vi Quick Reference

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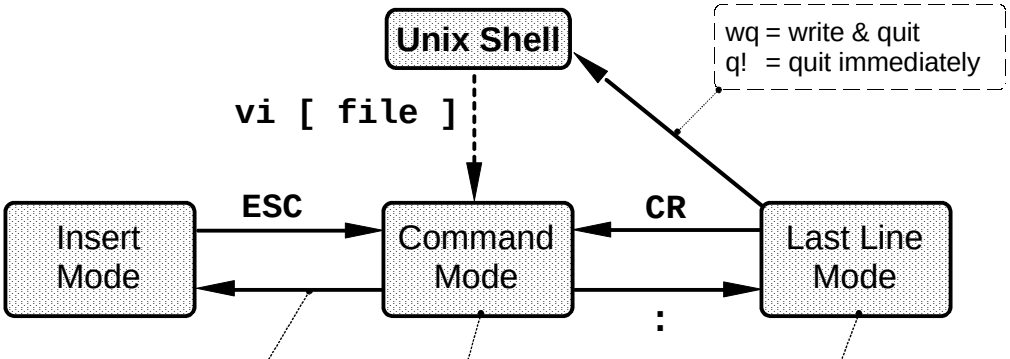

i = insert before cursor
I = insert at start of line
a = append behind cursor
A = append to end of line
R = replace
O = insert line above
o = insert line behind

Subsitute text in current line
s/*pattern/subpattern* = substitut in line
s/*pattern/subpattern/g* = substitut in line, multible
Subsitute text in all lines
g/*pattern/s//subpattern/g* = substitut in line, multible
Show line-numbers
set nu = show line-numbers
set nonu = no show of line-numbers
Delete lines
m,n d = delete lines m to n
Save & copy file
w [filename] = save current file [, using filename]
r file = copy file behind current line

Replace & delete
r = replace 1 character
x = delete 1 character
dd = delete line
D = delete line right from cursor

Window movement
^F = forward 1 window
^B = back 1 window
^U = back 1/2 window
^D = down 1/2 window

Search text
/*searchpattern* = search forward
?*searchpattern* = search backward
n = repeat forward-search
N = repeat backward-search
% = search corresponding { }

Cursor movement
b = back one word
e = end of next word
j = one line up
k = one line down
H = home
M = middle of screen
L = end of screen
G = end of buffer
nG = line n
1G = first line

Using nameless buffer
yy = copy current line to buffer
Y = (Yank) current line to buffer
yw = copy next word to buffer
nyy= copy next n lines to buffer
p = put buffer behind cursor
P = put buffer before cursor

Using buffer a..z
"*x*yw = copy next word to buffer *x*
"*x*yy = copy current line to buffer *x*
"*xn*yy= copy next n lines to buffer *x*
"*xp* = put buffer *x* behind cursor
"*xP* = put buffer *x* before cursor

search pattern
. = 1 character, every char
[*a-e*] = 1 character from *a* to *e*
[*list*] = 1 character of *list* in []
[^*list*] = 1 character, not in *list*
* = repetition of character before *
^*pattern* = pattern at start of line
pattern$ = pattern at end of line

Miscellanious
J = join current line with next
U = restore current line
~ = change: little <=> big letter