattern
?	Search for previous pattern
n	Select next search match
N	Select previous search match
*	Use current selection as the search pattern

Minor modes

These sub-modes are accessible from normal mode and typically switch back to normal mode after a command.

Key	Description
v	Enter select (extend) mode
g	Enter goto mode
m	Enter match mode
:	Enter command mode
z	Enter view mode
Z	Enter sticky view mode
Ctrl-w	Enter window mode
Space	Enter space mode

View mode

View mode is intended for scrolling and manipulating the view without changing the selection. The "sticky" variant of this mode is persistent; use the Escape key to return to normal mode after usage (useful when you're simply looking over text and not actively editing it).

Key	Description
z, c	Vertically center the line
t	Align the line to the top of the screen
b	Align the line to the bottom of the screen
m	Align the line to the middle of the screen (horizontally)
j, down	Scroll the view downwards
k, up	Scroll the view upwards
Ctrl-f, PageDown	Move page down
Ctrl-b, PageUp	Move page up
Ctrl-d	Move half page down
Ctrl-u	Move half page up

Goto mode

Jumps to various locations.

Key	Description
g	Go to line number <n> else start of file
e	Go to the end of the file
f	Go to files in the selection
h	Go to the start of the line
l	Go to the end of the line
s	Go to first non-whitespace character of the line
t	Go to the top of the screen
c	Go to the middle of the screen
b	Go to the bottom of the screen
d	Go to definition (**LSP**)
y	Go to type definition (**LSP**)
r	Go to references (**LSP**)
i	Go to implementation (**LSP**)

Key	Description
a	Go to the last accessed/alternate file
m	Go to the last modified/alternate file
n	Go to next buffer
p	Go to previous buffer
.	Go to last modification in current file

Match mode

Enter this mode using m from normal mode. See the relavant section in Usage for an explanation about surround and textobject usage.

Key	Description
m	Goto matching bracket (**TS**)
s <char>	Surround current selection with <char>
r <from><to>	Replace surround character <from> with <to>
d <char>	Delete surround character <char>
a <object>	Select around textobject
i <object>	Select inside textobject

Window mode

This layer is similar to vim keybindings as kakoune does not support window.

Key	Description
w, Ctrl-w	Switch to next window
v, Ctrl-v	Vertical right split
s, Ctrl-s	Horizontal bottom split
f	Go to files in the selection in horizontal splits
F	Go to files in the selection in vertical splits
h, Ctrl-h, Left	Move to left split
j, Ctrl-j, Down	Move to split below
k, Ctrl-k, Up	Move to split above
l, Ctrl-l, Right	Move to right split

Key	Description
q, Ctrl-q	Close current window
o, Ctrl-o	Only keep the current window, closing all the others

Space mode

This layer is a kludge of mappings, mostly pickers.

Key	Description
f	Open file picker
b	Open buffer picker
k	Show documentation for item under cursor in a popup (**LSP**)
s	Open document symbol picker (**LSP**)
S	Open workspace symbol picker (**LSP**)
r	Rename symbol (**LSP**)
a	Apply code action (**LSP**)
'	Open last fuzzy picker
w	Enter window mode
p	Paste system clipboard after selections
P	Paste system clipboard before selections
y	Join and yank selections to clipboard
Y	Yank main selection to clipboard
R	Replace selections by clipboard contents
/	Global search in workspace folder
?	Open command palette

TIP: Global search displays results in a fuzzy picker, use space + ' to bring it back up after opening a file.

Popup

Displays documentation for item under cursor.

Key	Description
Ctrl-u	Scroll up
Ctrl-d	Scroll down

Unimpaired

Mappings in the style of [vim-unimpaired](#).

Key	Description
[d	Go to previous diagnostic (**LSP**)
]d	Go to next diagnostic (**LSP**)
[D	Go to first diagnostic in document (**LSP**)
]D	Go to last diagnostic in document (**LSP**)
]f	Go to next function (**TS**)
[f	Go to previous function (**TS**)
]c	Go to next class (**TS**)
[c	Go to previous class (**TS**)
]a	Go to next argument/parameter (**TS**)
[a	Go to previous argument/parameter (**TS**)
]o	Go to next comment (**TS**)
[o	Go to previous comment (**TS**)
[space	Add newline above
]space	Add newline below

Insert Mode

We support many readline/emacs style bindings in insert mode for convenience. These can be helpful for making simple modifications without escaping to normal mode, but beware that you will not have an undo-able "save point" until you return to normal mode.

Key	Description
Escape	Switch to normal mode
Ctrl-x	Autocomplete
Ctrl-r	Insert a register content
Ctrl-w, Alt-Backspace	Delete previous word
Alt-d	Delete next word
Alt-b, Alt-Left	Backward a word

Key	Description
Ctrl-b, Left	Backward a char
Alt-f, Alt-Right	Forward a word
Ctrl-f, Right	Forward a char
Ctrl-e, End	Move to line end
Ctrl-a, Home	Move to line start
Ctrl-u	Delete to start of line
Ctrl-k	Delete to end of line
Ctrl-j, Enter	Insert new line
Backspace, Ctrl-h	Delete previous char
Delete, Ctrl-d	Delete previous char
Ctrl-p, Up	Move to previous line
Ctrl-n, Down	Move to next line
PageUp	Move one page up
PageDown	Move one page down
Alt->	Go to end of buffer
Alt-<	Go to start of buffer

Select / extend mode

This mode echoes Normal mode, but changes any movements to extend selections rather than replace them. Goto motions are also changed to extend, so that vgl for example extends the selection to the end of the line. Search is also affected. By default, n and N will remove the current selection and select the next instance of the search term. Toggling this mode before pressing n or N makes it possible to keep the current selection. Toggling it on and off during your iterative searching allows you to selectively add search terms to your selections.

Picker

Keys to use within picker. Remapping currently not supported.

Key	Description
Up, Ctrl-k, Ctrl-p	Previous entry
PageUp, Ctrl-b	Page up
Down, Ctrl-j, Ctrl-n	Next entry
PageDown, Ctrl-f	Page down
Home	Go to first entry
End	Go to last entry
Ctrl-space	Filter options
Enter	Open selected
Ctrl-s	Open horizontally
Ctrl-v	Open vertically
Escape, Ctrl-c	Close picker

Prompt

Keys to use within prompt, Remapping currently not supported.

Key	Description
Escape, Ctrl-c	Close prompt
Alt-b, Alt-Left	Backward a word
Ctrl-b, Left	Backward a char
Alt-f, Alt-Right	Forward a word
Ctrl-f, Right	Forward a char
Ctrl-e, End	Move prompt end
Ctrl-a, Home	Move prompt start
Ctrl-w	Delete previous word
Alt-d	Delete next word
Ctrl-u	Delete to start of line

Key	Description
Ctrl-k	Delete to end of line
backspace, Ctrl-h	Delete previous char
delete, Ctrl-d	Delete next char
Ctrl-s	Insert a word under doc cursor, may be changed to Ctrl-r Ctrl-w later
Ctrl-p, Up	Select previous history
Ctrl-n, Down	Select next history
Tab	Select next completion item
BackTab	Select previous completion item
Enter	Open selected