

vi Editor Bare Essential Command Reference

Command	Description
<code>vi filename</code>	Starts the vi editor and opens filename.
<code>:e filename</code>	Already in vi, opens <i>filename</i> .
<code>ctrl/g</code>	Displays the current file name and line number of current line.
<code>/string/</code>	Find the first occurrence of the <i>string</i> below the current line.
<code>a</code>	Add text after current character (places editor in insertion mode).
<code>A</code>	Add text to end of current line (insertion mode).
<code>i</code>	Inserts before the current character (insertion mode)
<code>o</code>	Inserts below the current line (insertion mode). Opens new line.
<code>O</code>	Inserts above the current line (insertion mode). Opens new line.
<code>r</code>	Replaces the current character; no ESC necessary.
<code>J</code>	Joins the current line and the line below it.
<code>0 (zero)</code>	Moves to the beginning of the current line.
<code>\$</code>	Moves to the end of the current line.
<code>G</code>	Moves to end of file.
<code>xG</code>	Moves to line number <i>x</i> .
<code>ctrl/f</code>	Scrolls forward one screen.
<code>ctrl/b</code>	Scrolls backward one screen.
<code>x</code>	Deletes the current character.
<code>dd</code>	Deletes the current line.
<code>u</code>	Counteracts the last command that changed the buffer contents.
<code>.</code>	Repeats the last command that changed the buffer.
<code>:w</code>	Writes file under its original file name (press ENTER).
<code>:wq</code>	Write file under original file name and exit vi (press ENTER).
<code>:q</code>	Exits vi if no changes have been made since the last write (to any filename).
<code>:q!</code>	Exits vi without saving changes (press ENTER).
<code>:w filename</code>	Write file to <i>filename</i> . Doesn't change the filename currently being edited.
<code>:w! filename</code>	Write or over-write <i>filename</i> (press ENTER).
<code>ESC</code>	Switches out of insertion mode. Cancels unexecuted vi command.