
VNC (remote graphics) sessions to Linux servers

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Starting VNC—persistent session

Log into the server with a command-line shell, for example on Windows with the PuTTY application. Then start your session with the `vncserver` command.

```
mooreb2@silvertip3:~> vncserver
```

You will require a password to access your desktops.

Password:

Verify:

Would you like to enter a view-only password (y/n)? n

xauth: creating new authority file /home/mooreb2/.Xauthority

New 'X' desktop is silvertip3:53

Creating default startup script /home/mooreb2/.vnc/xstartup

Starting applications specified in /home/mooreb2/.vnc/xstartup

Log file is /home/mooreb2/.vnc/silvertip3:53.log

```
mooreb2@silvertip3:~>
```

You should only see the dialog prompting you to see the VNC password the first time you use VNC. The password for the VNC session is different from your system password.

Note your screen number, in the example above it is screen 53 on silvertip, or `silvertip:53`.

Connecting to the VNC session with a VNC viewer

You need a VNC viewer program to connect to your VNC session. A typical one is from RealVNC; the viewer is free. Search for “realvnc viewer download,” for example, <https://www.realvnc.com/en/connect/download/viewer/>. Download and install the VNC client for your operating system.

Open the VNC view program and connect to the session you created.

If you successfully make the connection, you will be warned that it is not encrypted, and then asked to enter your VNC password (remember, NOT your system password). An example of a starting session on `silvertip3` is shown below.

Killing the VNC session

The VNC session created in this example is persistent. This means that you can close the VNC viewer program and the session remains active, even though it is not being viewed. (Don’t log out inside the VNC session, however; that *will* kill the session).

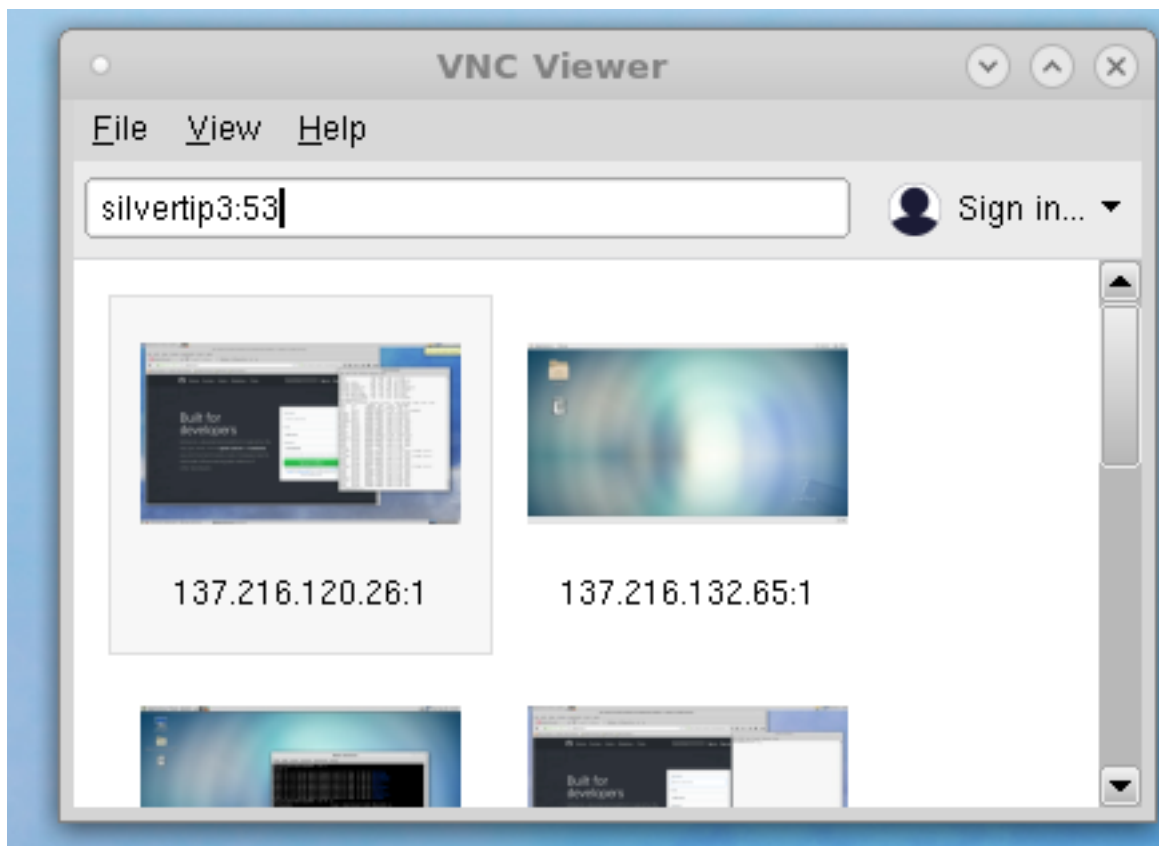


Figure 1: vncviewer screenshot

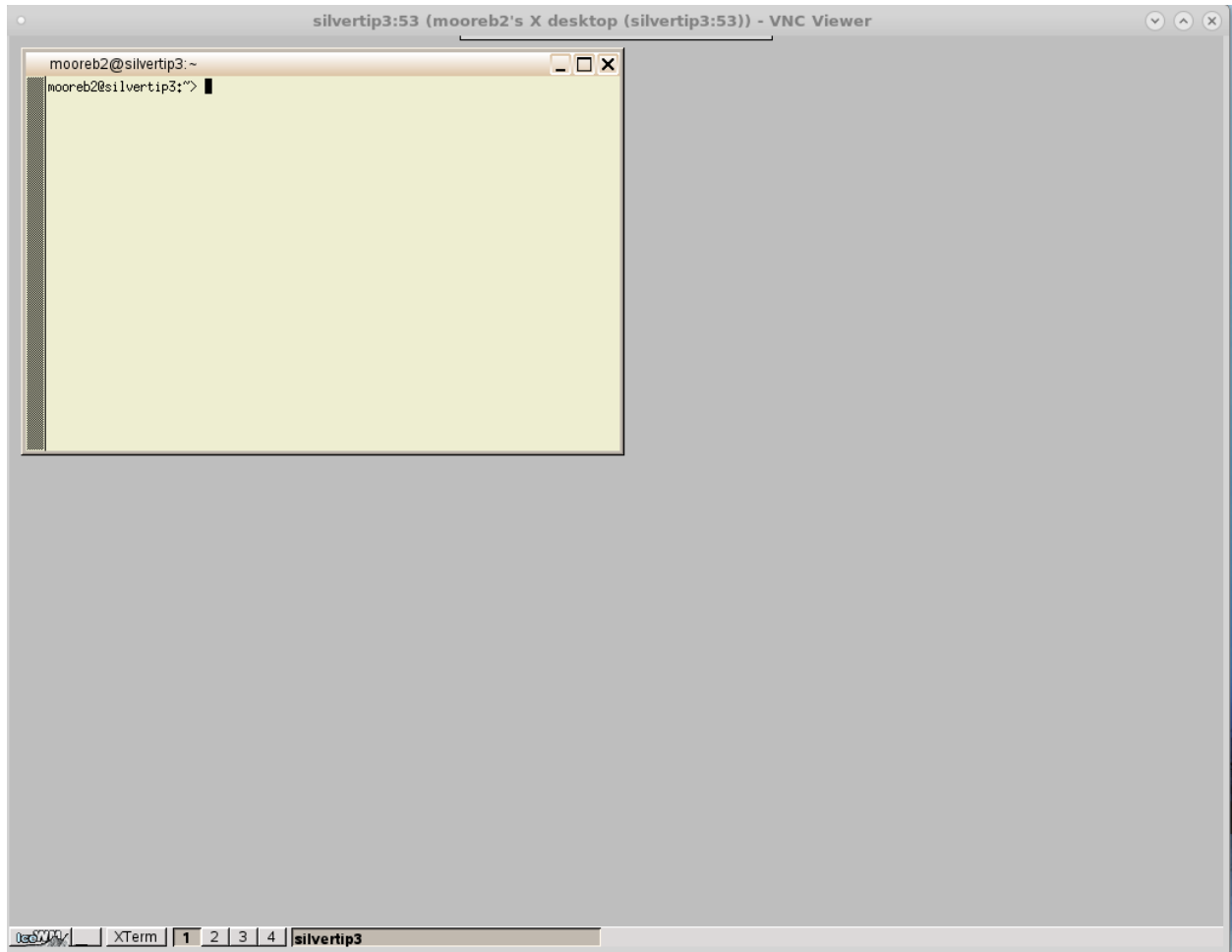


Figure 2: vncviewer session silvertip3

To kill your VNC session you must be logged in from the command-line (e.g. PuTTY) session and issue a `vncserver -kill` command; the argument is your screen number.

```
mooreb2@silvertip3:~> vncserver -kill :53
Killing Xvnc process ID 54279
mooreb2@silvertip3:~>
```