

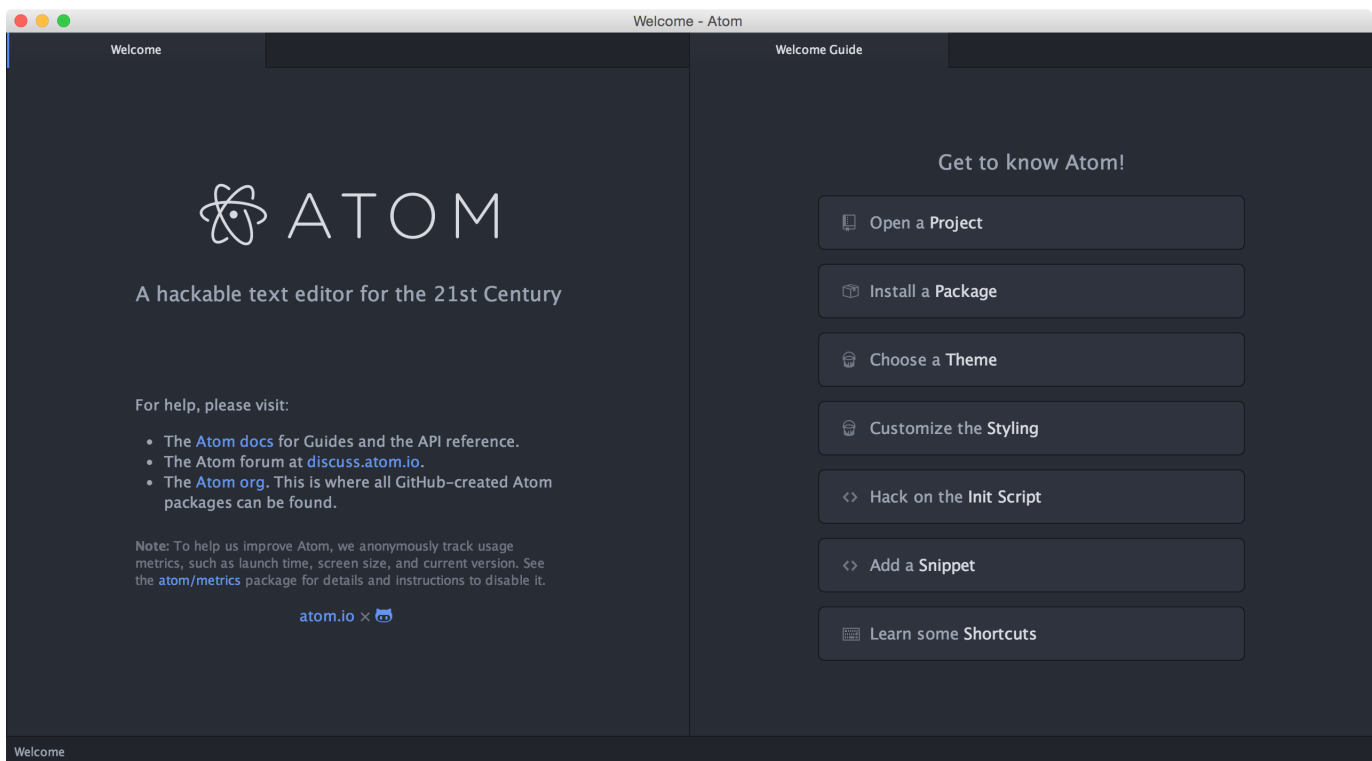


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17 Atom



Why Atom?

If you've set up your environment using a cloud IDE, we suggest sticking with its default text editor. Instead of installing Atom, go to the assignment and complete it.

There are many editors you can use to write code. A robust text editor can make coding more efficient and pleasant. There are many options which all have merit, but the text editor of choice at Bloc is **Atom**. Atom is a text editor that's modern, approachable, customizable, open source, and free. It is built and maintained by GitHub.

If you have a **local** environment setup, the first step is to **download Atom** and install it.

Take Atom for a Test Drive

Open Atom and create a new file named `hello_world.rb`. Type the following lines of code in the editor:

hello_world.rb

```
def hello_world
  puts "hello world"
end
```

Atom automatically highlights and colors important syntax elements of the code. Syntax highlighting improves the readability and context of code. It also helps us find mistakes in code.

Atom Command Line Shortcut

You can use Atom to open files from the command line, which is extremely useful. To open a file in Atom, use the `atom` command that was installed with Atom:

Terminal

```
$ atom hello_world.rb
```

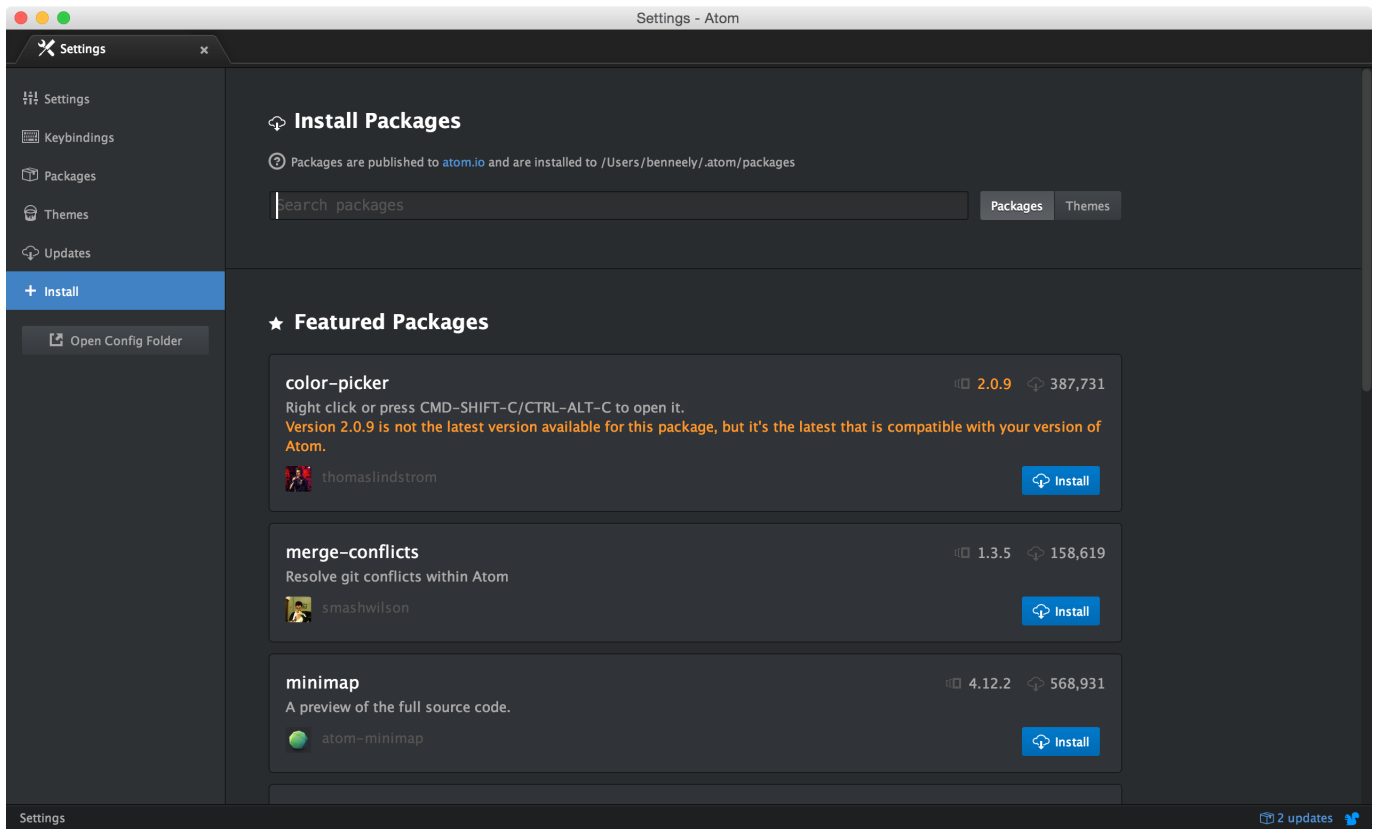
`atom` can also be used to open an entire directory:

Terminal

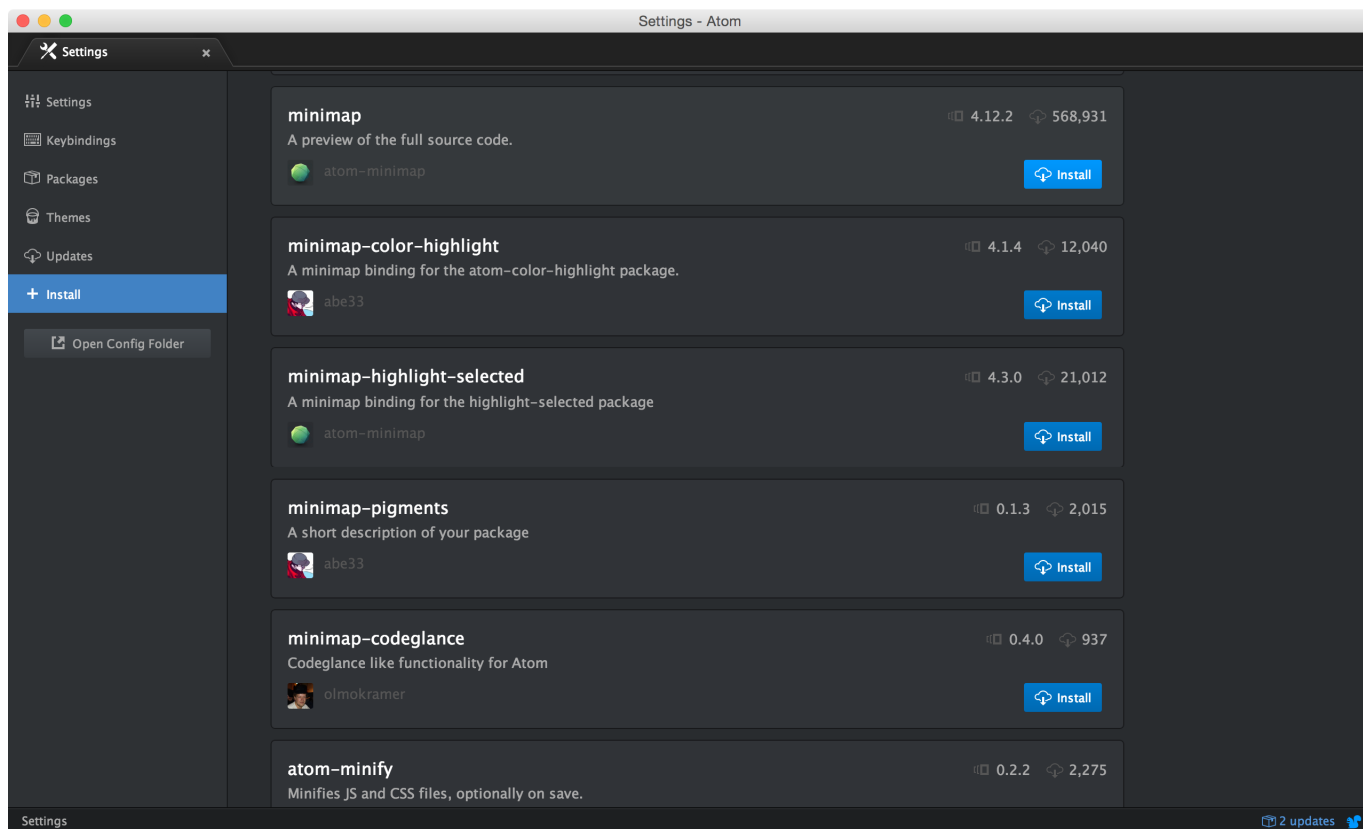
```
$ atom .
```

Package Manager

Atom ships with a built-in package manager which makes it easy to install plugins that make Atom pleasant and productive to work with. Hit `CMD+SHIFT+P` if you're on a Mac or `CTRL+SHIFT+P` if you're using a Windows machine. Start typing "Install Package", select "Setting View: Install Packages and Themes" and hit `enter`. This opens the "Install" section of "Setting":



In the search box, enter "minimap", click enter and scroll down to the "minimap" package and install it:



`minimap` displays a smaller map of the current file to the right of the main window. This is helpful for navigating large files.

There are many other Atom packages and themes, experiment with changing the default Atom theme.

Concept

Description

Atom

Atom is a sophisticated text editor for code, markup, and prose.

`atom` command

The `atom` command opens files and directories in Atom, from the command line.

Atom Package Manager

The Atom Package Manager makes it simple to find, install, and keep packages up-to-date.

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Atom is just one text editor among many others you can use. In this assignment, we'll explore another, Vim. Vim is a command line based text editor, and is installed on almost all Unix and Unix-like operating systems. It is a powerful text editor which you will inevitably encounter during your development journey. If you don't have Vim installed on your computer, search the internet for installation instructions or reach out to your mentor for help on how to get it installed.

1. Open your command line and create a new file with Vim:

Terminal

```
$ vim hello_world_with_vim.rb
```

2. Vim has **several modes** in which it can operate. By default it starts in normal mode. To enter text in the file, switch to insert mode by hitting the `i` key.
3. Enter the following code:

hello_world_with_vim.rb

```
def hello_world  
  puts "hello world, vim is cool!"  
end
```

4. To leave insert mode and return to normal mode, hit the `ESC` key.
5. To save the file and close Vim, enter: `:wq`. This tells Vim to write the changes to disk, and then quit. The `:wq` command is one of many available **vim commands**.
6. Read what you created:

Terminal

```
$ cat hello_world_with_vim.rb
```

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7. We've barely scratched the surface of Vim's power. Explore the **vimtutor** to discover more of the power Vim offers developers.

Message your mentor the contents of `hello_world_with_vim.rb` to complete this assignment.

assignment completed

