

## vi - A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

The following are some of the commonly used commands in **vi**. They should get you through 90% of the things you need to do with the screen editor.

### Insert Mode:

*In insert mode the keyboard behaves like a typewriter. keystrokes appear as screen text after typing any of the following commands:*

i	Insert text at cursor
I	Insert text at beginning of line
a	Append text after cursor
A	Append text at end of line.
o	open a line below current line
O	open a line above current line

### Command Mode

*In command mode keystrokes perform functions such as moving the cursor, searching for patterns, or quitting from the document. All commands are referenced from the current cursor position.*

(ESC) Invokes command mode from insert mode

### Cursor Movement

#h	moves cursor left # characters, 1 is default
#j	moves cursor down # lines, 1 is default
#l	moves cursor right # characters, 1 is default
#k	moves cursor up # lines, 1 is default

*NOTE: On most systems the cursor keys can also be used for movement.*

G	go to last line of file
nG	go to nth line of file
#w	moves right # of words
#b	moves back # of words
0(zero)	move to first character on line
\$	move to last character on line
(CTRL)u	scrolls up half a screen
(CTRL)d	scrolls down half a screen
(CTRL)f	move forward 1 screen
(CTRL)b	move backward 1 screen

### Quitting the editor:

:q!	quit file without saving any changes
:wq	Write and quit.
:wqr	always writes
:x and ↑(ZZ)	leave the editor, writing the file if any changes were made

### Deleting text:

D or d\$	Deletes from cursor to the end of line.
d0	Deletes from cursor to the start of line.
#x	delete # of characters, default is 1
#dw	delete the # of words
#dd	delete # of lines starting at cursor position

### General editing

u	undo the most recent change
U	undo all changes on the current line. Once you move from the line all changes are lost).
J	join the next line onto this one
.	Repeats the last change.
#yy	Copies (yanks) # number of lines into buffer.
p	Puts (pastes) text from buffer.

### File Manipulation:

:e filename	Edit filename to.
:w filename	Write (save) filename.
:r filename	Read contents of filename into buffer.
ZZ	Write the current file to disk and exit. If no changes to file, just exit. <i>WARNING! - Don't use {Ctrl-Z} by mistake.</i>

### Line (Colon) Commands

:n	Goto line n.
:\$	Go to last line of file.
:1,\$d	Delete from first to last line in file.
!:command	Execute a UNIX command
:set number	Set line numbers
:set showmode	Set mode

### Searching

/string	Search for string.
n	Search for next occurrence of the search string
:%s/string1/string2/g	- Search for string1 and replace with string2

## A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO vi

The following are some of the commonly used commands in **vi**. They should get you through 90% of the things you need to do with the screen editor. This is duplicated and expanded in Appendix C.

### Cursor Movement

h	moves cursor left 1 character
j	moves cursor down a line
l	moves cursor right 1 character
k	moves cursor up a line
w	moves 1 word to right
b	moves 1 word to left
0(zero)	move to first character on line
\$	move to last character on line
(CTRL)u	scrolls up
(CTRL)d	scrolls down

*NOTE: On most systems the cursor keys can also be used for movement.*

### Entering text:

i	Insert at cursor.
a	Append text just right of cursor.
R	Overtyping
rc	replace character at cursor with c
o	open a line below current line
O	open a line above current line

### Deleting text:

D or d\$	Deletes from cursor to the end of line.
d0	Deletes from cursor to the start of line.
x	delete character at cursor
dw	delete the word
dd	delete the line

### General editing

u	undo the most recent change
U	undo all changes on the current line. (Once you move from the line all changes are lost).
J	join the next line onto this one
.	Repeats the last change

### Searching for text

/string(ENTER)	search for <i>string</i> .
n	searches for next occurrence of <i>string</i>
G	go to last line of file
#G	go to line #

### File Manipulation:

:e filename	Edit filename.
:w filename	Write filename.
:r filename	Read contents of filename into buffer.

### Quitting the editor:

:x or ZZ	if file has been changed, write to disk. Exit from editor.
:wq	Write and quit.

WARNING! - Don't use {Ctrl-Z} by mistake.