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## UNIX / Linux: Display Large Colourful Text Banner On Screen

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I know how to use old [banner command](#) <sup>[2]</sup> to print a large, high quality banner on the screen or printer. Recently, I saw colorful banner on friends laptop. How do I display large colourful characters on screen, especially on terminal? How do I create colorful text banners on screen?



You can use following two programs to create colourful text banner:

a) **figlet** - Display large characters made up of ordinary screen characters.

b) **toilet** - Prints text using large characters made of smaller characters. It is similar in many ways to FIGlet with additional features such as Unicode handling, colour fonts, filters and various export formats.

## Install figlet and toilet

Use yum or apt-get to install the tools:

```
$ sudo apt-get update
$ sudo apt-get install toilet figlet
```

## How do I use figlet?

Simply use it as follows:

```
$ figlet nixCraft
```

Sample output:

## figlet fonts

The -f option can be used to specify font:

```
$ figlet -f big "nixCraft"
```

Sample output:

The diagram illustrates the decomposition of a tensor product of two representations. The top row shows the tensor product of two representations, each with a box containing a bar over a square. The middle row shows the decomposition into a direct sum of three representations. The bottom row shows the decomposition of each of the three representations into a direct sum of two representations. The diagram uses various symbols like boxes, bars, and arrows to represent the mathematical objects and their relationships.

```
$ figlet -f slant "nixCraft"
```

The `-ct` options centers the text and makes it take up the full width of the terminal:

```
$ figlet -ctf slant "nixCraft"
```

If you don't want FIGlet to smush FIGcharacters into each other, use the -k (kerning) option:

```
$ figlet -k "cyberciti"
```

If figlet gets its input from a file, it is often a good idea to use -p:

```
$ figlet -p < /path/to/file
```

To lists figlet fonts and control files, enter:

```
$ figlist
```

Sample output

```
Default font: standard
Font directory: /usr/share/figlet
Figlet fonts in this directory:
banner
big
block
bubble
digital
ivrit
lean
mini
mnemonic
script
shadow
slant
small
smscript
smshadow
smslant
standard
term
....
..
```

### How do I use toilet command?

Use command as follows:

```
$ toilet -f bigmono9 -F gay nixCraft
$ toilet -f mono12 -F metal nixCraft
```

Sample output:



toilet UNIX / Linux command screenshot

Where,

- -F filter-name: Set filter
- -f fontname : Set font name

To list installed filter, type:

```
$ toilet -F list
```

Sample output:

```
Available filters:
"crop": crop unused blanks
"gay": add a rainbow colour effect
"metal": add a metallic colour effect
"flip": flip horizontally
"flop": flip vertically
"rotate": perform a 180 degrees rotation
```

## Running figlet / toilet automatically

Add command to your ~/.bashrc command so that banner get displayed every time you open terminal or console:

```
echo 'echo "Welcome to"' >> ~/.bashrc
echo 'toilet -f monol2 -F metal nixCraft' >> ~/.bashrc
```

## Recommended readings:

- [figlet home page](#) <sup>[3]</sup>.
- Both commands offers lots of options, fonts and filters. Please read the man page for further details.

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URL to article: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/create-large-colorful-text-banner-on-screen/>

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[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/category/bash-shell/>

[2] banner command: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/banner-print-large-banner-on-printer/>

[3] figlet home page: <http://www.figlet.org/>

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