Helix

Modal selection editor

CONCEPTS

Selection first, then action: w selects a word, d deletes it. There is no operator-pending state like in Vim.

Every selection has a cursor; several selections edit in parallel. ; collapses to one and , keeps only the primary.

MODES & FILES

Esc
Return to Normal mode

i / **a**
Insert before / after selection

I / **A**
Insert at line start / end

o / **O**
Open line below / above

v
Select (extend) mode

:w
Save file

:q
Quit window

:wq / **:x**
Save and quit

MOVEMENT

h / **j** / **k** / **l**
Left / down / up / right

w / **b** / **e**
Next word start / previous start / end

f / **t**
Find / till next char

Ctrl + **u** / **Ctrl** + **d**
Half page up / down

G
Go to line number

GOTO & MATCH

g › **g**
File start (or line number)

GOTO & MATCH (cont.)

g › **d**
Go to definition (LSP)

EDITING

d
Delete selection

c
Change selection (delete + insert)

y
Yank (copy)

p / **P**
Paste after / before

u / **U**
Undo / redo

SELECTIONS

x
Select line, again extends down

s
Select regex matches inside selection

C
Add cursor on next line

;
Collapse to a single cursor

SEARCH

/
Search forward (regex)

n / **N**
Next / previous match

Space › **/**
Search the whole workspace

SPACE MENU & PICKERS

Space › **f**
File picker (workspace root)

Space › **b**
Buffer picker

Space › **y** / **Space** › **p**
Yank / paste via system clipboard