

File Editor

Text Editors

ed (1969)	original, line oriented standard for Unix
ex (1976)	extended, more powerful version of ed, introduced visual mode for full screen editing
vi (1976)	classic, efficient, visual full-screen editor built on top of ex
emacs (1976)	extensible, feature-rich ecosystem known for customisation
pico (1992)	simple, menu-driven, for non-technical users
vim (1991)	improved and advanced version of vi, with modern features
nano (1999)	free open source clone of pico

echo 'export EDITOR=nano' >> ~/.bashrc	set nano as default text editor
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vi commands

mode	command	function
esc	up down left right	move around
esc	shift g	move to end
esc	i	insert
insert	a	move right (and insert)
insert	o	line break (and insert)
insert	esc	escape current mode
esc	x	remove character
esc	r	replace character
esc	d	delete line
esc	u	bring line back
esc	:q!	quit
esc	:wq!	save and quit

nano commands

ctrl o	save current file (write out)
ctrl s	save current file (newer versions)
ctrl x	exit
ctrl w	search for specific text
ctrl \	find and replace
ctrl k	cut line
ctrl u	paste line
alt 6	copy line
alt n	toggle line numbers
alt u	undo
alt e	re-do

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