How to enable syntax highlighting in Nano and Vi/ Vim (for the impatient)

Alex Krause

Recommendation: I suggest you understand what the following does before running these commands.

SSH

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

1. Using terminal:

   - Example: **ssh 1234567@jbh3-1.cse.csusb.edu**

2. Using Putty:

   - In Host Name: **jbh3-1.cse.csusb.edu**

ssh jb359-0

.Nanorc

To Create your own (customizable)

Run the following:
[studentID@jb359-0 ~]$ **cd ~/; mkdir nano_plugins; cd nano_plugins; wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/scopatz/nanorc/master/c.nanorc; echo include ~/nano_plugins/c.nanorc >> ~/.nanorc**
Now to create your own syntax highlighting rules, edit the **c.nanorc** file. You can also find various other language syntaxes and example **.nanorc** configuration files on the internet.

To link to a working copy (non-customizable)

Run the following:
[studentID@jb359-0 ~]$ **echo include /usr/share/nano/c.nanorc >> ~/.nanorc**

Vi/ Vim

Run the following:
[studentID@jb359-0 ~]$ **printf '%s\n%s\n%s\n%s\n%s\n' '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' >> ~/.vimrc**

Additional Information

Github .nanorc
Github .vimrc