

# BASIC VI COMMANDS

## To Start vi

1.	vi filename	Create or Edit filename starting at line 1
2.	vi -r filename	Recover filename that was being edited when system crashed

## To Exit vi

1.	:x<return>	Quit vi, writing out modified file to file named in original invocation
2.	:wq<return>	Quit vi, writing out modified file to file named in original invocation
3.	:q<return>	Quit or exit vi
4.	:q!<return>	Quit vi even though latest changes have not been saved for this vi call

## Moving the cursor

1.	j or <return> [or down-arrow]	Move cursor down one line
2.	k[or up-arrow]	Move cursor up one line
3.	h or<backspace> [or left-arrow]	Move cursor left one line
	l or<space>[or right-arrow]	Move cursor right one line
4.	O(zero)	Move cursor to start of current line(the one with the arrow)
5.	\$	Move cursor to end of the current line
6.	w	Move cursor to beginning of next word

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7.	b	Move cursor back to beginning of preceding word
8.	:O<return> or 1G	Move cursor to first line in file
9.	:n<return>or nG	Move cursor to line n in file
10.	:\$<return>or G	Move cursor to last line in file

## Screen Manipulation

1.	^f	Move forward one screen
2.	^b	Move backward one screen
3.	^d	Move down(forward) one half screen
4.	^u	Move up(back)one half sreen
5.	^	Redraws the screen
6.	^r	Redraws the screen,removing the deleted lines

## Adding,Changing,Deleting the text

1.	u	Undo whatever you just did(a simple toggle)
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## Inserting or Adding text

1.	i	Insert text before cursor,until<esc>hit
2.	I	Insert text at beginning of current line,until<esc>hit
3.	a	Append text after cursor,until<esc>hit
4.	A	Append text to end of current line,until<esc>hit
5.	o	Open and put text in a new line below current line,until<esc>hit
6.	O	Open and put text in a new line above current line,until<esc>hit

## Changing the text

1.	r	Replace single character under cursor(no <esc>needed)
2.	R	Replace characters,starting with current cursor position,until<esc>hit
3.	cw	Change the current word with new text,starting with the character under cursor,until<esc>hit
4.	cNw	Change N words beginning with the character under cursor,until<esc>hit
5.	c	change(replace)the characters in the current line,until<esc>hit
6.	cc	change(replace)the characters in the current line,stopping when <esc>hit
7.	Ncc or cNc	change(replace)the next N lines,starting with the current line,stopping when <esc>hit

## Deleting the text

1.	x	Delete single character under cursor
2.	Nx	Delete N characters, starting with character under cursor
3.	dw	Delete the single word beginning with character under cursor
4.	dNw	Delete N words beginning with character under cursor
5.	D	Delete the remainder of the line,starting with current cursor position
6.	dd	Delete entire current line
7.	Ndd or dNd	Delete N lines beginning with the current line

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## Cutting and pasting the text

1.	yy	Copy (yank, cut) the current line into buffer
2.	Nyy or yNy	copy(yank, cut) the next N lines, including the current line, into the buffer
3.	p	put(paste) the lines in the buffer into the text after the current line

## Searching the text

1.	/string	Search forward for occurrence of string in text
2.	?string	Search backward for occurrence of string in text
3.	n	Move to next occurrence of search string
4.	N	Move to next occurrence of search string in opposite direction

## Determining line numbers

1.	:=	Returns line number of current line at bottom of screen
2.	:#	Returns the total number of lines at bottom of the screen
3.	^g	Provides the current line number, along with the total number of lines, in the file at the bottom of the screen

## Saving and reading files

1.	:r filename<return>	Read file named filename and insert after current line (the line with arrow)
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2.	:w<return>	Write current contents to a file named in original vi call
3.	:w newfile<return>	Write current contents to a new file named newfile
4.	:12,35w smallfile<return>	Write the contents of the line numbered 12 through 35 to a new file named smallfile
5.	:w! prevfile<return>	Write current contents over a pre-existing file named prevfile