

Vim Help

Use the **CAPSLOCK** or **ESC** keys to leave Insert mode in Vim.

How do I quit Vim??!

this key	does this
:w	write changes to file
:wq	save and close file
:q!	quit without saving

Some keybinds use the **<leader>** key, which is bound to **SPACEBAR**.

this key	does this
r	redraws the buffer (clears search highlights)
f	enables Goyo for prettier reading
v	runs spellcheck
c	compiles the document
p	opens the corresponding pdf/html

You can compile and open markdown documents with **F5**.

Some common useful Vim keys

this key	does this
h	move left
j	move down
k	move up
l	move right
gg	go to first line
G	go to last line
:n	go to line n
0	(zero) start of line

this key	does this
^	first non-blank character of line
\$	end of line
w	jump by start of words (punctuation considered words)
W	jump by words (spaces separate words)
e	jump to end of words (punctuation considered words)
E	jump to end of words (no punctuation)
b	jump backward by words (punctuation considered words)
B	jump backward by words (no punctuation)
ge	jump backward to end of words
-	move line upwards, on the first non blank character
+	move line downwards, on the first non blank character
)	move the cursor forward to the next sentence.
(move the cursor backward by a sentence.
{	move the cursor a paragraph backwards
}	move the cursor a paragraph forwards
]]	move the cursor a section forwards or to the next {
[[move the cursor a section backwards or the previous {
CTRL-f	move the cursor forward by a screen of text
CTRL-b	move the cursor backward by a screen of text
CTRL-u	move the cursor up by half a screen
CTRL-d	move the cursor down by half a screen
H	move the cursor to the top of the screen.
M	move the cursor to the middle of the screen.
L	move the cursor to the bottom of the screen.
fx	search line forward for 'x'
Fx	search line backward for 'x'
tx	search line forward before 'x'
Tx	search line backward before 'x'

Insert mode

this key	does this
i	start insert mode at cursor
I	insert at the beginning of the line
a	append after the cursor
A	append at the end of the line
o	open (append) blank line below current line
O	open blank line above current line
Esc	exit insert mode

Editing

this key	does this
r	replace a single character (does not use insert mode)
R	enter Insert mode, replacing characters rather than inserting
J	join line below to the current one
cc	change (replace) an entire line
cw	change (replace) to the end of word
c\$	change (replace) to the end of line
s	delete character at cursor and substitute text
S	delete line at cursor and substitute text (same as cc)
xp	transpose two letters (delete and paste, technically)
u	undo
CTRL-r	redo
.	repeat last command
~	switch case
g~iw	switch case of current word
gUiw	make current word uppercase
guiw	make current word lowercase
gU\$	make uppercase until end of line
gu\$	make lowercase until end of line
>>	indent line one column to right
<<	indent line one column to left
==	auto-indent current line
ddp	swap current line with next
ddkp	swap current line with previous
:%retab	fix spaces / tabs issues in whole file
:r [name]	insert the file [name] below the cursor.
:r !{cmd}	execute {cmd} and insert its standard output below the cursor.

Video Tutorials

From Luke Smith's Youtube Channel

- Learn Vim: Exiting, Movement, Insert Mode, Basic Editing
- Learn Vim: Deletion, Text Objects, Motions, Undo & Redo
- After Vimtutor: Some Basic Vim Editing Tips!
- How Vim Makes my Daily Life Easier
- Why Vim Doesn't Need the Mouse
- A Vid in which Vim Saves me Hours & Hundreds of Clicks
- Vim Macros: Why and How-To!
- My Dank Vim & LaTeX Setup
- Start Turning Vim Into a Comfy IDE