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| **Vi Cheat Sheet** | | |
| **Launching Vi Editor** |  | **Joining Lines** |
| *vi* Opens the editor in default mode | *J* Joins two lines |

[](https://linuxsimply.com/vi-cheat-sheet/)*vi*

*<filename.txt*

*>*

**Switch to Insert Mode**

*i*

Changes to insert mode

*a*

Appends after the cursor’s current position *j*

Moves down one line

Moves up one line

*k*

**Navigating within a File**

Swaps two lines

*ddp*

*I* Inserts text at the start of the current line

Opens the specified file or creates a new file *yyp* Repeats the current line in vi editor

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| *A* Appends to the end of the line | *h* Moves one character to the left |
| *o* Adds a new line beneath the current one | *l* Moves right one character |
| *O* Opens a new line above the current line | *G* Navigates to the last line of a file |
| **Jump Line Commands** | *XG* Navigates to line X in a file |
| *G* Indicates you to the file's final line | *gg* Navigates to the first line of a file |
| *I* Takes you to your last position in the file | **Saving & Closing File** |
| **Copy & Paste Commands** | *wq or ZZ* Saves your work and exit vi |
| *yy* Copies (yanks) a line of text | *w* Continues editing after saving |
| Copies the current word from the character  *yw* with the lowercase w cursor is on, until the word is finished  *p* Paste a line of yanked text after the current  line | *w!* Saves (and write to a non-writable file) |
| *q!* Quits vi without saving the changes |
| *P* Paste before the current line | **Text Buffers** |
| **Searching String** | *"add* Deletes the current line and insert text into buffer a |
| */string* Forwards lookup for a given string | *"ap* Paste the line from buffer a |
| *?string* Backwards lookup for a given string | **Set Commands** |
| */^string* Forwards search string at the start of a line | *set ic* Set case insensitivity while searching |
| */string$* Forwards search string at line's end | *set ai* Sets auto indention |
| *n* Proceeds to the next occurrence of the searched string | *set noai* Unsets auto indention |
| */\<he\>* Looks for the word he (rather than there, here, and so on) | *set nu* Shows lines with line numbers on the left side of the screen |
| */pl[abc]ce* Looks up the terms place, plbce, and plcce | *set sw* Sets the width of a software tabstop |
|  | *set ws* If wrapscan is enabled and the word is not found at  the end of the file, it will look for it at the beginning |

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| **Vi Cheat Sheet** | |
| **Changing Text Commands** | *set wm* If this option is set to a value greater than zero, the editor will "word wrap" automatically |
| cc Removes the line's contents, returning you to insert mode | set ro Sets the file type to "read only" |
| cw Changes the current word with new text, starting with the character under cursor | set term Prints the terminal type |
| R Overwrites characters beginning with the  cursor | set bf Discards control characters from input |
| s Substitutes one character under cursor continue to insert | **Scrolling Commands** |
| S Substitutes entire line and begin to insert at the beginning of the line | CTRL+D Moves the screen down by half a page |
| **Other Vi Shortcuts** | CTRL+F Scrolls the screen down by a full page |

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| b | Returns to the word's beginning |  | CTRL+U | Scrolls the screen up by half a page |
| e | Goes to the end of the word |  | CTRL+B | Scrolls the screen up by a full page |
| Xyy | Yanks X number of lines |  | CTRL+E | Scrolls the screen up by one line |
| num | Shows the line number of the current line |  | CTRL+Y | Scrolls the screen down by one line |

Esc Switches to Command mode /Terminate insert mode

CTRL+I Redraws the screen

[](https://linuxsimply.com/)

xp Switches two characters

cw Changes word

**Undo & Repeat Commands**

Changes the case of an individual character

~

u Undo the most recent change

U Reverts all changes made to the entire line

. Repeats the last command