

## ViM Cheatsheet of Basic Commands

To start ViM type *vim* and press <ENTER>.

Type *vim filename* to start editing a specific file.

Switch between insert mode and command mode with the *i* key and ESC key. Notice it says -- **INSERT** -- in the lower left corner when you are in insert mode.

### Online Help

help and hit <ENTER>

q to exit help

help *keyword* (example :help new)

### Open files

:e *filename* open a file for editing

:e. open the current folder  
(show a file listing,  
use arrow keys to select file)

### Cursor movement

^ jump to the first non-blank character of the line

\$ jump to the end of the line

G go to the last line of the document

5G go to line 5

arrow keys to move around the screen

PGUP Page up key to move 1 page up

PGDN Page down key to move 1 page down

### Insert mode - inserting/appending text

i insert before the cursor

o append (open) a new line below the current line

O append (open) a new line above the current line

ESC Escape key to exit insert mode

### Editing text

r replace a single character

x delete a single character

J join line below to the current one

cc change (replace) entire line

cw change (replace) to the end of the word

dw delete (cut) a word

dd delete (cut) a line

u undo

Ctrl+r redo

### Marking text (visual mode)

Use these commands with the arrow keys

v start visual mode, mark lines, then do a command (y-yank or d-delete)

V start linewise visual mode

ESC Escape key to exit visual mode

### Visual commands

> shift text right

< shift text left

y yank (copy) marked text

d delete marked text

~ switch case

### Cut and paste

yy yank (copy) a line

2yy yank (copy) 2 lines

p put (paste) the clipboard after cursor

P put (paste) before cursor

### Exiting

:w write (save) the file, but don't exit

:wq write (save) and quit

:x write (save) and quit

:q quit (fails if there are unsaved changes)

:q! quit and throw away unsaved changes

### Searching

Use patterns to search through text

/pattern search for pattern

?pattern search backward for pattern

n repeat search in same direction

N repeat search in opposite direction

### New Window (edit multiple files)

:new open a new window (blank)

:new *filename* open *filename* in a new window

CTRL-W <arrow key> to move between windows

See :help window for more information

### View Man Page for Keyword

When editing source code you may view the man page associated with a keyword under the cursor by pressing K when the cursor is under the keyword.