How to enable syntax highlighting in Vi/Vim

April 6, 2015

SSH

First ssh into a Linux computer either by using Putty or the terminal

- 1. Using terminal:
 - ssh "StudentID"@jbh3-1.cse.csusb.edu
 - Example: ssh 1234567@jbh3-1.cse.csusb.edu
- 2. Using Putty:
 - In Host Name: jbh3-1.cse.csusb.edu
 - Port: 22
 - Connection type: ssh

Once logged in to the jbh3-1 host, log in to a specific computer in either the 358 or 359 lab

- SSH jb35(8 or 9)-(# of computer)
 - Example: ssh jb359-0

.Vimrc

```
From your root directory "~" [studentID@jb359-0~]$ vi .vimrc [studentID@jb359-0~]$ nano .vimrc Edit the configuration file:
```

All that's needed for syntax highlighting is the following: (note that " is used to denote the beginning of comments)

syntax enable " enable syntax highlighting

You may wish to have additional features, there exists many sample .vimrc files on the internet. It is recommended however to only use configuration which you understand what it is doing.

The following configuration will change the tabs to use 4 spaces:

```
set tabstop=4 " 4 space tab
set expandtab " use spaces for tabs
set softtabstop=4 " make tabs 4 spaces
One more simple configuration to display the line number is as follows:
set number " show line number
```

Sample .vimrc

```
syntax enable " enable syntax highlighting
set tabstop=4 " 4 space tab
set expandtab " use spaces for tabs
set softtabstop=4 " make tabs 4 spaces
set number " show line number
```

Test

Additional Information

Github