Lab - Install and Configure Conky System Monitor

In this lab, you will learn to install a system monitor and configure the monitor to display on your Linux desktop. Conky is a free software system monitor available for Linux, FreeBSD, and OpenBSD. Conky is highly configurable and can monitor many system variables including the status of the CPU, memory, swap space, disk storage, temperatures, processes, network interfaces, battery power, system messages, e-mail inboxes, Arch Linux updates, many popular music players (MPD, XMMS2, BMPx, Audacious, etc.), weather updates, breaking news, and much more. Unlike system monitors that use high-level widget toolkits to render their information, Conky is drawn directly in an X window. This allows it to consume relatively fewer system resources when configured similarly.

```
dnf -y install conky
```

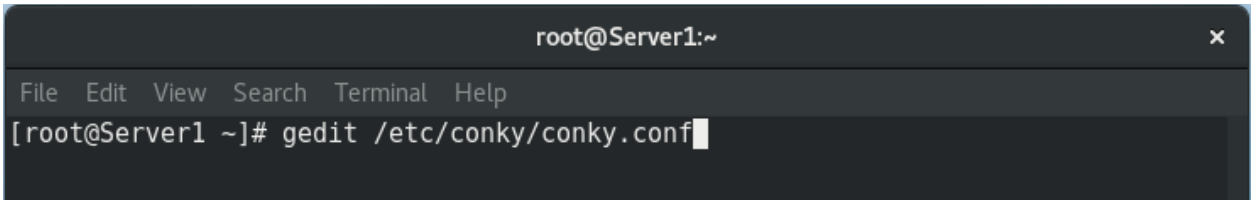
```
[root@syberoffense ~]# dnf -y install conky
```

Conky can be configured for numerous desktop displays, or you can work with the default. Out of the box, it comes with a very long display. I'm a minimalist, so I don't require every bit of information on my machine to be monitored.

We will now edit the conky config file with my display. There are dozens of displays to choose from, and the config files are very easy to work with. This is my display; you are free to use or create one of your own design.

Open a terminal and type the following command:

```
gedit /etc/conky/conky.conf
```



The above command opens the conky,conf file for editing.

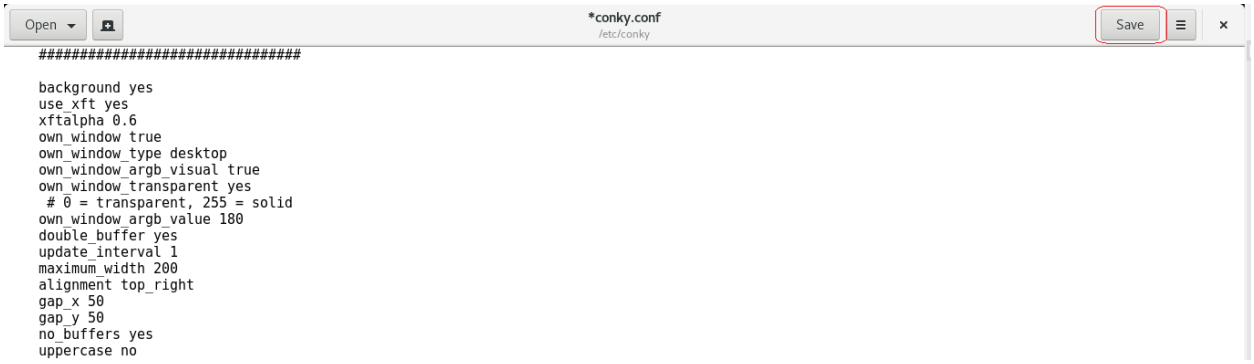
Select all the text in the conky.conf file and replace it with the following:

```
##############################

background yes
   use_xft yes
   xftalpha 0.6
   own_window true
   own_window_type desktop
```

```
    own_window_argb_visual true
    own_window_transparent yes
     # 0 = transparent, 255 = solid
    own_window_argb_value 180
    double_buffer yes
    update_interval 1
    maximum_width 200
    alignment top_right
    gap_x 50
    gap_y 50
    no_buffers yes
    uppercase no
    cpu_avg_samples 5
    net_avg_samples 5
    diskio_avg_samples 5
    if_up_strictness address
    draw_shades no
    draw_outline no
    draw_borders no
    draw_graph_borders no
    default_color lightgray
    default_shade_color red
    default_outline_color green
    short_units true
    use_spacer none
    xftfont DejaVu Sans Mono:size=10
    template0 ${font Open Sans:Bold:size=10}${color
dodgerblue3}1 ${hr 2}$color${font}${voffset 1}
    template1 1 ${alignr 80}${fs_bar 1}
    template2 ${1 name 2}${alignr}${1 3 2} %
    template3 ${if_up 1}${template0 2}ndown $alignr
${downspeed 1}/snup $alignr ${upspeed 1}/sntotal
down$alignr${totaldown 1}ntotal up $alignr${totalup 1}$endif
    #${execi 30 sudo hddtemp /dev/sda | grep '/dev/sda:' | cut
-c28-29}°C

    TEXT
${font Neuropolitical:pixelsize=25}${alignr}SyberOffense
${color #1793d0}
${alignc}${color  white}${font
Neuropolitical:pixelsize=11}${time %A %d %B %Y}${font}
$stippled_hr
${template5 SYSTEM INFORMATION}
${color1}Hostname: ${color2}$nodename
${color1}Kernel: ${color2}$kernel
${color1}Time: ${color2}${time %Y-%m-%d %H:%M}
$stippled_hr
```

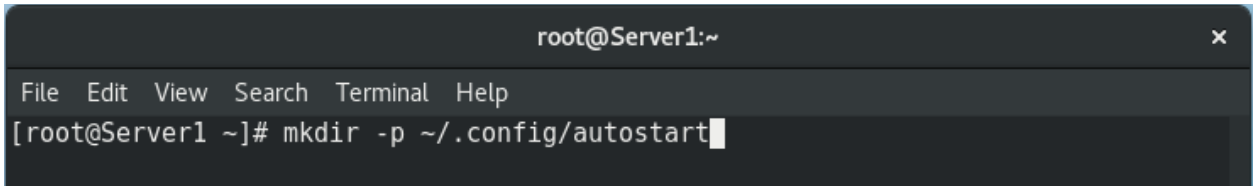
```
${color1}Uptime: ${color2}$uptime_short
$stippled_hr
${color1}IP Add:${color2}${addr eth0}
${color1}GW Add:${color2}${gw_ip}
${color1}Download Speed: ${color2}${downspeed eth0} Kb/s
$stippled_hr

  ##############################
```

Save the file.



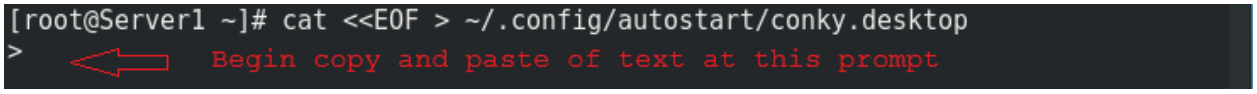
To have Conky load at startup, do the following:

Open a terminal and type the following:



At the terminal, type the following:

```
cat <<EOF > ~/.config/autostart/conky.desktop
```



At the great then sign (>) copy and paste the following

```
[Desktop Entry]
Type=Application
Exec=/usr/bin/conky
Hidden=false
NoDisplay=false
```

```
X-GNOME-Autostart-enabled=true
Name=conky
Comment=
EOF
```

When you are all done, your prompt should look like this:

```
[root@Server1 ~]# cat <<EOF > ~/.config/autostart/conky.desktop
> [Desktop Entry]
> Type=Application
> Exec=/usr/bin/conky
> Hidden=false
> NoDisplay=false
> X-GNOME-Autostart-enabled=true
> Name=conky
> Comment=
> EOF
[root@Server1 ~]#
```

Hit enter.

At the prompt type: `sudo reboot`

After the reboot, you should see the following desktop display in the upper right corner of your desktop.

End of the lab!