

5. Practice Lesson #2

In this lesson we will set up vi configuration file `.exrc` and will test the configuration.

Also, in this lesson we will no longer follow the Action/Verification exercise structure. You should be sufficiently comfortable with vi by now to successfully complete the exercises on your own.

Open vi on a blank file:

```
$ vi
```

Type commands `:set all` and press Enter. You are likely to see something similar to the following:

```
noaltwerase noextended matchtime=7 report=5 term="xterm"
autoindent filec="" mesg noruler noterse
autoprint flash nomodeline scroll=24 notildeop
noautowrite nogtagsmode noprint="" nosearchincr timeout
backup="" hardtabs=0 nonumber nosecond nottywerase
nobeautify noiclower nooctal shiftwidth=8 noverbose
cdpath=":" ignorecase open noshowmatch warn
cedit="" keytime=6 optimize noshowmode window=48
columns=80 nolefright path="" sidescroll=16 nowindowname
nocomment lines=50 print="" noslowopen wraplen=0
noedcompatible nolisp prompt nosourceany wrapmargin=15
escapetime=6 nolist noreadonly tabstop=8 wrapscan
noerrorbells lock noredraw taglength=0 nowriteany
noexec magic remap tags="tags"
directory="/tmp"
msgcat="/usr/share/vi/catalog/"
paragraphs="|PLPPPQPP L|p|pipbp"
readdir="/var/tmp/vi.recover"
sections="NHS HH HUnhsh"
shell="/usr/local/bin/bash"
shellmeta="~[!*$%^&@#~"'
```

These are vi environment variables. They can be modified through the `:set` commands. In this practice we will configure only a few of those variables. You are encouraged to experiment with others.

Exit vi. Make sure you are in your home directory. The easiest way is to do that is to execute `cd` with no arguments at the UNIX command prompt. Now open the `.exrc` file:

```
$ vi .exrc
```

If your `.exrc` file is not blank, exit, back it up first and start from scratch. Now create six entries exactly as described above in Section 4: Startup File. Save, and open vi with no arguments. Type text without hitting Enter key. It should wrap around 72nd column. Indent one of the lines with the Tab key. Continue typing on the same line. It should wrap and start on the left side aligned with the previous indentation. Now join two of the lines using J command. Go to the beginning of the joined line and press function key 4. If your terminal is set up properly, and the `fmt` utility is present in your distribution, your paragraph should be reformatted.

Type a couple of lines and intentionally misspell "customer" as "cutsomer" and "the" as "teh". Watch your text as it is corrected on the fly.

This concludes our practice. The remainder of this document is left up to the reader to practice at his convenience.

End Of Practice Lesson #2

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