

Change Prompt Color when logged in as Root

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Created 25/01/2007 - 11:05am

Submitted by srlinuxx on Thursday 25th of January 2007 11:05:43 AM Filed under [HowTos](#) [1]

All security books will recommend you not to allow root SSH logins to your Linux machines. So most of us (administrators) commonly SSH with our regular user credentials and then use "su" to escalate our privileges in order to perform root tasks. If you do this frequently, sometimes it gets a little confusing to make out if you are currently root or regular user. To determine your current status you probably you end up looking at your prompt or type in "whoami".

In this article, I will show you how to change the color of your prompt when you escalate your privileges to a super-user. This technique is a good way to remind yourself that you are holding high privileges (so don't do anything stupid). This tip is for administrator's convenience and helps out more if you are managing large number of Linux servers.

Step 1: Login and escalate your privileges to a Super-User

I have a regular user account (username=param) on a Linux server. So in this step, I simply login to the server and then used ?su? command to escalate my privileges to a Super-User.

[Full Story](#) [2].

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[1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/98>

[2] http://www.secguru.com/article/change_prompt_color_when_logged_in_as_root