

Vim cheat sheet

General

Esc	Gets out of the current mode into the "command mode". All keys are bound of commands
I	"Insert mode" for inserting text. Keys behave as expected
:	"Last-line mode". In this mode, Vim expects you to enter a command such as to save the document

Navigation keys

H	Move the cursor one character to the left
K	Move the cursor up one line
O	Move the cursor to the beginning of the line
G then G	Move to the beginning of the file

Navigate around the document

(Jump to the previous sentence
)	Jump to the next sentence

Insert text

I	Insert text before the cursor
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Delete text

D then D	Delete line
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Simple replace text

R	Replace characters instead of inserting them
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Copy/Paste text

Y then Y	Copy current line into storage buffer
P	Paste storage buffer after current line
P	Paste storage buffer before current line

Modify selected text

~	Switch case
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Save and quit

: then Q	Quits Vim but fails when file has been changed
: then W	Save the file
: then W then Q	Save the file and quit Vim
Z then Z	Write file, if modified, and quit Vim

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More information: defkey.com/vim-text-editor-shortcuts?filter=basic

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