The holidays are coming (Christmas approaching), so I've taken advantage of some spare time to menu-ise commands that I use frequently. Those commands aren't the mere opening of an application and they often require dealing with input and output (in the command line). So I've created `menu.sh` and used `dialog` to craft the following menu, e.g. for operations associated with Techrights. I invoke this menu with the click of one button (of the mouse).

Rianne has a similar menu for commands she often runs (which are long and would otherwise need pasting or typing in length). Her menu looks something like this:

![Menu Image](image_url)

Here's the code (bash file) that renders the menu above (it's really *that* simple!):

```bash
#!/bin/bash
HEIGHT=15
```
WIDTH=40
CHOICE_HEIGHT=4
BACKTITLE="Aloha, Rianne"
TITLE="Rianne @ Ted"
MENU="Choose one of the following options:
  1 "Start VPN"
  2 "REDACTED"
  3 "REDACTED"
  4 "REDACTED"
  5 "REDACTED"
  6 "REDACTED"
  7 "REDACTED"
"

CHOICE=$(dialog --clear
  --backtitle "$BACKTITLE"
  --title "$TITLE"
  --menu "$MENU"
  $HEIGHT $WIDTH $CHOICE_HEIGHT
  "${OPTIONS[@]}"
  2>&1 >/dev/tty)
clear
case $CHOICE in
  1)
    echo "You chose Option 1"
    sh ~/vpn.sh ;;
  2)
    echo "You chose Option 2"
    REDACTED COMMAND ;;
  3)
    echo "You chose Option 3"
    REDACTED COMMAND ;;
  4)
    echo "You chose Option 4"
    REDACTED COMMAND ;;
  5)
    echo "You chose Option 5"
    REDACTED COMMAND ;;
  6)
    echo "You chose Option 6"
    REDACTED COMMAND ;;
  7)
    echo "You chose Option 7"
    REDACTED COMMAND ;;
esac

Hopefully this inspires other people out there to do the same. It takes a while to set up, but it's a big time saver over the long run. 

Howtos

Source URL: http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/131424
Links: