

NAME

Nansi -- The xterm-256 color palette; simplified for shell, adapted for use in your SCSS/LESS stylesheet and available as an Adobe Swatch Exchange file.

FILES FORMATS

`nansi` : dotfile
`nansi.hex.scss` : standard hexadecimal format in SCSS.
`nansi.rgb.scss` : red, green, blue format in SCSS.
`nansi.hex.less` : standard hexadecimal format in LESS.
`nansi.rgb.less` : red, green, blue format in LESS.
`nansi.ase` : ‘Adobe Swatch Exchange’ formatted file.

DESCRIPTION

Nansi simplifies working with the xterm-256 color palette. Nansi reduces style/escape-sequence bloat, by using a concise, referential syntax. In addition, Nansi has a nice modern, user-focused reference for working with the palette. Nansi was originally designed because I wanted the option to explore a variety of colors in my bash dotfiles/functions. It has since been extended into the preprocessor and swatch file formats above.

INSTALL

SH/BASH -- Source nansi as you would any other dotfile, just remember to do so before any file, script, function, etc, you plan to use it within.

```
source ~/.nansi
```

SCSS -- Nansi comes in standard hex format and rgb. Import your preferred version like any other partial.

```
@import 'nansi.hex.scss';
```

LESS -- Same for LESS.

```
@import 'nansi.rgb.less';
```

ASE (ADOBE SWATCH EXCHANGE) -- The Nansi swatch file can be imported into any program that supports the .ase format. Below illustrating the UI series in InDesign/Photoshop and Illustrator.

Swatches panel → Menu → Load Swatches → path/to/`nansi.ase`
Swatches → Open swatch → Library → Other → path/to/`nansi.ase`

USAGE

SH/BASH -- The syntax is simple; a number `0-255` preceded by `f`(foreground), or `b`(background).

In addition to the colors, there's a few control styles needed which are outlined below:

```
f(0-255) : set a foreground color
b(0-255) : set a background color
stop : stop a color or style
line : set underline
bold : set bold text
rvrs : set reversed text
ital : set italic text
```

```
$ printf "${f16}foreground black${stop}"
foreground black
```

```
$ printf "${f16}foreground black ${line}underline${stop}"
foreground black underline
```

SCSS -- Again, the syntax is simple; A dollar sign, followed by an underscore (for legibility), then a reference number `0-255`.

```
.class {
  color: $_30;
  border: 1px solid $_30;
  background-color: rgba($_30, .5);
}
```

LESS -- Same as above, aside from the variable declaration. In this case an at-sign, followed by an underscore (for legibility), then a reference number `0-255`.

```
.class {
  color: @_30;
  border: 1px solid @_30;
  background-color: fade(@_30, 50%);
}
```

NOTE: Should you want to work with rgba, both SASS and LESS have built-in color functions to convert a color to rgba and change the transparency; shown above (background-color property).

REFERENCE

ONLINE

The recommended way to use Nansi is by referencing the palette here: workmade.github.io/nansi.

I've taken great care to make it the best user-focused reference/utility for the xterm-256 palette.

The keyboard numbers 1-4 toggle some features to assist in color selection:

- 1 : change the background from dark (default) to light.
- 2 : switch between the reference numbers (default) to hex values.
- 3 : change the color visibility from border (default) to background.
- 4 : turn column spacing off (default) and on.

LOCAL

If you would rather keep it local, Nansi has some functions to print the complete referential palette, or a specific segment of it, to the terminal. Note: `f/b` = `f` OR `b`, not both.

```
$ nf/b256      # prints all 256 foreground OR background colors
$ nf/b16       # prints the foreground OR background standard 16 colors
$ nf/b216      # prints the foreground OR background main 216 color grid
$ nf/b24       # prints the foreground OR background greyscale 24 colors
$ nfb256       # prints all 256 foreground AND background colors
```

FURTHER

- : For information on the command behind Nansi, in terminal: `$ man tput`.
- : For information on your terminals capabilities, in terminal: `$ man terminfo` or `$ man termcap`.
- : To see if your current shell supports 256 colors, in terminal: `$ tput colors`. If a number other than 256 is returned, all hope is not lost, you may be able to change/declare terminal type to xterm-256 from your terminal application.

SEE ALSO

The [Woolidge Bash Scripting Guide](#)

The Linux Documentation Projects' [Advanced Bash Scripting Guide](#)

A small primer on [Command Substitution](#)

And another on [Styling + Tput](#)

DISCLAIMER

Nansi was written on OSX 10.9.4. I use the latest version of Bash, and `iTerm2`. Everything works for me, but it may not for another. and definitely won't for everyone. Nansi is untested outside of OSX and BASH 4; in other words, you've just been disclaimed.