### Customizing Your Shell with Dotfiles

FayettePy Meetup | 05.2020 | Clayton Parker

## Who Am I?



## Why?

Make life easier<sup>†</sup>, save settings, personalize your shell



Getting work done

Editing my dotfiles

<sup>†</sup>as long as you don't obsess about it too much!

# Examples

#### Vanilla macOS terminal

```
0 0 0
                               Terminal — -zsh -f — 85×30
Last login: Thu May 21 15:59:10 on ttys034
[mbp-cparker% ls -a ~/.dotfiles
                         .mv.cnf
                                                  .zsh
                         .pdbrc.py
                                                  .zsh.d
.Xmodmap
                         .pentadactyl
                                                  .zshenv
.ackrc
                         .pentadactylrc
                                                  .zshprompt
.bash profile
                         .proselintrc
                                                  .zshprompt_dos
                                                  .zshprompt_simple
.bashrc
                         .pryrc
                         .psqlrc
.chunkwmrc
                                                  .zshrc
.commonenv
                                                  README.mdown
                         .pystartup
                         .ripgreprc
                                                  authorized_keys
.commonfuncs
.commonprofile
                         .rubocop.vml
                                                  awesome
.commonrc
                         .screenrc
                                                  config
.conky
                         .skhdrc
                                                  create_links.sh
                                                  fabfile.py
                         .tmux
.ctags
                         .tmux.conf
                                                  gem_list.txt
.editrc
                         .ttvtterrc
                                                  kittv.conf
.gemrc
.git
                         .vim
                                                  meetup.md
.gitconfig
                         .vim lite.vim
                                                  ruby_syntax.patch
.gitignore
                         .vim_plugins.vim
                                                  servers
.hgrc
                         .vimpagerrc
                                                  tree_style_tabs.css
.i3
                         .vimperator
                                                  userChrome.css
.inputrc
                         .vimperatorrc
                                                  venvs
.irbrc
                         .vimrc
                                                  vscode
                                                  vamllint
.irssi
                         .xmodmaprc
.mdlrc
                         .zprofile
mbp-cparker%
```

### Customized Kitty terminal, running tmux, with customized prompt, theme, fonts and aliases

```
mbp-cparker (u:clayton.parker)

─ 16:42 Thu, May 21 ─ /Users/clayton.parker ─ 
  (u:clayton.parker)
— mbp-cparker% — ls -a ~/.dotfiles
                    .harc
                                         .tmux/
                                                              .zshrc
                    .i3/
                                         .tmux.conf
                                                              README.mdown
                                                              authorized_keys
.Xmodmap
                    .inputrc
                                         .ttytterrc
.ackrc
                    .irbrc
                                         .vim/
                                                              awesome/
.bash_profile
                                         .vim_lite.vim
                    .irssi/
                                                              config
                                         .vim_plugins.vim
                                                              create links.sh*
.bashrc
                    .mdlrc
                                         .vimpagerrc
                    .my.cnf
                                                              fabfile.py
.chunkwmrc*
                    .pdbrc.py
                                         .vimperator/
                                                              gem_list.txt
.commonenv
                    .pentadactyl/
                                                              kitty.conf
.commonfuncs
                                         .vimperatorrc
.commonprofile
                    .pentadactylrc
                                                              meetup.md
                                         .vimrc
                                                              ruby_syntax.patch
.commonrc
                    .proselintrc
                                         .xmodmaprc
                                         .zprofile
.conky/
                    .pryrc
                                                              servers
.ctaqs
                    .psalrc
                                         .zsh/
                                                              tree style tabs.css
                    .pystartup
                                         .zsh.d/
                                                              userChrome.css
.editrc
.gemrc
                    .ripgreprc
                                         .zshenv
                                                              venvs/
.git/
                    .rubocop.yml
                                         .zshprompt
                                                              vscode/
                                         .zshprompt_dos
                                                              yamllint
.gitconfig
                    .screenrc
.gitignore
                    .skhdrc
                                         .zshprompt simple

─ 16:43 Thu, May 21 ─ /Users/clayton.parker ──
  (u:clayton.parker)
— mbp-cparker% — ■
                                                                         mbp-cparker
       1* > example
                                                    2020-05-21 < 16:43 <
```

#### Writing this presentation in vim on Linux running i3 window manager

```
. 61
! 62 ???
! 63 A stock macos terminal running ZSH, pretty boring affair
! 65 ---
! 66
! 67 ![:scale 100%](images/macos_kitty_custom.png)
! 69 ???
! 70 - I've changed quite a few things here
! 71 - terminal program
! 72 - prompt
! 73 - ls alias
! 74 - syntax highlighting current command
! 75 - tmux statusline
  76
  77 ---
  78
! 79 ![:scale 100%](images/this_presentation.png)
. 80
! 81 ---
! 82
83

─ 16:30 Thu, May 21 ─ /home/clayton/Documents/DotfilesIndy/beginners ─ 
  (master | +1...)
centaurus% — 1s
images/ remark.html slides.md

— 16:30 Thu, May 21 ─ /home/clayton/Documents/DotfilesIndy/beginners ─ 
  (master | +1...)
└ centaurus% ─
                   2* > present
                                                                 2020-05-21 ( 16:33 ( centaurus
```

### Pick A Shell

Bash (widely available standard),

ZSH (superset of Bash)

Fish (newer generation with more advanced defaults)

Other more esoteric options which might have less community support

# Start Configuring

If you do something repetitively, add to your dotfiles

#### Stock 1s with no customization

```
% ls images remark.html slides.md
```

#### Manually specify the switches to get more information

```
% ls -alhF

total 24K

drwxr-xr-x 4 clayton clayton 4.0K May 21 16:55 ./

drwxrwxr-x 3 clayton clayton 4.0K May 20 13:47 ../

drwxrwxr-x 8 clayton clayton 4.0K May 21 16:55 .git/

drwxr-xr-x 2 clayton clayton 4.0K May 21 16:46 images/

-rw-rw-r-- 1 clayton clayton 1.5K May 21 14:44 remark.html

-rw-rw-r-- 1 clayton clayton 2.1K May 21 16:55 slides.md
```

Add an alias and load the changes (or restart your terminal)

```
% vim ~/.zshrc
alias ll="ls -alhF"

% source ~/.zshrc
```

#### Now you don't need to always specify the switches

```
% ll
total 24K
drwxr-xr-x 4 clayton clayton 4.0K May 21 16:55 ./
drwxrwxr-x 3 clayton clayton 4.0K May 20 13:47 ../
drwxrwxr-x 8 clayton clayton 4.0K May 21 16:55 .git/
drwxr-xr-x 2 clayton clayton 4.0K May 21 16:46 images/
-rw-rw-r-- 1 clayton clayton 1.5K May 21 14:44 remark.html
-rw-rw-r-- 1 clayton clayton 2.1K May 21 16:55 slides.md
```

## What Next?

Simple changes are easy, where do we go from here

# **Config Frameworks**

Use community driven tools like Oh My Zsh, Bash-it or YADR

# **Multiple Machines**

Solutions for distributing your dotfiles

## Minimal solution

Git + bash script

Simplicity and learning all the things, but no advanced features without writing them all

## Dotfile manager

Plethora of options including yadm, dotbot and rcm

Lots of features and updates but with the potential cost of dependencies, updating woes and overhead

## Not Just Your Shell

REPL, Readline, VCS, Editors, Operating Systems, Tiling Window Managers, etc.

### Links

- My Dotfiles
- GitHub Dotfiles
- Awesome Dotfiles
- yadm and Homeschick Walkthrough

Tons of awesome dotfiles repos on GitHub to find inspiration from, just search for the file you are trying to customize