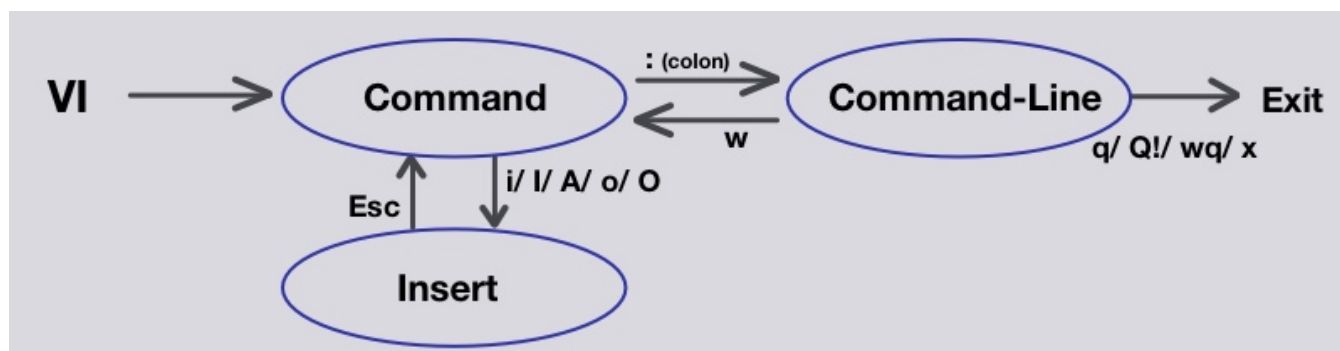


The vi editor (**v**isual editor) - A quick reference guide.

To startup vi:

```
vi filename
```

Vi has three main modes *Command* mode, *Insert* mode and *Command-Line* mode.



The editor begins in command mode, where cursor movement and copy/paste commands can be issued. If you are ever unsure which mode you're in, press Esc to return to command mode.

Insert text (Insert mode):

		Open line <u>a</u> bove cursor	O				
Insert text at beginning of line	I	Insert text at cursor	i	append text after cursor	a	Append text at line end	A
		Open line <u>b</u> elow cursor	o				

Switch to Command mode:

Switch to command mode: [ESC]

Most commands execute as soon as typed except for "colon" commands which execute when you press the return key.

Cursor Movement (command mode):

		Scroll <u>B</u> ackward 1 screen	[ctrl] b		
		Scroll <u>U</u> p 1/2 screen	[ctrl] u		
Go to beginning of line	0	Go to line <i>n</i>	<i>n</i> G	Go to end of line	\$
		Scroll <u>D</u> own 1/2 screen	[ctrl] d	Go to line number <i>##</i>	: <i>##</i>
		Scroll <u>F</u> orward 1 screen	[ctrl] f		
		Go to last line	G		
Scroll by sentence <i>f/b</i>	()				
Scroll by word <i>f/b</i>	w b	Move left, down, up, right	<i>h j k l</i>	Left 6 chars	6 <i>h</i>
Scroll by paragraph <i>f/b</i>	{ }	Move left, down, up, right	← ↓ ↑ → Arrow Keys	Go to line #6	6G

Delete text (command mode):

Change word	cw	Replace one character	r		
Delete word	dw	Delete text at cursor	x	Delete entire line (to buffer)	dd
		Delete (backspace) text at cursor	X	Delete 5 lines (to buffer)	5dd
		Delete current to end of line	D	Delete lines 5-10	:5,10d

Editing (command mode):

Copy line	yy	Copy <i>n</i> lines	<i>n</i> yy	Copy lines 1-2 /paste after 3	:1,2t3
Paste above current line	P				
Paste below current line	p			Move lines 4-5 /paste after 6	:4,5m6
		Find the next <i>t</i>	f <i>t</i>	Join previous line	J
Search backward for <i>string</i>	? <i>string</i>	Search forward for <i>string</i>	/ <i>string</i>	Find next <i>string</i> occurrence	n
% (entire file) s (search and replace) /old text with new/ c (confirm) g (global - all)	:%s/oldstring/newstring/cg			Ignore case during search	:set ic
Repeat last command	.	Undo previous command	u	Undo all changes to line	U

Save and Quit (command mode):

Save changes to buffer	:w	Save current file, if modified, and quit	:x or ZZ	Save file to new file	:w <i>file</i>
		Save changes and quit vi	:wq	Save lines to new file	:10,15w <i>file</i>
		Quit without saving	:q!		

In general a number *n* preceding any vi command will tell vi to repeat that command *n* times.

:syntax on	Turn on syntax highlighting
:syntax off	Turn off syntax highlighting
:set number	Turn on Line numbering (shorthand :set nu)
:set nonumber	Turn off Line numbering (shorthand :set nonu)
:set ignorecase	Ignore case sensitivity when searching
:set noignorecase	Restore case sensitivity (default)
:set autoindent	Turn on Auto-indentation Use the command >> to indent and the << command to outdent
:set shiftwidth=4	Set indentation to four spaces
:set noautoindent	Turn off Auto-indentation

Example

Change all Windows CR/LF to Unix style LF line endings in the current file:

```
:g/^M/s///g
```

(To enter the ^M, type CTRL-V CTRL-M)

Command-line mode

Command-line mode commands are typed at the bottom of the screen.

To enter Command-line mode from Command mode, push colon : a colon will appear at the bottom.

The **Ex mode** is similar to the command line mode as it also allows you to enter Ex commands. Unlike the command-line mode you won't return to normal mode automatically. You can enter an Ex command by typing a Q in normal mode and leave it again with the :visual command. Note that the Ex mode is designed for Batch processing and as such won't support mappings or command-line editing.

vi is short for visual editor and is pronounced as the two letters: "**vee eye**"

The vi editor was an update on the earlier ex (and ed) editors, it introduced a *Visual Interactive* mode which was contracted to give the name vi.

"vi was written for a world that doesn't exist anymore - unless you decide to get a satellite phone and use it to connect to the Net at 2400 baud" ~ Bill Joy