

## Vim prank: alias vim='vim -y'

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Vim Easy mode  
alias vim='vim -y'

*Poster created using Canva*


While going through `:h vim-arguments` for my Vim reference guide ebook, I came across the `-y` option:

Easy mode. Implied for `evim` and `eview`. Starts with `'insertmode'` set and behaves like a click-and-type editor. This sources the script `$VIMRUNTIME/evim.vim`. Mappings are set up to work like most click-and-type editors, see `evim-keys`. The GUI is started when available.

It was so weird to use. Copy and paste works with `Ctrl+c` and `Ctrl+v` respectively. Text can be selected with mouse and typing new text overwrites this selected portion. `Esc` key doesn't work (gasp!), so I couldn't quit until I used the window buttons. Later I tried and found that `Ctrl+o` works, which would then allow you to use `:q` as usual.

So, if you want to prank a Vim user:

```
alias vim='vim -y'
```

 I didn't expect such a good response on `/r/vim/` and twitter for this "easy" feature. So, decided to write this mini blog post as well. Also, I got to know a few more ways to escape this madness from the `/r/vim/` sub:

One hint: If you want to go to Normal mode to be able to type a sequence of commands, use `CTRL-L`. <https://vimhelp.org/starting.txt.html#evim-keys>

Use `<c-\><c-n>` See `:h CTRL-\_CTRL-N`

## Update

So, this post reached front page on Hacker News! Plenty of interesting comments and got to know about `novim-mode` plugin (which aims to make Vim behave more like a 'normal' editor).

I also found an old discussion on `/r/vim/` discussing ways to trick a Vim user.

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[#vim](#)

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