

Vi basic reference

To start:

- `vi filename`

To exit:

- **ZZ** – will exit and save as same filename
- **:q** – quit; will let you know if you have unsaved changes
- **:q!** - quit discarding changes
- **:wq** – write and quit; same as doing **:w** followed by **:q**
- To change name add new name after the **:w** or **:wq**

To move around:

- **down arrow** or **j** moves down one line
- **up arrow** or **k** moves up one line
- **right arrow** or **l** moves right by one character
- **left arrow** or **h** moves left by one character
- **O** or **^** moves to start of current line
- **\$** moves to end of current line
- **w** moves to beginning of next word
- **b** moves to beginning of previous word
- **:O** or **:1** or **1G** moves to start of first line
- **:n** or **nG** moves to start of nth line
- **:\$** or **G** moves to start of last line
- **cntrl-f (^f)** moves forward one screen
- **cntrl-b (^b)** moves back one screen

Inserting Text -- Remember – **esc** to exit command mode:

- **i** – insert at position of cursor
- **I** – insert at start of line
- **a** – append after position of cursor
- **A** – append at end of line
- **o** – new line below current line
- **O** – new line above current line

Changing and Deleting Text:

- **r** – replace single character
- **R** – replace characters, starting at cursor position, until **esc** hit
- **x** – delete character that cursor is on (**nx** for n characters starting with one cursor is on)
- **dd** – delete current line (can do n lines with **ndd**)
- **D** – delete from cursor to end of line
- **dw** – delete word

Other Useful commands:

- **Y** – puts current line in buffer (can use **nY** for n lines, current plus following lines)
- **P** – paste lines in buffer before current line
- **/pattern** – goes to next occurrence of pattern; use **/** and **?** to move to previous and next occurrence
- **U** – to undo results of last command (use multiple times to revert back through multiple commands)
- **:s/old_text/new_text** – replaces next occurrence of **old_text** in current line
- **:s/old_text/new_text/g** – replaces all occurrences of **old_text** in current line