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# The Bash Fingertips: Making Your Own 'Information Centre'

By *Roy Schestowitz*

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Submitted by Roy Schestowitz on Sunday 3rd of February 2019 08:35:34 AM Filed under [Howtos](#) [1]

```

roy : sh — Konsole
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
... Fetching information from www.livescore.com ...
Displaying Table for Barclay's Premier League
-----
Barclay's Premier League TABLE
-----
LP   Team Name      GP   W   D   L   GF   GA   GD   Pts
-----
1    Liverpool      24   19  4   1   55   14   41   61
2    Tottenham Hotspur 25   19  0   6   51   24   27   57
3    Manchester City  24   18  2   4   63   19   44   56
4    Chelsea         25   15  5   5   45   23   22   50
5    Arsenal         24   14  5   5   50   33   17   47
6    Manchester United 24   13  6   5   48   35   13   45
7    Wolverhampton Wanderers 25   11  5   9   33   32   1   38
8    Watford         25   9   7   9   33   34   -1   34
9    Everton         25   9   6   10  36   36   0   33
10   AFC Bournemouth 25   10  3   12  37   44   -7   33
11   Leicester City  24   9   5   10  30   30   0   32
12   West Ham United  24   9   4   11  30   37   -7   31
13   Brighton & Hove Albion 25   7   6   12  27   36   -9   27
14   Crystal Palace  25   7   5   13  26   33   -7   26
15   Newcastle United 25   6   6   13  21   33   -12  24
16   Southampton     25   5   9   11  27   42   -15  24
17   Burnley         25   6   6   13  26   46   -20  24
18   Cardiff City    25   6   4   15  22   46   -24  22
19   Fulham          25   4   5   16  25   55   -30  17
20   Huddersfield Town 25   2   5   18  13   46   -33  11
-----
LP = League Position   GP = Games Played   W = Wins       D = Draws       L = Lose
GF = Goals For         GA = Goal Against   GD = Goal Differences
-----
Champions League      Champions League qualification  Europa League
Europa League qualification  Relegation
-----
PID=1697 - Swap used: 10624 - (openbox )
PID=31259 - Swap used: 10632 - (kiod5 )
PID=25508 - Swap used: 15560 - (nagstamon )
PID=1559 - Swap used: 16512 - (x-terminal-emul )
PID=21980 - Swap used: 16648 - (kwalletd5 )
PID=25548 - Swap used: 16680 - (konversation )
PID=631 - Swap used: 19336 - (kded5 )
PID=23817 - Swap used: 50016 - (pidgin )
PID=23923 - Swap used: 159504 - (thunderbird )
Weather report: Manchester

  Sunny
  -5..-2 °C
  ↑ 9 km/h
  10 km
  0.0 mm

-----
Sun 03 Feb
-----
Morning      Noon      Evening      Night
-----
Partly cloudy
-4..-0 °C
↑ 12-20 km/h
20 km
0.0 mm | 0%

Light drizzle
-2..-3 °C
↑ 17-26 km/h
20 km
0.4 mm | 83%

Light rain sho...
1..3 °C
↑ 7-14 km/h
16 km
0.4 mm | 65%

Mist
0..-3 °C
↑ 9-17 km/h
13 km
0.0 mm | 0%

-----
Mon 04 Feb
-----
Morning      Noon      Evening      Night
-----
Light drizzle
2..6 °C
↑ 16-26 km/h
14 km
0.3 mm | 88%

Patched rain po...
3..7 °C
↑ 20-27 km/h
18 km
0.3 mm | 88%

Cloudy
1..4 °C
↑ 13-23 km/h
20 km
0.0 mm | 0%

Cloudy
-2 °C
↑ 9-16 km/h
20 km
0.0 mm | 0%

-----
Tue 05 Feb
-----
Morning      Noon      Evening      Night
-----
Partly cloudy
-1..-3 °C
↑ 19-31 km/h
20 km
0.0 mm | 0%

Overcast
2..6 °C
↑ 23-33 km/h
19 km
0.0 mm | 0%

Overcast
6 °C
↑ 24-40 km/h
8 km
0.0 mm | 0%

Light drizz...
1 °C
↑ 24-40 km/h
9 km
0.3 mm | 0%

-----
Follow @igor_chubin for wtr.in updates
/dev/sda2          partition      2097148 357244 -1
/dev/sda1          84035088 77304468 2438780 97% /
08:18:59 up 116 days, 12:51, 6 users, load average: 1.68, 1.40, 1.31

```

FORGET bloated Web browsers. Forget so-called 'social' media (I call it social *control* media). They're not efficient, they eat up a lot of memory and CPU cycles, and the interfaces are not consistent (across sites). They're sufficiently distracting and they have ads. They erode privacy. They don't scale well; neither for an aging system (my laptop turns 10 in a few months) nor for users. GUIs are good in particular scenarios, but when the same things are repeated over and over again one might as well set up scripts, automating things and tailoring one's own interfaces, which is easy to achieve (relatively fast and simple) in the command line. It's also more accessible, e.g. over SSH. The pertinent tools are already out there (available for download/installation from repositories), they just need to be put together and programming skills aren't required, just batching in a bash file.

Some years ago I 'developed' a little script (I've been scripting since I was about 12). I called it `getswap-sorted.sh`

and it just ran another script that helped me see what applications use the swap (and how much of it). For the sake of speed I like to restart applications that heavily use swap (i.e. depend on magnetic disk operations). I don't have much RAM. I never had more than 2 GB. `getswap-sorted.sh` just called out `./getswap.sh | sort -n -k 5` and `getswap.sh` comes from Erik Ljungstrom. Here it is:

```
#!/bin/bash
# Get current swap usage for all running processes
# Erik Ljungstrom 27/05/2011
SUM=0
OVERALL=0
for DIR in `find /proc/ -maxdepth 1 -type d | egrep "^/proc/[0-9]"` ; do
PID=`echo $DIR | cut -d / -f 3`
PROGNAME=`ps -p $PID -o comm --no-headers`
for SWAP in `grep Swap $DIR/smmaps 2>/dev/null | awk '{ print $2 }'`
do
let SUM=$SUM+$SWAP
done
echo "PID=$PID - Swap used: $SUM - ($PROGNAME )"
let OVERALL=$OVERALL+$SUM
SUM=0
done
```

The output of `getswap-sorted.sh` would be something like this:

```
PID=1559 - Swap used: 16472 - (x-terminal-emul )
PID=21980 - Swap used: 16648 - (kwalletd5 )
PID=25548 - Swap used: 16704 - (konversation )
PID=631 - Swap used: 19336 - (kded5 )
PID=23817 - Swap used: 50048 - (pidgin )
PID=23923 - Swap used: 180312 - (thunderbird )
```

This helps me see which application/process number uses swap and to what degree. It's sorted by the amount of swap taken and the PID helps when I just want to kill a process from the command line (some are small and obsolete anyway).

My script, however, grew bigger over time. I added more things to it, eventually binding it to a special (fifth) mouse key, using `xbindkeys` -- an immensely valuable and powerful program I've used since around 2004. Extra mouse buttons always seemed worthless (anything more than three), but that's just because there was no program I needed to open or action I needed to invoke often enough. Over time I found that keeping a new terminal one click away (fourth button) and another *special* terminal also a click away improved my workflow/productivity. I just needed to invest some time in tailoring it. I ended up opening, temporarily, a terminal window with important information displayed, such as weather, disk space (I'm always near the limits), swap usage (I have only 2GB of RAM), uptime, real-time football scores etc. Change of wallpapers was lumped in too, for good measure...

For football tables/scores use one of the following 1) [livescore-cli](#) [2] 2) [soccer-cli](#) [3] and 3) [football-cli](#) [4].

Sadly, the above CLI football scores' tools got 'stolen' by Microsoft and need to isolate themselves GitHub, in due course/time. I use the first of the three as it suits my needs best and does not require an API key.

The output looks like this:

... Fetching information from www.livescore.com ...

Displaying Table for Barclay's Premier League

```
+++++
                                     Barclay's Premier League TABLE
+++++
LP      Team Name                    GP      W      D      L      GF      GA
-----
1       Liverpool                    24      19     4      1      55     14
2       Tottenham Hotspur            25      19     0      6      51     24
3       Manchester City               24      18     2      4      63     19
4       Chelsea                      25      15     5      5      45     23
5       Arsenal                      24      14     5      5      50     33
6       Manchester United             24      13     6      5      48     35
7       Wolverhampton Wanderers       25      11     5      9      33     32
8       Watford                       25      9      7      9      33     34
9       Everton                       25      9      6      10     36     36
10      AFC Bournemouth                 25      10     3      12     37     44
11      Leicester City                  24      9      5      10     30     30
12      West Ham United                  24      9      4      11     30     37
13      Brighton & Hove Albion          25      7      6      12     27     36
14      Crystal Palace                   25      7      5      13     26     33
15      Newcastle United                25      6      6      13     21     33
16      Southampton                      25      5      9      11     27     42
17      Burnley                          25      6      6      13     26     46
18      Cardiff City                    25      6      4      15     22     46
19      Fulham                           25      4      5      16     25     55
20      Huddersfield Town                25      2      5      18     13     46
+++++
```

```
LP = League Position      GP = Games Played          W = Wins          D = Draws
GF = Goals For           GA = Goal Against        GD = Goal Differences
```

```
-----
Champions League          Champions League qualification  Europa League
Europa League qualification  Relegation
+++++
```

Real-time scores (when matches are on):

... Fetching information from www.livescore.com ...

Displaying Scores for Barclay's Premier League

```
-----
                                     Barclay's Premier League SCORES
-----
January 29  FT      Arsenal                2 - 1  Cardiff City
January 29  FT      Fulham                 4 - 2  Brighton & Hove Albion
January 29  FT      Huddersfield Town     0 - 1  Everton
January 29  FT      Wolverhampton Wanderers 3 - 0  West Ham United
January 29  FT      Manchester United     2 - 2  Burnley
January 29  FT      Newcastle United      2 - 1  Manchester City
January 30  FT      AFC Bournemouth       4 - 0  Chelsea
January 30  FT      Southampton            1 - 1  Crystal Palace
January 30  FT      Liverpool              1 - 1  Leicester City
-----
```



