

# TermAI Themes and Syntax Highlighting

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TermAI provides beautiful syntax highlighting and theming for code, JSON, YAML, XML, and Markdown in both inline and chat modes.

## Available Themes

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TermAI supports several color themes optimized for different terminal backgrounds:

### Dark Themes (For Dark Terminal Backgrounds)

#### 1. dark (Default)

The default dark theme with balanced colors that work well with most dark terminals.

- Best for: General use, dark terminals
- Colors: Balanced blues, greens, and purples
- Optimized for: Ghostty, iTerm2, Terminal.app, VS Code terminal

#### 2. dracula

A popular dark theme with vibrant purple and pink accents.

- Best for: Users who prefer bold, saturated colors
- Colors: Purple, pink, cyan, green
- Inspired by: <https://draculatheme.com/>

#### 3. monokai

Classic dark theme with warm tones.

- Best for: Sublime Text users
- Colors: Yellow, orange, green, pink

#### 4. solarized-dark

Precision colors for machines and people, dark version.

- Best for: Long coding sessions, reduced eye strain
- Colors: Carefully selected for optimal contrast
- More info: <https://ethanschoonover.com/solarized/>

### Light Themes (For Light Terminal Backgrounds)

#### 5. github

GitHub's light theme for code.

- Best for: Light terminal backgrounds
- Colors: Clean, professional look
- Similar to: GitHub's web interface

#### 6. solarized-light

Solarized light version.

- Best for: Light backgrounds, outdoor work
- Colors: Warm, gentle on eyes

## Adaptive Theme

### 7. auto

Automatically detects your terminal's background color and chooses an appropriate theme.

- Best for: Users who switch between light and dark modes
- Behavior: Adapts to terminal settings

## Configuration

### Changing Theme

Edit your config file ( `~/.termai/config.yaml` ) to change the theme:

```
ui:
  theme: "dark"           # Options: dark, dracula, monokai, github, solarized-dark,
solarized-light, auto
  color_output: true      # Enable/disable all color output
  show_thinking: true     # Show AI thinking/reasoning process
```

### Quick Config Edit

```
termai config edit
```

## Syntax Highlighting Features

### Supported Formats

TermAI automatically detects and highlights:

1. **JSON** - Pretty-prints and highlights JSON with color-coded keys, values, and brackets
2. **YAML** - Highlights YAML keys, values, and structure
3. **XML** - Highlights tags, attributes, and content
4. **Markdown** - Renders markdown with headers, lists, code blocks, links, and emphasis
5. **Code Blocks** - Highlights 20+ programming languages including:
  - Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Go, Rust
  - Java, C, C++, C#
  - Ruby, PHP, Swift, Kotlin
  - Shell scripts, SQL, and more

### How It Works

TermAI uses two powerful libraries:

- **Glamour** - For rendering beautiful Markdown with your chosen theme
- **Chroma** - For syntax highlighting code in various languages

The formatter automatically detects content type and applies appropriate highlighting.

## Examples

### JSON Response

When you ask for JSON data, you'll see:

- Green for keys

- Blue for string values
- Purple for numbers
- Gray for brackets and punctuation

## Markdown Response

When the AI responds in Markdown, you'll see:

- Bold headers with colors
- Highlighted code blocks
- Styled lists and quotes
- Colored links

## Code Explanations

When asking about code, the AI's code examples will have:

- Syntax-aware highlighting
- Language-specific colors
- Clear visual structure

## Disabling Syntax Highlighting

If you prefer plain text output or have terminal compatibility issues:










```
ui:
  color_output: false
```

This will disable all ANSI colors and show plain text output.




## Terminal Compatibility

### Fully Supported Terminals

TermAI works best with modern terminals that support 256 colors and Unicode:

-  **Ghostty** (macOS/Linux) - Excellent support
-  **iTerm2** (macOS) - Excellent support
-  **Terminal.app** (macOS) - Good support
-  **Alacritty** (Cross-platform) - Excellent support
-  **kitty** (Cross-platform) - Excellent support
-  **Windows Terminal** (Windows) - Good support
-  **VS Code Terminal** - Good support
-  **tmux** - Good support (ensure 256 color mode)
-  **screen** - Limited support (use `theme: "github"`)

### Basic Support

-  **xterm** - Basic colors only
-  **cmd.exe** (Windows) - Limited color support, use Windows Terminal instead
-  **Basic SSH terminals** - May have limited colors

## Troubleshooting

### Colors Not Showing

1. Check if your terminal supports 256 colors:

```
bash
```

```
echo $TERM
```

Should show `xterm-256color` or similar.

2. Set terminal to 256 color mode (for tmux):

```
bash
```

```
export TERM=screen-256color
```

```
# or
```

```
export TERM=tmux-256color
```

3. Try a different theme:

```
yaml
```

```
ui:
```

```
  theme: "github" # Light theme might work better
```

4. Check terminal preferences:

- Enable "Use bright colors for bold text"
- Enable "ANSI colors"
- Set color scheme to support 256 colors

### Garbled Output

If you see weird characters instead of colors:

```
ui:
  color_output: false # Disable all colors
```

### Theme Not Applying

1. Ensure config is saved properly:

```
bash
```

```
termai config show
```

2. Restart TermAI after config changes
3. Check for typos in theme name

## Theme Development

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Want to contribute a new theme? Here's how:

1. Themes are defined in `internal/ui/formatter.go`
2. For markdown themes, see Glamour documentation: <https://github.com/charmbracelet/glamour>
3. For code themes, see Chroma styles: <https://github.com/alecthomas/chroma>

## Best Practices

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1. **Choose theme based on your terminal background**

- Dark background → Use `dark`, `dracula`, or `monokai`

- Light background → Use `github` or `solarized-light`
- Switching often → Use `auto`

## 2. For presentations or screenshots

- Use `dracula` for vibrant colors
- Use `github` for clean, professional look

## 3. For long coding sessions

- Use `solarized-dark` for reduced eye strain

## 4. When sharing output

- Consider `color_output: false` for plain text
- Or use `github` theme for universal compatibility

# Examples by Use Case

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## Data Science / JSON/YAML Heavy

```
ui:  
  theme: "monokai" # Great for data structures
```

## Writing Documentation

```
ui:  
  theme: "github" # Clean markdown rendering
```

## Code Review / Development

```
ui:  
  theme: "dracula" # Excellent syntax highlighting
```

## SSH / Remote Work

```
ui:  
  theme: "dark" # Good compatibility  
  color_output: true
```

# Getting Help

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If you have theme issues:

1. Check this documentation
2. Verify terminal capabilities: `echo $TERM`
3. Try `theme: "auto"` to let TermAI choose
4. Try `color_output: false` as a fallback
5. Report issues at: <https://github.com/user/termai/issues>

# Credits

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- Glamour: <https://github.com/charmbracelet/glamour>

- Chroma: <https://github.com/alecthomas/chroma>
- Lipgloss: <https://github.com/charmbracelet/lipgloss>
- Dracula Theme: <https://draculatheme.com/>
- Solarized: <https://ethanschoonover.com/solarized/>