Clovis Follow

Feb 4, 2018 · 6 min read · Listen

Configuration of a beautiful (efficient) terminal and prompt on OSX in 7minutes

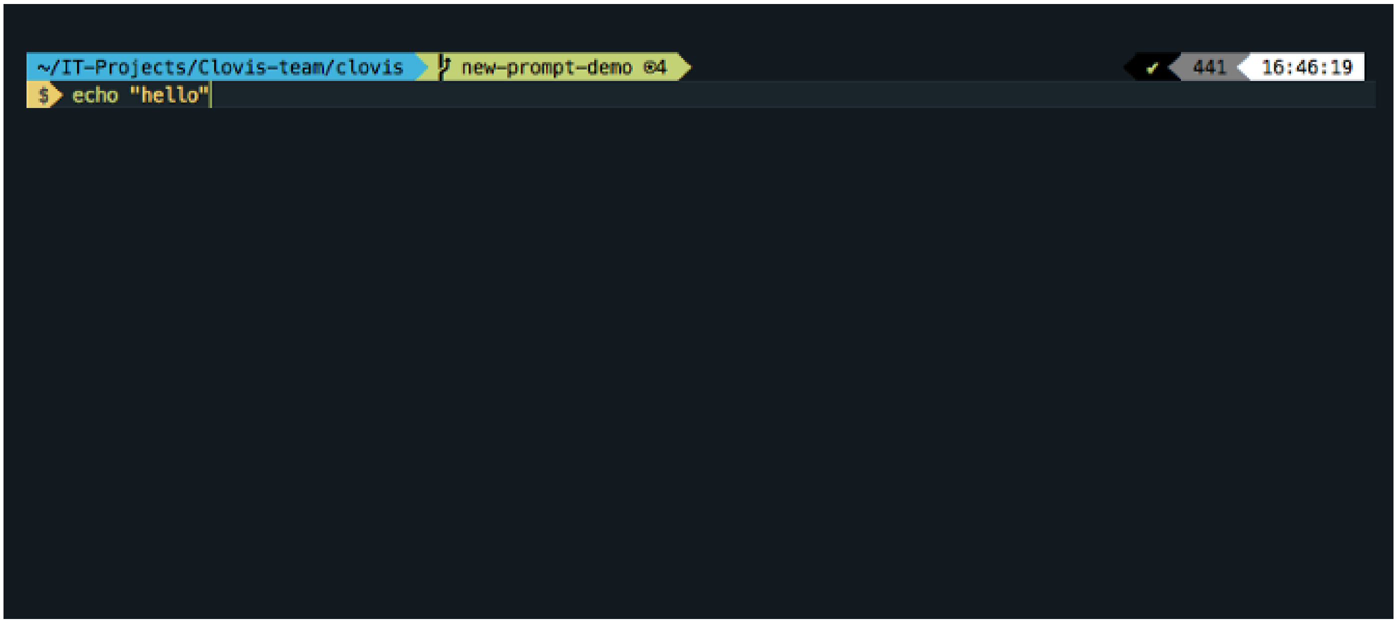
Here at www.clovis.pro, we changed our prompt to a more functional one for a :

🎬 Better visualisation of git status
🏎 Faster shell autocompletions
💮 Daily coding comfort

Obviously we didn't want to spend hours with shell configuration and customization like many people do… That's why we made this article !

Don't hesitate to add enhancement suggestions, and follow the author on github: @Aarbel 👐

The result
🏖

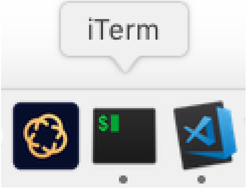


```
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  new-prompt-demo ⊕4                                   ✔  441  16:46:19
$ echo "hello"
```

The process to get it

🥋

1. Install and configure iTerm2



```
$ brew cask install iterm2
```

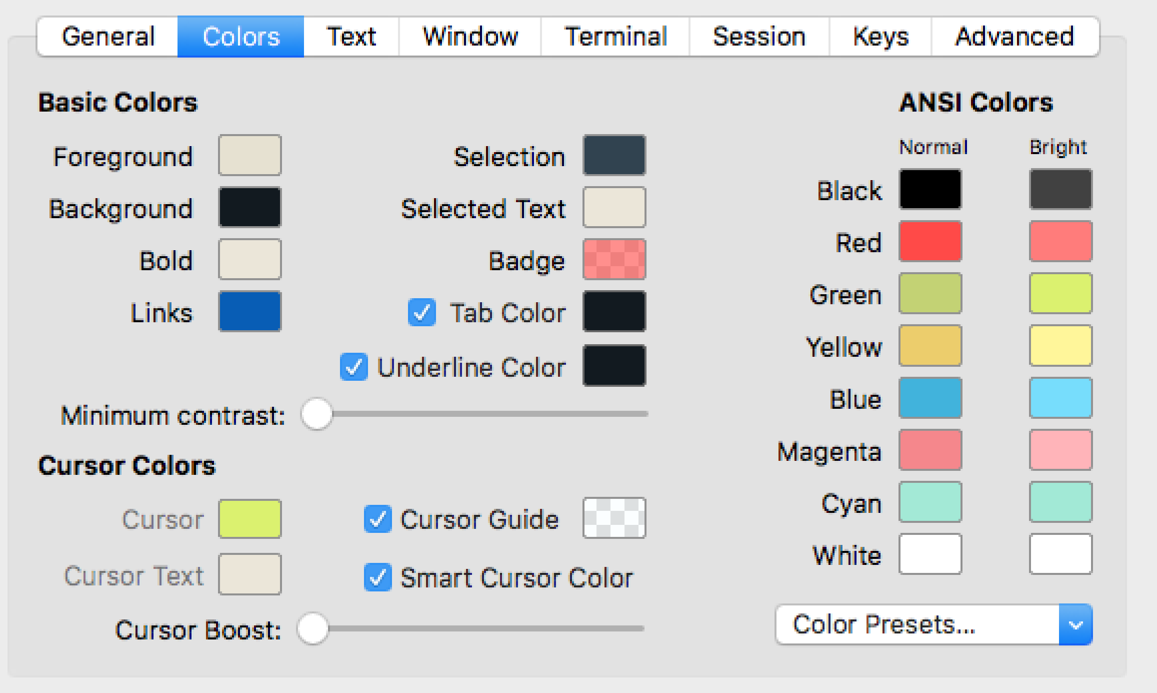
If you don't have installed homebrew (you should… ;)), download and install iTerm2 (it has better color fidelity than the built in Terminal, so your themes will look better).

Choose your Iterm2 color scheme

- you can use Clovis' iTerm2 color scheme file 🎁 (the one in the screenshot)
- or scroll many opensource iTerm2 color schemes here
- … and download your desired preset's file here

Apply the color scheme in iTerm2

```
iTerm → Preferences → Profiles → Colors → Color presets → Import
Then again, Color presets → you–color–scheme–name
```



Basic Colors

Foreground
Background
Bold
Links
Selection
Selected Text
Badge
☑ Tab Color
☑ Underline Color
Minimum contrast:

Cursor Colors

Cursor
Cursor Text
☑ Cursor Guide
☑ Smart Cursor Color
Cursor Boost:

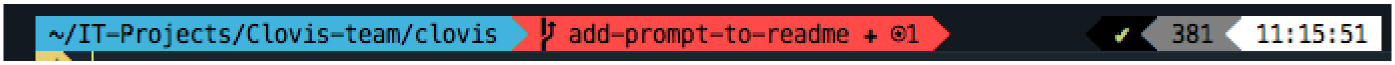
ANSI Colors

	Normal	Bright
Black	⬛	⬛
Red	🟥	🟥
Green	🟩	🟩
Yellow	🟨	🟨
Blue	🟦	🟦
Magenta	🟥	🟥
Cyan	🟩	🟩
White	⬜	⬜

Color Presets...

2. Install a patched font

The patched font is the font used by iTerm2 to display characters, and you'll need a special one for special characters like arrows and git icons.



```
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  add-prompt-to-readme + ⊙1          ✔  381  11:15:51
```

You'll get this result at the end, keep calm and follow this doc

Download and install the font

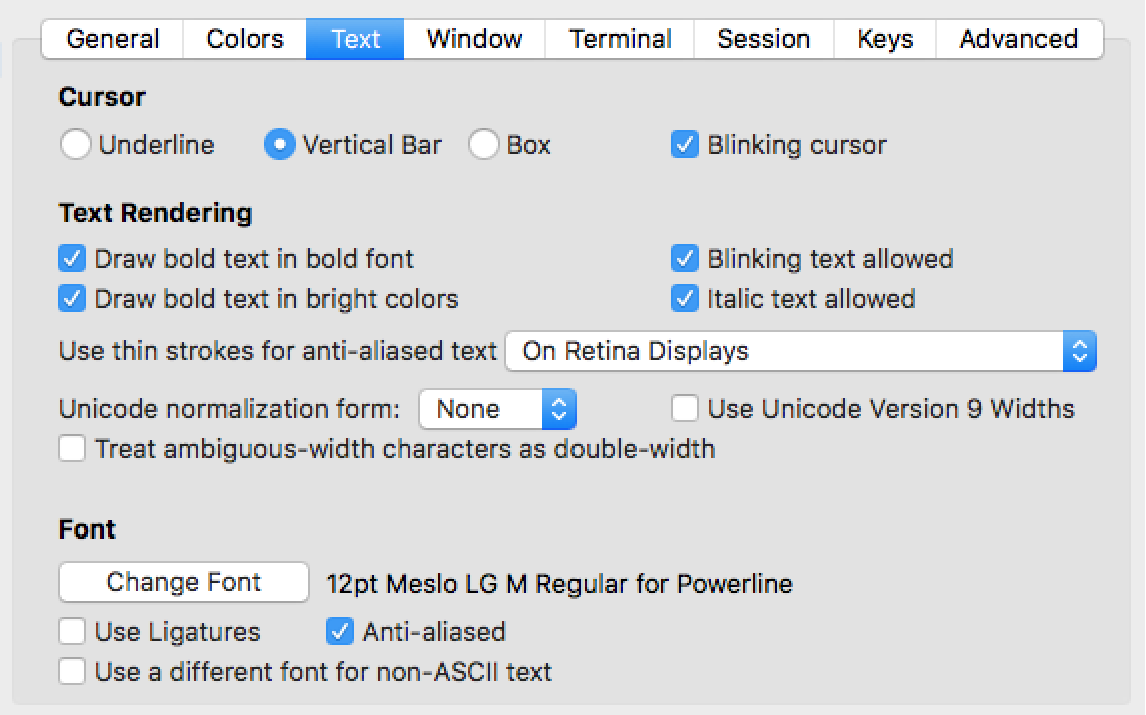
- Meslo (recommanded, ie the one in the screenshot). Click "view raw" to download the font.
- Source Code Pro has better alignment for the glyphs @14px.
- Others powerline fonts

Open the downloaded font and press “Install Font” on your computer.

Add the font in iTerm2

(font size of 12pt is our personal preference)

```
iTerm2 → Preferences → Profiles → Text → Change Font
```



Cursor

○ Underline ● Vertical Bar ○ Box ☑ Blinking cursor

Text Rendering

☑ Draw bold text in bold font ☑ Blinking text allowed

☑ Draw bold text in bright colors ☑ Italic text allowed

Use thin strokes for anti-aliased text: On Retina Displays

Unicode normalization form: None □ Use Unicode Version 9 Widths

□ Treat ambiguous-width characters as double-width

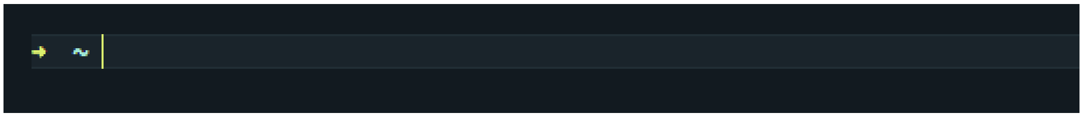
Font

Change Font 12pt Meslo LG M Regular for Powerline

□ Use Ligatures ☑ Anti-aliased

□ Use a different font for non-ASCII text

3. Install Zsh and Oh my Zsh



```
➜ ~
```

Don’t mind, you are close !

Zsh is a shell that provides many features, like better files and folders navigation. To install it :

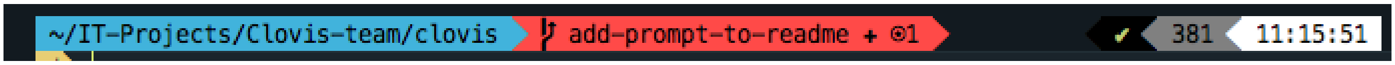
```
brew install zsh zsh-completions
```

Oh my Zsh is a Zsh configuration framework, you can read more here: github.com/robbyrussell/oh-my-zsh.
To install it :

```
$ sh -c "$(curl -fsSL https://raw.github.com/robbyrussell/oh-my-
zsh/master/tools/install.sh)"
```

💡 In the next steps you'll need to edit the `~/.zshrc` configuration file which is run when the terminal starts. At any time you can compare it with **Clovis .zshrc configuration file** 🎁

4. Add Powerlevel9k Zsh Theme



```
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  add-prompt-to-readme ✚ ⊙1        ✔  381  11:15:51
```

The Powerlevel9k zsh theme adds many other features like a right promp with infos such as exit codes and timestamps. To install it run :

```
$ git clone https://github.com/bhilburn/powerlevel9k.git ~/.oh-my-
zsh/custom/themes/powerlevel9k
```

Then edit `~/.zshrc` configuration file and set

```
ZSH_THEME="powerlevel9k/powerlevel9k"
```

Boom.

Powerlevel9k offers a whole lot more, best is to follow the next steps or check out these user made configs.

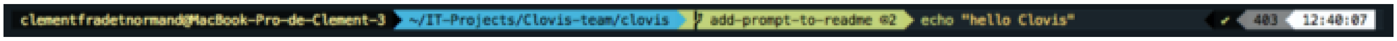
5. Final tweaking

- shorter prompt

- enable text editor navigation
- auto suggestions
- syntax highlighting
- new line after each prompt
- change color of warning git status
- change Iterm2 tabs color

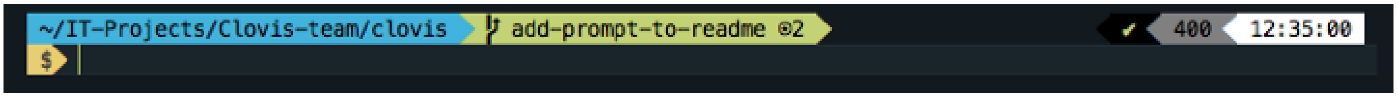
Shorter prompt

Here you can remove the user@hostname and unnecessary informations + put the command line on a second prompt line :



```
clementfradetnormand@MacBook-Pro-de-Clement-3  ~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  add-prompt-to-readme ⊕2  echo "hello Clovis"        ✔  403  12:40:07
```

Before…



```
 ~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  add-prompt-to-readme ⊕2                ✔  400  12:35:00
 $ 
```

After 💮

You can choose your prompt elements and make them as on the screenshots. Just add these lines to your `~/.zshrc` configuration file :

```
POWERLEVEL9K_LEFT_PROMPT_ELEMENTS=(dir rbenv vcs)
POWERLEVEL9K_RIGHT_PROMPT_ELEMENTS=(status root_indicator
background_jobs history time)
```

Moreover to make the two lines prompt you have to add this :

```
POWERLEVEL9K_PROMPT_ON_NEWLINE=true
```

💄✨ and to make it beautifull with the $ character add these other lines:

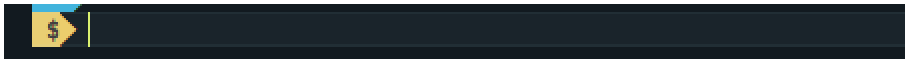
```
# Add a space in the first prompt
POWERLEVEL9K_MULTILINE_FIRST_PROMPT_PREFIX="%f"

# Visual customisation of the second prompt line
local user_symbol="$"
if [[ $(print -P "%#") =~ "#" ]]; then
    user_symbol = "#"
fi
POWERLEVEL9K_MULTILINE_LAST_PROMPT_PREFIX="%{%B%F{black}%K{yellow}%}
$user_symbol%{%b%f%k%F{yellow}%}  %{%f%}"
```

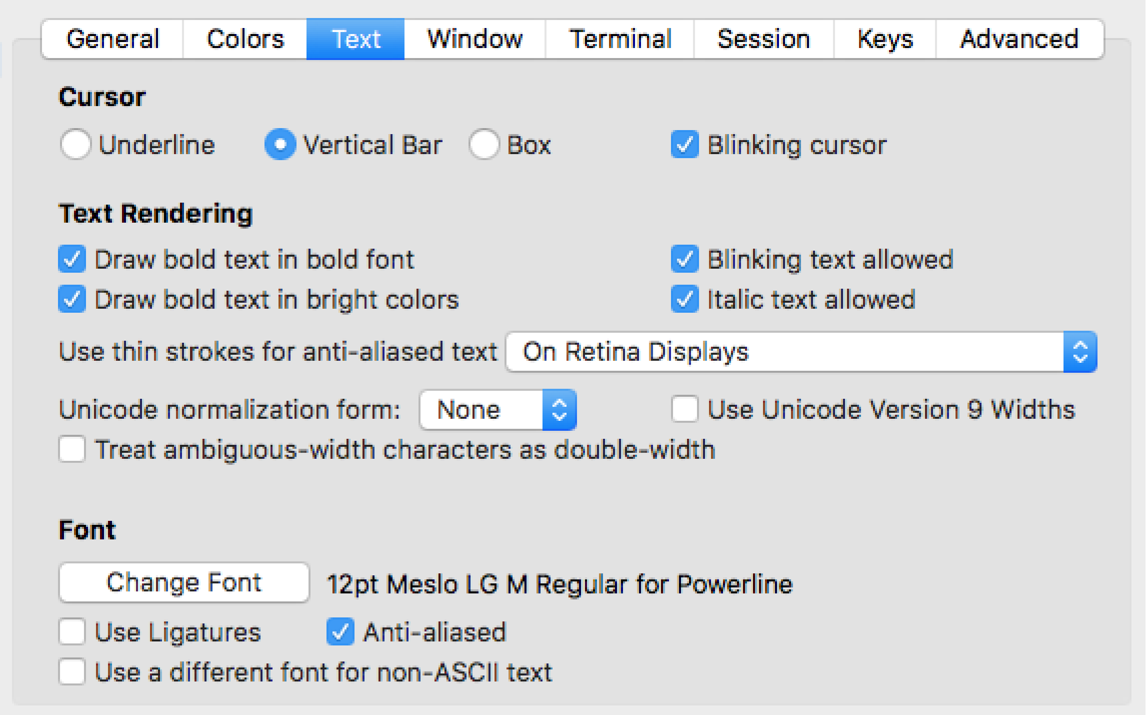
You can read more about POWERLEVEL9K prompts options here, and deeper customizations here: code.tutsplus.com/tutorials/how-to-customize-your-command-prompt — net-24083

Enable text editor navigation

Vertical cursor



```
iTerm2 → Preferences → Profiles → Text
→ Cursor : ✓ Vertical Bar
→ Blinking cursor : ✓ ON
```



Cursor

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12pt Meslo LG M Regular for Powerline

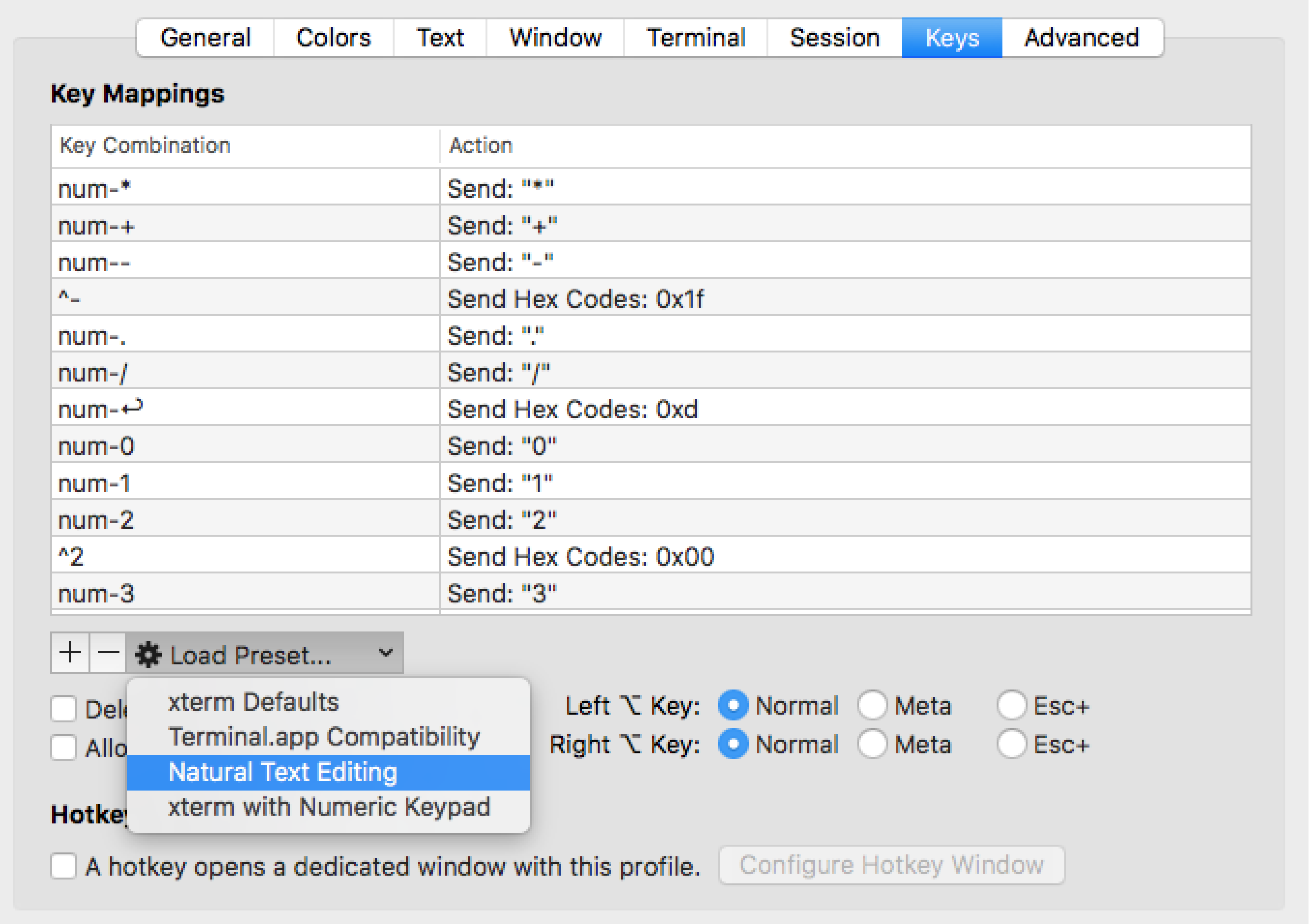
☐ Use Ligatures ☑ Anti-aliased

☐ Use a different font for non-ASCII text

Text navigation with keyboard

Moreover, by default, word jumps (option + → or ←) and word deletions (option + backspace) do not work on iTerm2. To enable them, go to :

```
iTerm → Preferences → Profiles → Keys → Load Preset… → Natural Text
Editing
```



Key Mappings

Key Combination	Action
num-*	Send: "*"
num-+	Send: "+"
num--	Send: "-"
^-	Send Hex Codes: 0x1f
num-.	Send: "."
num-/	Send: "/"
num-↩	Send Hex Codes: 0xd
num-0	Send: "0"
num-1	Send: "1"
num-2	Send: "2"
^2	Send Hex Codes: 0x00
num-3	Send: "3"

□ Del

□ Allo

Left ⌥ Key: ● Normal ○ Meta ○ Esc+

Right ⌥ Key: ● Normal ○ Meta ○ Esc+

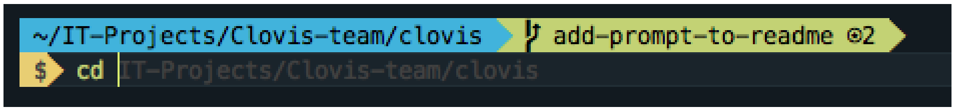
Hotke

□ A hotkey opens a dedicated window with this profile.

Restart iTerm2 for all changes to take effect.

Auto suggestions (for Oh My Zsh)

This plugin suggests the commands you used in your terminal history. You just have to type → to fill it entirely !



```
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  add-prompt-to-readme ⊙2
$ cd IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis
```

```
$ git clone https://github.com/zsh-users/zsh-autosuggestions
$ZSH_CUSTOM/plugins/zsh-autosuggestions
```

```
Note: $ZSH_CUSTOM/plugins path is by default ~/.oh-my-
zsh/custom/plugins
```

Add the plugin to the list of plugins in `~/.zshrc` configuration file :

```
plugins=(
    …
    zsh-autosuggestions
)
```

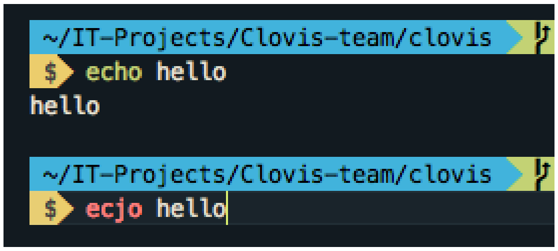
Start a new terminal session.

More details here : github.com/tarruda/zsh-autosuggestions#oh-my-zsh

Note : if the auto suggestions do not appear to show, it could be a problem with your color scheme. Under “iTerm → Preferences → Colors tab”, check the value of Black Bright, that is the color your auto suggestions will have. It will be displayed on top of the Background color. If there is not enough contrast between the two, you won’t see the suggestions even if they’re actually there..

Syntax highlighting

The highlighting shows if commands are installed and known by the shell, and gives better output colors.



```
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis
$ echo hello
hello

~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis
$ ecjo hello
```

```
$ brew install zsh-syntax-highlighting
```

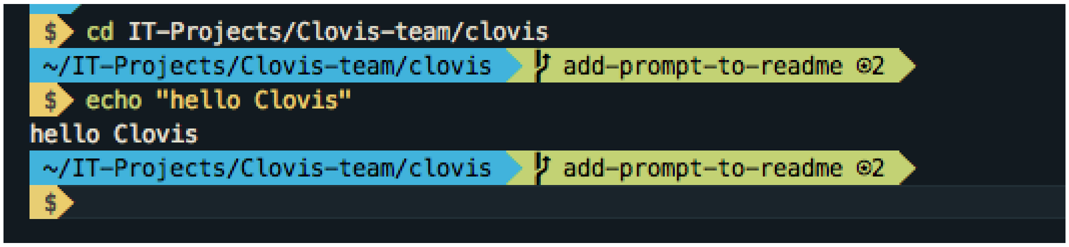
If you do not have or do not like homebrew, follow the installation instructions instead.

After installation through homebrew, add the next line to the end of your `~/.zshrc` file :

```
source /usr/local/share/zsh-syntax-highlighting/zsh-syntax-
highlighting.zsh
```

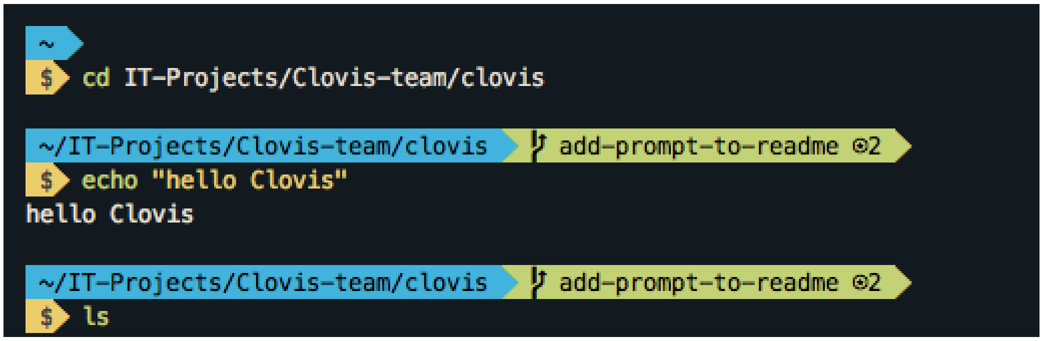
After that, it's best to restart your terminal. Sourcing your `~/.zshrc` file with `source ~/.zshrc` command does not seem to work well with this plugin.

New line after each prompt



```
 $  cd IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  ⎇ add-prompt-to-readme ⊙2
 $  echo "hello Clovis"
hello Clovis
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  ⎇ add-prompt-to-readme ⊙2
 $ 
```

Before



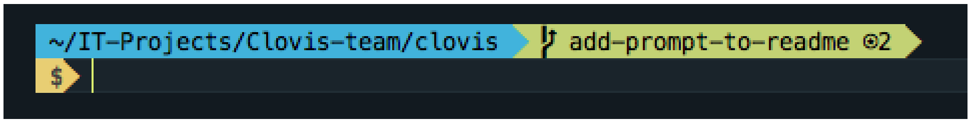
```
~
 $  cd IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis

~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  ⎇ add-prompt-to-readme ⊙2
 $  echo "hello Clovis"
hello Clovis

~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  ⎇ add-prompt-to-readme ⊙2
 $  ls
```

After (better readability)

Again, add this lines to your `~/.zshrc` configuration file :

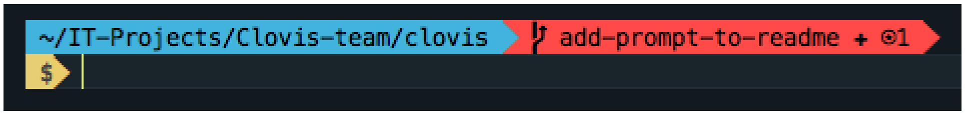
```
POWERLEVEL9K_PROMPT_ADD_NEWLINE=true
```

Change color of warning git status



```
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  ⎇ add-prompt-to-readme ⊙2
 $ 
```

Before



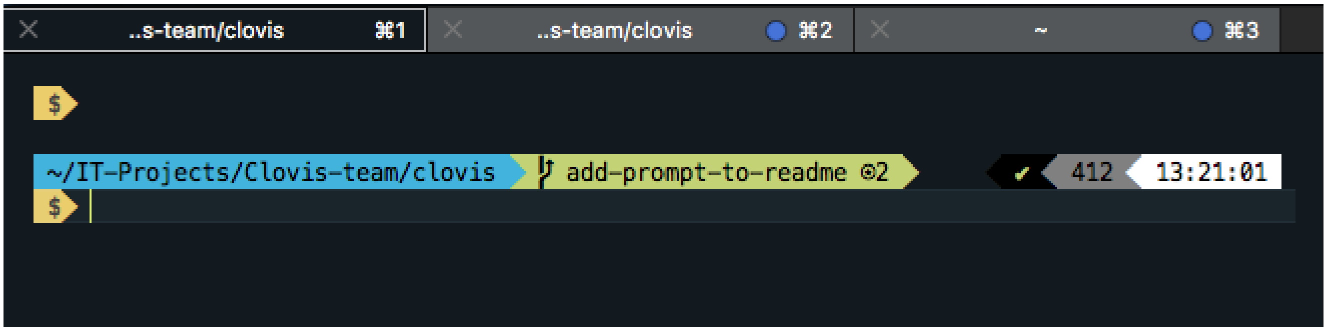
```
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  ⎇ add-prompt-to-readme + ⊙1
 $ 
```

After

You can set it as red for better readability (and not orange). Just add this line:

```
POWERLEVEL9K_VCS_MODIFIED_BACKGROUND='red'
```

Change color of iTerm2 Tabs



```
$
~/IT-Projects/Clovis-team/clovis  add-prompt-to-readme ⊛2          ✔ 412 13:21:01
$
```

The final UI isn't perfect, but is better

Same game, just add these lines at the end of `~/.zshrc` configuration file and restart your term:

```
# Colorise the top Tabs of Iterm2 with the same color as background
# Just change the 18/26/33 wich are the rgb values
echo -e "\033]6;1;bg;red;brightness;18\a"
echo -e "\033]6;1;bg;green;brightness;26\a"
echo -e "\033]6;1;bg;blue;brightness;33\a"
```

6. Visual Studio Code config

Installing a patched font will mess up the integrated terminal in VS Code unless you use the proper settings. You'll need to go to settings (CMD + ,) and add or edit the following values:

- for Meslo: `"terminal.integrated.fontFamily": "Meslo LG M for Powerline"`
- for Source Code Pro: `"terminal.integrated.fontFamily": "Source Code Pro for Powerline"`
- for other fonts you'll need to check the font name in Font Book.

You can also set the font size e.g.: `"terminal.integrated.fontSize": 12`

🚀

Follow the author on github : @Aarbel

Sources :
https://github.com/chris-murray/powerlevel9k-custom
https://gist.github.com/kevin-smets/8568070
…