Vifm vi-like file manager

START HERE

- **j** / **k** — Move down / up
- **/** — Search names
- **h** / **l** — Parent / enter or open
- **:** — Command line
- **Tab** — Switch pane
- **t** — Select file
- **yy** › **p** — Copy to other pane
- **dd** — Delete (to trash)



Left pane and right pane; Tab switches, p puts here

CONCEPTS

Vifm behaves like vi: normal mode for keys, : for commands, visual mode (v) for ranges. Two panes show two directories; copy and move work between them.

yy only marks files; the copy happens at p. Use P to move instead. Files you have selected with t or v are used instead of the file under the cursor.

Count prefixes work: 5j, 3dd, 12G or :12 jumps to entry 12.

Config lives in vifmrc (~/.config/vifm/vifmrc or ~/.vifm/vifmrc). Settings are :set commands, mappings are :nnoremap.

NAVIGATION

j / **k** Down / up

h Go to parent directory

l / **Enter**
Open file or enter directory

gg / **G** First / last entry

Ctrl + **F** / **Ctrl** + **B**
Page down / up

NAVIGATION (cont.)

Ctrl + **D** / **Ctrl** + **U**
Half page down / up

H / **M** / **L**
Top / middle / bottom of window

Ctrl + **O** / **Ctrl** + **I**
Back / forward in directory history

Ctrl+I is the same key as Tab; see the cpoptions tip.

:cd *<path>*
Change directory

PANES & TABS

Tab Switch to other pane

Switches panes when cpoptions has t; otherwise it goes forward in history.

Ctrl + **W** › **h/j/k/l**
Focus pane left / down / up / right

Ctrl + **W** › **o**
Leave only the current pane

Ctrl + **W** › **s** / **Ctrl** + **W** › **v**
Split horizontally / vertically

Ctrl + **W** › **x**
Exchange the two panes

:tabnew [path]
Open a new tab

PANES & TABS (cont.)

gt / **gT** Next / previous tab

:tabclose
Close current tab

:sync
Point other pane to this directory

SELECTION

t
Toggle selection of current file

v / **V**
Visual mode: select a range

Move with j/k, then act (y, d, ...), or Esc to cancel.

gv
Restore last visual selection

:select *<pattern>*
Select files matching pattern

Esc / **Ctrl** + **C**
Cancel and clear selection

FILE OPERATIONS

yy Yank file(s)

p
Put yanked files here (copy)

P
Put yanked files here (move)

FILE OPERATIONS (cont.)

dd
Delete (to trash if enabled)

DD
Delete permanently, skip trash

cw
Rename file(s) in an editor

With several selected files it opens all names in your editor; save and quit to apply.

cW
Rename without the extension

C Clone file

u / **Ctrl** + **R**
Undo / redo last file operation

:mkdir *<name>*
Create directory

:touch *<name>*
Create empty file

ga Compute directory size

Ctrl + **G** Show file details

SEARCH & FILTER

/ › *<pattern>*
Search forward

? › *<pattern>*
Search backward

SEARCH & FILTER (cont.)

n / **N** Next / previous match

f › *<c>* / **F** › *<c>*
Jump to name starting with char

= › *<regex>*
Filter list by regex

zr Clear the local filter

za Toggle dot files

:find *<pattern>*
Search with find, list in menu

:grep *<pattern>*
Search file contents

:sort
Open sort dialog

MARKS & COMMANDS

m › *<a-z>* Set mark

' › *<a-z>* Jump to mark

'' Back to previous location

!! Run shell command

:!*<cmd>*
Run shell command

%f is current file, %F selected files, %d current dir, %D other pane's dir.

MARKS & COMMANDS (cont.)

. Repeat last : command

:copy / :move
Copy / move to other pane

:help
Open built-in help

ZZ Quit

:q
Quit

CONFIGURATION

:set dotfiles
Show hidden files

:set vicmd=*<editor>*
Set editor

:set trash
Enable trash

:filetype *<pattern>* *<cmd>*
Associate programs with files

RECIPES

Basic vifmrc

```
" ~/.config/vifm/vifmrc
set vicmd=vim
set trash
set dotfiles
set vifminfo=savedirs,tabs
nnoremap <f3> :view<cr>
filetype *.pdf zathura %c %i &
```