

Cheat Sheets

PDF: [vim-commands-cheat-sheet-by-pnap.pdf](#)



Vim Cheat Sheet



Created by @dan_nanni on Instagram



Editing Mode

: command mode
ESC normal mode
i insert mode
v visual mode, highlight characters
V visual line mode, highlight lines

Cursor Movement

Character **h** (left) **j** (down) **k** (up) **l** (right)
Word **w** (next start) **b** (prev) **e** (next end)
Line **0** (start) **\$** (end) **^** (first non-blank)
Screen **Ctrl+f** (page down) **Ctrl+b** (page up)
File **gg** (first line) **G** (last line)

Editing Operation

Insert **i** (before cursor) **I** (line beginning)
a (after cursor) **A** (line end)
o (new line below) **O** (new line above)
Delete **x** (current char) **dd** (or **:d**) (current line)
D (to end of line) **dw** (word)

Copy and Paste

Copy **yy** (or **Y**) (current line) **3yy** (3 lines)
yiw (current word without whitespace)
yaw (current word with whitespace)
y\$ (to end of line)
Paste **p** (paste after) **P** (paste before)

Undo and Redo

u Undo the last action
U Undo all latest changes made to the line
Ctrl+r Redo the last action

Search and Replace

Search **/pattern** (from current cursor)
n (next match) **N** (prev match)
Replace **:s/old/new/g** (replace in cur line)
:%s/old/new/g (replace in all lines)
:%s/old/new/gc (replace with confirm)

File Operation

:w Save current changes
:w <filename> Save changes to another file
:q Exit but it will fail with unsaved change
:q! Exit without saving changes
:wq (or **:x**) Save changes and exit
:e <filename> Open a new file

Window Management

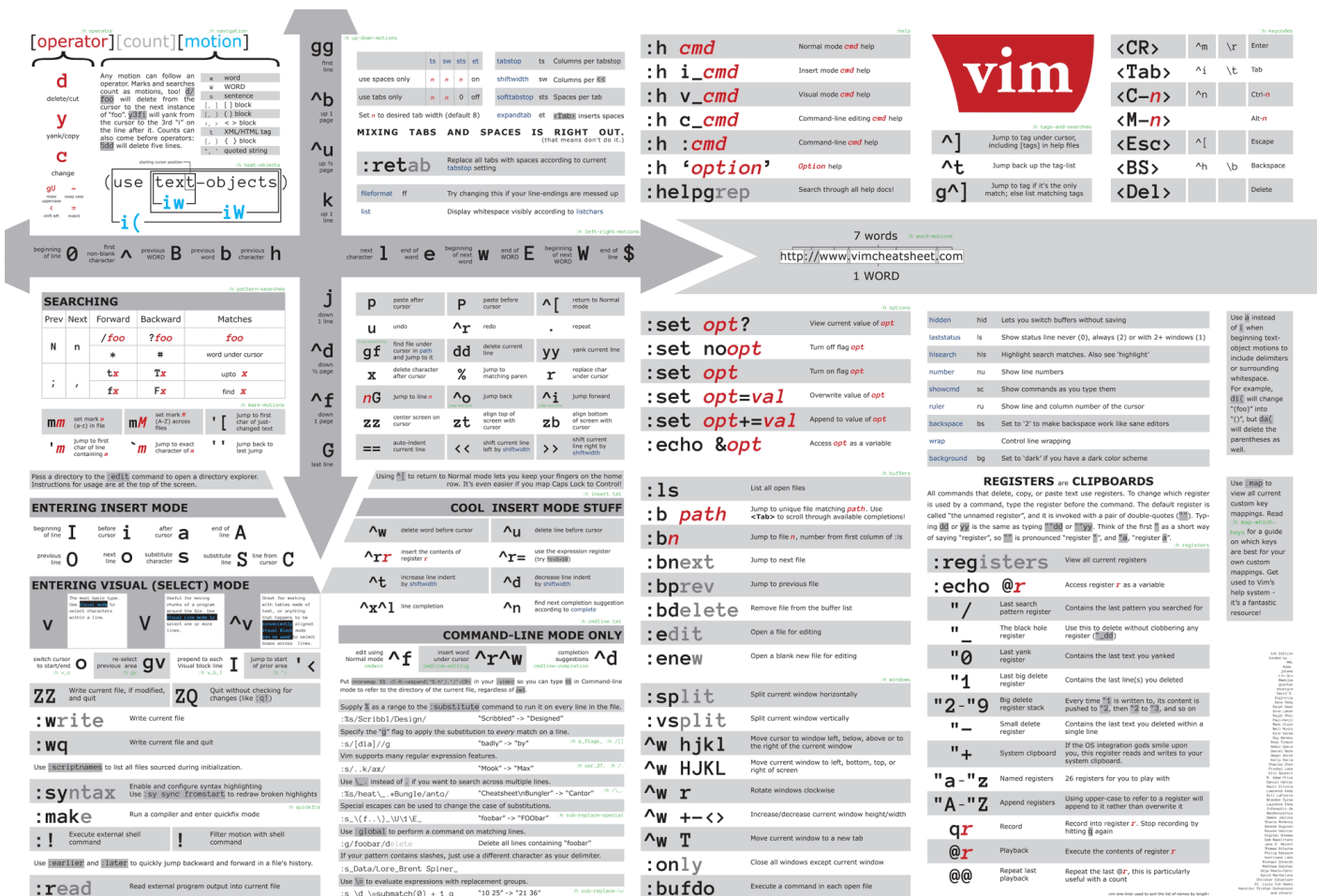
:split (or **:sp**) split window horizontally
:vsplit (or **:vs**) split window vertically
:new open a new window horizontally
:vnew open a new window horizontally
Ctrl-w switch cursor between windows
Ctrl-w r rotate window positions

Shell Command

:shell Open separate command prompt
exit Exit command prompt

Customization

:set number Show line numbers
:set tabstop=<N> Change tab width
:set hlsearch Highlight search matches
:set autoindent Enable auto indentation



Modes & Controls

Command Mode ESC (commands preceded by :)

Insertion Mode Entered on insertion or change

Starting VI (command line)

vi <filename>	Edit <i>filename</i>
vi -r <filename>	Edit last version of <i>filename</i> after crash
vi + n <filename>	Edit <i>filename</i> at line <i>n</i>
vi + <filename>	Edit <i>filename</i> at end of file
vi +/str <filename>	Edit <i>filename</i> at first occurrence of <i>str</i>

In insertion mode the following should be preceded by ESC:

:w	Save
:x	Save & Exit
:q	Exit if no changes made
:q!	Exit & discard any changes

Cursor Navigation

h or ◀	Cursor left
j or ▼	Cursor down
k or ▲	Cursor up
l or ▶	Cursor right
w	Next word
W	Next blank delimited word
b	Start of word
B	Start of blank delimited word
e	End of word
E	End of blank delimited word
(Back a sentence
)	Forward a sentence
{	Back a paragraph
}	Forward a paragraph
0	Beginning of line
\$	End of the line
1G	Start of file
G	End of file
:n	<i>n</i> th line of file
f<char>	Forward to <i>char</i>
F<char>	Back to <i>char</i>
H	Top of screen
M	Middle of screen
L	Bottom of screen
%	Matching bracket
gg	Start of document

Inserting Text

i	Insert before cursor
a	Append after cursor
I	Insert before line
A	Append after line
o	Add new line after current line
O	Add new line before current line
r	Overwrite one character
R	Overwrite many characters
:r <file>	Reads <i>file</i> and inserts it after this line
p	Put after the position or line
P	Put before the position or line
C	Rewrite the whole line

Deleting Text

x	Delete character to right of cursor
X	Delete character to left of cursor
D	Delete the rest of line
dd or :d	Delete current line
ndw	Deletes the next <i>n</i> words
ndb	Deletes the previous <i>n</i> words
ndd	Deletes <i>n</i> lines starting with current
:x,yd	Delete lines <i>x</i> through <i>y</i>
:r <file>	Reads <i>file</i> and inserts it after this line
d{nav_cmd}	Overwrite many characters
:r <file>	Reads <i>file</i> and inserts it after this line

Searching

/string	Search forward for string
?string	Search backwards for string
n	Go to next match
N	Go to previous match
:set ic	Ignore case while searching
:set noic	Case-sensitive searching
:set nu	Turn on line numbers
:x,yg/str	Search for <i>str</i> from line <i>x</i> to line <i>y</i>
:g/str/cmd	Run cmd on lines containing <i>str</i>
*	Search for next instance of current word
#	Search for last instance of current word

Replacing

:s/pt/str/flag Replace pattern with string

Flags

g	Replace all occurrences of pattern
c	Confirm replaces
&	Repeat last :s command

Other

u	Undo last change
J	Join lines
nJ	Join next <i>n</i> lines
.	Repeat last command
U	Undo all changes to line
:N	Open split screen
v	Visual mode
ctrl + c	Escape insert mode



Revision #3

Created 29 February 2024 20:49:56 by Admin

Updated 29 February 2024 20:56:49 by Admin