

## Re: vi question

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/alt.linux/2004-08/0165.html>

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**From:** Jeffrey Silverman ([jeffrey\\_at\\_pantsjhu.edu](mailto:jeffrey_at_pantsjhu.edu))

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Date: Wed, 11 Aug 2004 08:52:21 -0400

On Wed, 11 Aug 2004 05:37:14 +0000, Eric wrote:

> *Eric wrote:*

>

>> *I use vi to edit html pages, i notice that in insert mode if i hit*

>> *<BackSpace> the whole line jumps to the right about 4 to 6 cols (it*

>> *removes the unwanted char ok too)*

>> *Why is that?*

>> *How do i prevent that from happening?*

>>

>> *Thanks*

>> *Eric*

>

> *It always happens, nowrap has no effect. try it yourself, edit an html*

> *file, find a line that starts with a few spaces, move to the middle of a*

> *line, switch to insert mode and hit backspace and watch the line jump to*

> *the right (thats "right" not left). Very weird! You know, i really like*

> *linux but i have to say, DOS's edit.com was way better than any linux*

> *console based editor. The gui editor kate is quite well done – Textpad is*

> *better but kate is definately a contender.*

> *Too bad edit.com couldnt be ported to linux. There's 3 things linux (in*

> *general) sucks at:*

> *1: console editors*

> *2: keyboard handlers*

> *3: cut/copy and paste in the gui's*

> *Fix those and you'd have a near perfect work environment.*

> *Eric*

Boy, are you trying to troll here? Although I agree that Linux has its problems, I happen to think that item 1 and 3 are among Linux's strengths! Definitely better than Windows in the bundled text editor department, and, once you realize how it works, you will never want to use another GUI without highlight-then-middle-click cut and paste.

And really, comparing DOS edit to Vi is just not realistic. Vi (well, Vim, at least) is far more flexible, featureful, customizable, and generally powerful than edit.com

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Try pico, the text editor that comes with UW's Pine if you want an editor more similar to DOS edit.

Whatever...

As far as your Vi problem, I have no idea what you are talking about. I can't reproduce it. "Jump to the right"? I have never seen what you are describing, even after you gave more detail.

What do you mean by "jump to the right"?

Does it only happen in HTML files?

What Vi are you using, Vim?

The possible settings and configuration for any particular instance of Vi are so vast that it would be nearly impossible for me (or anyone) to troubleshoot this problem.

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