pico - a very simple Editor on Unix

pico is yet another editor available on the APOLLO, HP and x4u systems at DESY. It is a very simple and easy-to-use full screen editor. Those of you that use the pine mail program know **pico** already, as it is the underlying editor for pine.

When you have started **pico** with the command *pico file &* , it will show you the available commands on the 2 bottom lines, so even the uninitiated user has a good chance to get the work done if it is not too complicated.

Note: ^ indicates the CONTROL key in the following text

Adding or Deleting Text

typing in	create text
DELETE key	delete character
^K	delete current line
^U	undelete line (*except after* ^J)

Moving around on the Screen

←, ↓, ↑, →	move cursor left, down, up, right
^Y, ^V	scroll to previous, next page
^C	show cursor position (*Where am I ?*)

Read from / Write to File

^R	copy named file after cursor position
^O	write to named file

Miscellaneous, Leaving pico

^X	leave **pico** . You will be prompted if you wish to save your file.
^W	search for string. You will be prompted to a search string. Search is not case sensitive. **pico** will search for next occurrence of last search string if no string is given.
^T	call spell checker. The checker will present in alphabetical order all potentially misspelled words for immediate correction
^J	justify a paragraph of text
^U	unjustify (*valid only immediately after* ^J)
^G	get Help

Features NOT present in pico

Yank text	copy part of the edited file to another place
Replace text	replace existing text by new input
Overtype text	not available
Undo	no general *undo* command is available. Undo is available only for *delete line* or *justify paragraph*.

There are not many advanced features in **pico** . This contributes to the ease of use of **pico** , but it is also a limitation for advanced editing. So you will probably want to move to a different editor for complicated tasks or when you feel experienced enough to do so. But for a novice user **pico** is a nice small editor to start without having to read a manual or learn fancy key combinations.