

# Mac OS X :: VI Keyboard Shortcut Cheat Sheet

<http://trevorsullivan.net>

## Navigation Shortcuts

These commands help you navigate text in vi.

<b>h</b>	Move cursor left one position
<b>j</b>	Move cursor down one line
<b>k</b>	Move cursor up one line
<b>l</b>	Move cursor right one position
<b>w</b>	Jump to beginning of next word (punctuation)
<b>W</b>	Jump to beginning of next word (spaces)
<b>e</b>	Jump to end of next word (punctuation)
<b>E</b>	Jump to end of next word (spaces)
<b>0</b>	Jump to start of line
<b>\$</b>	Jump to end of line (similar to regex)
<b>#G</b>	Go To specified line number
<b>%</b>	Jump between parentheses or braces

**Note:** Navigation shortcuts can be prefixed with a number, to repeat. For example: 5w will jump five (5) words ahead. 21G will jump to line #21. This doesn't work with the 0 shortcut, for obvious reasons.

## Insert Mode

These commands help you insert text in vi.

<b>i</b>	Invoke Insert mode at cursor's location
<b>I</b>	Insert at the beginning of the current line
<b>a</b>	Append text after the cursor's location
<b>A</b>	Append text at the end of the current line
<b>o</b>	Append new / empty line after current line
<b>O</b>	Append new / empty line before current line
<b>ESC</b>	Exit Insert Mode, enter Command Mode

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Source: <http://www.worldtimzone.com/res/vi.html>

## Editing

These commands help you edit text.

<b>r</b>	Replace a single character
<b>J</b>	Join current line to next line
<b>cc</b>	Replace entire line
<b>CW</b>	Replace text from cursor to end of word
<b>c\$</b>	Replace text from cursor to end of line
<b>s</b>	Delete character under cursor, insert text
<b>S</b>	Delete current line, insert text
<b>u</b>	Undo last action
<b>-</b>	Redo last action

## Select Text Visual Mode

These commands help you select text in what's called "Visual Mode." There are several different visual modes though, so make sure you understand them all.

<b>V</b>	Enter Visual Mode, from Command Mode
<b>v</b>	Enter Visual Mode (line-wise)
<b>Ctrl+v</b>	Enter Visual Block mode (select text grid)
<b>y</b>	Yank (copy) selected text
<b>o</b>	Jump to opposing end of marked text
<b>O</b>	Jump to opposing corner (Visual Block Mode)
<b>aw</b>	Mark the current word
<b>ab</b>	Select (...) block, including parentheses
<b>aB</b>	Select {...} block, including curly braces
<b>ib</b>	Select (...) block, excluding parentheses
<b>iB</b>	Select {...} block, excluding curly braces

## Exiting (Command Mode)

These commands help you save your file and exit vi.

<b>:w</b>	Write / save file, without exiting
<b>:wq</b>	Write / save file, and exit vi
<b>:q</b>	Quit (error if there are pending changes)
<b>:q!</b>	Force quit, discarding changes

## Search / Replace

These vi commands help with searching for, and replacing text inside your plain text files.

<b>/pattern</b>	Search for a regex pattern (forward)
<b>?pattern</b>	Search for a regex pattern (backward)
<b>n</b>	Find next search result
<b>N</b>	Find previous search result
<b>:%s/old/new/g</b>	Replace all old with new (with prompt)
<b>:%s/old/new/gc</b>	Replace all old with new (no prompts)

## Multi-file Editing

These commands help navigating multiple files in vi.

<b>:e filename</b>	Re-open the current file
<b>:bnext (:bn)</b>	Move to next buffer
<b>:bprev (:bp)</b>	Move to previous buffer
<b>:bd</b>	Delete the current buffer (close file)
<b>:sp filename</b>	Open file in new window
<b>Ctrl+ws</b>	Split windows

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