

Keith R. Bennett's Technical Blog

About

🍏 in Your System Prompt

By [keithrbennett](#) on August 3rd, 2013

In my daily work, I often connect to Linux boxes from my Mac. With several terminal windows open, it's nice to easily see which ones are connected to my local Mac, and which ones are connected to other machines. One can certainly insert the host name into the system prompt. Here's an example that contains the time, host name, and current directory:

```
1 export PS1="\n\t \h:\w\n> "  
2  
3 21:02:45 my_host_name:~  
4 >
```

<http://blog.twistedcode.org/2008/03/customizing-your-bash-prompt.html> has a lot of information about customized bash prompts.

Wait a minute, I thought, I wonder if there's a Unicode character that can be included in the prompt that will jump out at me to tell me where I am... so I searched the web, and on http://heavenly.org/~fine/OSX/unicode_apple_logo.html was the apple logo!

So I now have the Apple logo as the very first character of my system prompt. A picture grabs the eye more effectively than a letter, so it's much easier now to tell that this terminal is connected to my Mac:

```
1 export PS1="\n🍏 \t \h:\w\n> "  
2  
3 🍏 21:00:50 my_host_name:~  
4 >
```

Categorized under: [Uncategorized](#).

Tagged with: no tags.

Leave a Response

You must be [logged in](#) to post a comment.

← [Using Oracle in JRuby with Rails and Sequel](#)

[Ruby's inject/reduce and each_with_object](#) →

META

- [Register](#)
- [Log in](#)
- [Entries RSS](#)
- [Comments RSS](#)
- [WordPress.org](#)

ARCHIVES

- [November 2015](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [November 2008](#)

RECENT ACTIVITY

Posts	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ The Case for Nested Methods in Ruby■ Ruby's inject/reduce and each_with_object■ 🍏 in Your System Prompt■ Using Oracle in JRuby with Rails and Sequel■ Copying (RVM) Data Between Hosts Using ssh, scp, and netcat■ Building A Great Ruby Development Environment and Desktop with Linux Mint 13 "Maya" Mate■ Intro to Functional Programming in Ruby■ WordPress Administration with Ruby■ Stealth Conditionals in Ruby■ Hello, Nailgun; Goodbye, JVM Startup Delays	

ARCHIVES

Categories	Tags	Dates
Authors	Uncategorized	