VI tips

Quick save

Press SHIFT + ZZ which is equivalent to `:x` which is equivalent to `:wq`, except that it only saves if the file has been changed.

Set tab size and convert tabs to spaces

```
:set tabstop=4
:retab
```

Turn off autoindent when you paste code

To toggle this in VI on the fly to switch off auto-indent

```
:set paste
```

and to switch it back on

```
:set nopaste
```

In .vimrc this can be set:

```
set copyindent
```

Another alternative via .vimrc is:

```
set clipboard=unnamed
```

That makes the default paste buffer map to X's clipboard. When a bit of text is highlighted in a terminal, it can be pasted into vim by simply press p to paste. Similarly, one can yank things in vim (e.g. YY to yank the current line into the buffer) and middle click in any window to paste it.

Default 4 tab spaces

in `~/.vimrc`

```
filetype plugin indent on
" show existing tab with 4 spaces width
set tabstop=4
" when indenting with '>', use 4 spaces width
```

```
set shiftwidth=4
" On pressing tab, insert 4 spaces
set expandtab
```

Cut, Copy & Paste

1. Press v to select lines or test with cursor keys
2. Then press y to copy the selection or press d to cut the selection
3. Then press '> to skip to the end of the selection
4. Then press p to paste under the cursor or SHIFT+p to paste after the cursor

1. Copy the entire line by pressing yy (more info :help yy) or cut using dd.
2. Paste the line by pressing p.

Copy whole file to clipboard

The clipboard is buffer +. To copy to clipboard, do "+y and [movement]. So, gg"+yG will copy the whole file.

Similarly, to paste from clipboard, "+p

Alternatively: gg"*yG :%y+

Search & Replace

```
:%s/bla/blubs/
```

Complex replace with reference:

```
:%s/rtrim(\(.*\),"0")/zerotrim(\1)/
```

to repeat, press ":", then the cursor up