

# vi

## Standard unix text editor.

vi - starts the vi editor from the shell  
vi *filename* - starts vi and edits the file you name

### Moving within the file:

arrow keys - move the cursor in the direction the arrow points  
0 (zero) - moves the cursor to the beginning of the line  
\$ - moves the cursor to the end of the line  
H - moves the cursor to the beginning of the first line on the screen  
L - moves the cursor to the beginning of the last line on the screen  
G - moves the cursor to the beginning of the last line in the file  
*n* G - moves the cursor to the beginning of the *n* th line in the file  
<ctrl> F - moves forward one screen  
<ctrl> B - moves back one screen  
<ctrl> D - scrolls down one half screen  
<ctrl> U - scrolls up one half screen

### Text insertion:

<ctrl> C or Esc - ends text insertion  
i - inserts text to the left of the cursor  
I (capital i) - inserts text at the beginning of the line containing the cursor  
a - appends text to the right of the cursor  
A - appends text to the end of the current line  
o - inserts text below the current line (opens a line)  
O (capital o) - Inserts text above the current line

### Changing text:

cw - changes the current word  
ctx - changes text up to the character you specify  
cc - changes the current line  
C - changes text from the cursor to the end of the line  
~ - changes the case of the current character  
xp - transposes the current and next characters

### Deleting text:

x - deletes the character at the cursor  
X - deletes the character to the left of the cursor  
dw - deletes from the cursor to the end of the word  
dd - deletes the current line  
D - deletes from the cursor to the end of the line  
dfx - deletes from the cursor to the character you specify  
d/*pattern* - deletes from the cursor to the pattern you specify

## Undo and repeat:

- u - undoes the last change
- . (period) - repeats the last change

## Searching:

- /*pattern* - searches forward for *pattern*
- ?*pattern* - searches backward for *pattern*
- n - continues the search in the original direction
- N - continues the search in the opposite direction

## Yank and put (cut and paste):

- Y - copies the current line
- yy - yanks the current line
- n* yy - yanks *n* lines, starting at the current line
- yw - yanks the current word
- yn* w - yanks *n* words, starting at the current word
- p - puts the yanked text following the cursor
- P - puts the yanked text before the cursor
- <ctrl> L - refreshes the screen

## Command line operations:

- !*command* - runs the shell command you specify
- :r *filename* - inserts the file you specify
- :e! - discards changes to the file
- :e! *filename* - discards changes to the file and reads in the file you name
- :w *filename* - writes the file in new filename
- :w - writes over the file
- :q - exits from vi
- :wq - saves the file and exits from vi
- :q! - exits from vi and discards any changes