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Screen - Screen Manager for Linux - Exceptionally Useful

Screen is a Window Manager for a Linux SSH Terminal. Similar to having Multiple Desktops and applications, screen provides just that for the Command Line Interface (CLI). As screen runs on the server, if you are downloading a file onto the server etc. or compiling a programme, and your net connection drops, your Screen "session" remains running inside screen, and your applications remain open and active. You can customise screen to provide a Time and Date, along with a Status bar of open applications. This is a MUST HAVE for anyone using a Linux server via the commandline.

Install Screen

```
apt-get install screen
//or download it manually from http://www.gnu.org/software/screen/#TOCdownloading
```

Basic Usage

```
mesg n //turn messaging off
screen
ctrl a c //copies and makes new screen
ctrl a w //view screens
ctrl a A //rename current screen
ctrl a d //detach all screens
screen -DR //open screen and attach screens
```

Regions/ Multiple Windows in Screen

```
ctrl a S //split current window. Leaves bottom screen empty
ctrl a <tab> //tab between regions/split screens
ctrl a Q //unsplit all windows from screen
```

Monitor Screens for Activity

```
ctrl a M //toggles Monitoring on or off.
```

Nested/Multiple Screens

```
ctrl a a c //copies a nested screen
ctrl a a w //views screens
ctrl a a # //go to screen number
```

Scroll Back in a Screen

```
ctrl a [
```

Copy and Paste & Search in a Screen

```
ctrl a [ //enters copy mode
/wordtofind //finds word, same as in vi.
<enter> to start copy. Move arrow keys. Enter to stop copy.
ctrl a ] //paste
```

Setting a Permanent Status Bar

```
vi $HOME/.screenrc
hardstatus on
hardstatus alwayslastline
hardstatus string "%w%=%m/%d %c"
```

LOCK SCREEN

```
ctrl a x //locks the screen with the current linux password
//If the terminal is closed, and then the screen reattached - no password :(
```

Information Source:

<http://www.bangmoney.org/presentations/screen.html>

http://sunsite.ualberta.ca/Documentation/Gnu/screen-3.9.4/html_chapter/screen_toc.html

Flash Taskbar in PuTTY on Screen Activity

So I've been trying to get this for a while. If I receive an email via pine or pm via irssi it would be nice if PuTTY would flash on the taskbar. Following this page on redbrick got it 1/2 working, in that if the current screen window had activity and PuTTY was minimised, then the taskbar would flash. I wanted it so if any screen window had activity that the taskbar would flash. Anyways after a bit of trial and error here is how I got it:

Step 1: Putty Config

Screen

Terminal -> Bell -> Taskbar/caption indication on bell: Flashing
#Might want to save this to the default profile in PuTTY.

Step 2: Screen Config This is the important step I had overlooked a few times.

```
vi .screenrc
vbell off
bell_msg '^GBell in window %n'
#The ^G (CTRL G) is the key)
```

Step 3: irssi config

```
vi .irssi/config

settings = {
  "fe-common/core" = {
    beep_msg_level = "MSG HIGHLIGHT";
    beep_when_away = "yes";
    beep_when_window_active = "yes";
    bell_beeps = "yes";
  };
};
```

After all this, screen will have to be restarted to take effect. Now, upon getting an email to pine or pm to irssi, PuTTY should flash on the taskbar. Not sure whether this will work for Gnome/KDE.

References:

http://wiki.redbrick.dcu.ie/mw/Irssi#Taskbar_Flashing

<http://www.irssi.org/documentation/manual>

<http://www.linuxjournal.com/article/6340>

<http://www.linuxjournal.com/article/6340#comment-335189>

<http://www.slac.stanford.edu/comp/unix/package/epics/extensions/iocConsole/screen.1.html>