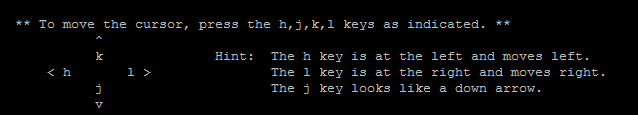
**Basic Vi usage**

**Starting Vi** – There are a few ways to start Vi. In the Linux terminal, type “vi” or “vim” and press enter. This will take you to the Start screen. To edit a file, type “:edit” ( or “:e”) followed by the file name (“:e fileName.type”).

You can also start directly into a new file by typing “vi fileName.type”, where fileName is the file’s name, and the type is the file type (Ex. .txt, .bsh, ect). To open an existing file, move into the directory it is stored in and type “vi fileName.type”.

*(Note – Some files may not have an extension listed. In cases like this, just type “vi fileName”)*

**Moving the cursor** – This can be done using the H, J, K, and L keys

The keyboard’s arrow keys will also move the cursor in Vi.

“w” will move your cursor to the beginning of the next word in a sentence.

“b” will move the cursor back to the beginning of the previous word.

“e” will move to the next end of a word. (Ex. If “\_” is the cursor postiton, the \_next end is “t”)

Typing a number before the movement key will cause the movement to repeat the entered number of times. For example, “20j” will move the cursor 20 lines down.

To find your current line number, press “Ctrl g”, which is both the “Ctrl” key and the “g” key at the same time. Press “gg” to move to the top of the file, and “G” to move to the bottom. To return to your previous position, type your line number, followed by “G” (Ex. “510G”)

**Saving files** – When you are done modifying a file and want to save your changes, hit the Escape key to return into normal mode. Typing “:w” and Enter will save any changes made. Typing “:x” or “:wq” will save and exit Vi.

**Exiting Vi** – First return to Normal mode. Then type “:q” to quit if no changes were made. To save any changes and quit, type “:x” or “:wq”. To quit without saving changes, type “:q!”.

**Different Modes –**

Normal Mode – This is the mode Vi starts in, it lets you move the cursor around as needed. From normal mode you can enter commands and enter the different modes. To return to normal mode, press “Escape”.

Insert Mode – Pressing “i” in normal mode will enter insert mode where the cursor is located. Pressing “I” will move the cursor to the next non-space character. For example, if you start editing a file with indentation, all you need to press is “I” and your cursor will move to the start of the sentence.

Visual Mode – Pressing “v” will enter a mode where you can select words and sentences by moving the cursor.

Command Mode – This mode allows entry of Vi settings. To enter this mode, press “:” while in normal mode.

**Searching –**

Press “/” and a line will appear at the bottom of the screen. Enter the word you are looking for after the “/” and press enter. Repeat the search by pressing “n”. To reverse the search direction, press “N”.

To search for matching parentheses, highlight one side with your cursor and press “%”. The cursor will jump to the matching pair.

**Inserting and Deleting –**

To insert data to the end of a line, press “A” to append the line.

To replace a character in a word, highlight the letter you want to change with your cursor, then press “r”, followed by the new character. For example, to correct this tyco, highlight the letter c with the cursor, then type “rp”.

To delete a letter, highlight the letter with a cursor and press “x”. The highlighted letter will be deleted.

To delete a word, place your cursor on the first letter of the word. Then type “dw”.

To delete a whole line of text, place the cursor into the line you want to remove and type “dd”.

To delete everything following a word until the end of a line, move to the last character in the word your keeping and type “d$”.

**Cut, Copy, and Paste –**

“dd” not only removes a line of text, but stores this line in memory. Similar to the Cut command in windows, this data can be placed many times by placing your cursor where you want the data to go and typing “p”

“y” will yank, or copy, a selection of text made in visual mode.

“p” will put, or paste, the selection of text.

**Inserting command output into Vi –**

Press “:!” and Enter to enter an external command. You can also type “:!” and a command (like ls) and press enter. Vi will back out to a bash prompt an allow you to interface with linux.

When you are done, press Enter. This will return you into Vi.

**.exrc File –**

This file allows you to enable your choice of features whenever Vi starts. This file is saved in your home directory. Popular examples include “:set number”, “:set autoindent”, and “:map”. “set number” adds a numbered ruler onto the edge of Vi, allowing you to view the line number you are working on. “set autoindent” automatically places indents when needed as you type. And “:map” allows you to add custom keyboard shortcuts to popular commands you use. One example of this is “map Q :q!”. This will allow a user to quit without saving if “Q” is pressed, saving keystrokes.

Without this file, the enabling command must be entered every time vi starts.