

---

Subject: IDLWAVE: no sympathy for the devil (vi vi vi)  
Posted by [Mariolncandenza](#) on Mon, 23 Jan 2006 18:42:59 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi brilliant people,

I covet IDLWAVE. For instance, I'm tired of typing

```
if(n_elements(n) gt 0) then begin
```

But, my transition to Emacs has been rocky. Well, it's perhaps better described as "quite smooth but also quite incomplete." I use VIPER, which, if you don't know, stands for "Vlper is a Package for Emacs Rebels." ([http://theory.uwinnipeg.ca/gnu/emacs/viper\\_toc.html](http://theory.uwinnipeg.ca/gnu/emacs/viper_toc.html)). It seems I just can't give up intuitive keystrokes like `.,.+5s/^;` , although I'm sure there is an equivalent stream of gibberish that accomplishes that in native Emacs.

I work in two modes: I use Xemacs on my windows box, and I use Xemacs on a Linux box through Reflection, using the windows box as a terminal.

So, basically, Windows denies me the ALT key, and Viper denies me the ESC key.

Is there any trickery I can employ to get around this?

---