

Main

Shortcut Key	Function
Escape	Gets out of the current mode into the “command mode”. All keys are bound of commands.
i	“Insert mode” for inserting text. Keys behave as expected.
:	“Last-line mode” where Vim expects you to enter a command such as to save the document.

Basic Navigation Keys

Shortcut Key	Function
h	moves the cursor one character to the left.
j or Ctrl + J	moves the cursor down one line.
k or Ctrl + P	moves the cursor up one line.
l	moves the cursor one character to the right.
0	moves the cursor to the beginning of the line.
\$	moves the cursor to the end of the line.
^	moves the cursor to the first non-empty character of the line
w (lowercase)	move forward one word (next alphanumeric word)
W (uppercase)	move forward one word (delimited by a white space)
5w	move forward five words
b (lowercase)	move backward one word (previous alphanumeric word)
B (uppercase)	move backward one word (delimited by a white space)
5b	move backward five words
G	move to the end of the file
gg	move to the beginning of the file.

Navigating Around the Document

Shortcut Key	Function
(jumps to the previous sentence
)	jumps to the next sentence
{	jumps to the previous paragraph

}	jumps to the next paragraph
[[jumps to the previous section
]]	jumps to the next section
[]	jump to the end of the previous section
][jump to the end of the next section

Insert Text

Shortcut Key	Function
a (lowercase)	Insert text after the cursor
A (uppercase)	Insert text at the end of the line
i	Insert text before the cursor
o	Begin a new line below the cursor
O	Begin a new line above the cursor

Special Inserts

Shortcut Key	Function
:r [filename]	Insert the file [filename] below the cursor
:r ![command]	Execute [command] and insert its output below the cursor

Delete Text

Shortcut Key	Function
x	delete character at cursor
dw	delete a word.
d0	delete to the beginning of a line.
d\$	delete to the end of a line.
d)	delete to the end of sentence.
dgg	delete to the beginning of the file.
dG	delete to the end of the file.
dd	delete line
3dd	delete three lines

Simple Replace Text

Shortcut Key	Function
r{text}	Replace the character under the cursor with {text}
R	Replace characters instead of inserting them

Copy/Paste Text

Shortcut Key	Function
yy	copy current line into storage buffer
["x]yy	Copy the current lines into register x
p (lowercase)	paste storage buffer after current line
P (uppercase)	paste storage buffer before current line
["x]p	paste from register x after current line
["x]P	paste from register x before current line

Undo/Redo Operation

Shortcut Key	Function
u	undo the last operation.
Ctrl + r	redo the last undo.

Search and Replace keys

Shortcut Key	Function
/search_text	search document for search_text going forward
?search_text	search document for search_text going backward
n (lowercase)	move to the next instance of the result from the search
N (uppercase)	move to the previous instance of the result
:%s/original/replacement	Search for the first occurrence of the string "original" and replace it with "replacement"
:%s/original/replacement/g	Search and replace all occurrences of the string "original" with "replacement"
:%s/original/replacement/gc	Search for all occurrences of the string "original" but ask for confirmation before replacing them with "replacement"

Bookmarks

Shortcut Key	Function
m {a-z A-Z}	Set bookmark {a-z A-Z} at the current cursor position
:marks	List all bookmarks
`{a-z A-Z}	Jumps to the bookmark {a-z A-Z}

Select Text

Shortcut Key	Function
v (lowercase)	Enter visual mode per character
V (uppercase)	Enter visual mode per line
Esc	Exit visual mode

Modify Selected Text

Shortcut Key	Function
~	Switch case
d	delete a word.
c	change
y	yank
>	shift right
<	shift left
!	filter through an external command

Save and Quit

Shortcut Key	Function
:q	Quits Vim but fails when file has been changed
:q!	Quit Vim without saving the changes to the file.
:cq	Quit always, without writing.
:w	Save the file
:w new_name	Save the file with the new_name filename
:wq	Save the file and quit Vim.
:wq!	Save the file and quit Vim always.

ZZ	Write file, if modified, and quit Vim
ZQ	Same as :q! Quits Vim without writing changes

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