

# MSSH-MENU

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## 1 Name

mssh-menu - Use CSV file with tags to ssh into multiple devices

## 2 Synopsis

```
mssh-menu [-h] [--completion {bash,zsh,fish}] [-v] [-n number] [-u user] [-c columns] [-m]
[FILENAME.CSV]
```

## 3 Description

Input a CSV file that has a list of host and tags (multiple columns of tags are OK). This script will display to the user a list of groups by tag name and prompt for a selection of one or more items. The selection will launch multiple ssh connections all inside one tmux window with the keyboard synchronized. ssh and tmux are required to be available on the system path.

### 3.1 Positional Arguments

**FILENAME.CSV**

name of CSV file (default=\$HOME/servers.csv)

## 3.2 Option Flags

**-h, --help**

show this help message and exit

**-v, --version**

show the version number and exit

**-n *number*, --number *number***

**Risky option** Enter selection number or numbers (separated by commas and/or using a dash to specify a range) instead of showing the menu.

**-u *user*, --user *user***

Enter a username instead of being prompted for one.

**-c *columns*, --columns *columns***

Override the autocalculation of menu columns. Specify an maximum number of menu columns to display.

**-m, --menu-only**

Display the menu selection list and exit.

## 3.3 Shell Completion Options

**--completion {*bash*,*zsh*,*fish*}**

Print mssh-menu shell completion to the terminal and exit

# 4 Examples

## 4.1 Sample `servers.csv` file

The examples use the following tags list:

host	tags		
server1	Site 1	Primary	All
server2	Site 1	Redundant	All
server3	Site 2	Primary	All
server4	Site 2	Redundant	All

Here is the data in CSV format. Save this file as `servers.csv`. You can edit it in a spreadsheet program like Microsoft Excel or LibreOffice Calc. You can also edit it using a simple text editing program like Notepad.

```
host,tags,,
server1,Site 1,Primary,All
server2,Site 1,Redundant,All
```

```
server3,Site 2,Primary,All  
server4,Site 2,Redundant,All
```

Note: The SSH connections will be in the order of the items in the CSV file.

## 4.2 Example 1

Log into all the odd numbered servers.

```
$ mssh-menu examples/servers.csv
```

A menu appears. Select the option corresponding to “**2. Primary**”.

Enter a username. The same username will be used on all servers.

The output should look like this:

```
1. All  
2. Primary  
3. Redundant  
4. Site 1  
5. Site 2  
Info: Use commas to separate multiple entries and dash for ranges.  
Select one or more numbers from the list [1-5,q] (default=none): 2  
Selected: `2. Primary`  
server1  
server3  
  
Enter username (default=none): admin
```

A window opens with two panes and an ssh connection is established to both servers (admin@server1 and admin@server3).

## 4.3 Example 2

Log into all the servers at Site 2.

```
$ mssh-menu examples/servers.csv
```

A menu appears. Select the option corresponding to “**5. Site 2**”.

Enter a username. The same username will be used on all servers.

```
1. All  
2. Primary  
3. Redundant  
4. Site 1
```

```
5. Site 2
Info: Use commas to separate multiple entries and dash for ranges.
Select one or more numbers from the list [1-5,q] (default=none): 5
Selected: `5. Site 2`
server3
server4

Enter username (default=none): admin
```

A window opens with two panes and an ssh connection is established to both servers (admin@server3 and admin@server4).

#### 4.4 Example 3

Use the `--menu-only` option and `grep` to see which menu options correspond to the **redundant** servers.

```
$ mssh-menu examples/servers.csv --menu-only --columns 1 | grep -i redundant
```

The output should be:

```
3. Redundant
```

#### 4.5 Example 4

Use the menu number as an option to `mssh-menu` to ssh without using the menu.

Using the output from example 3, enter the following command.

```
$ mssh-menu examples/servers.csv --user admin --number 3
```

The menu is not displayed, and a window opens with two panes and an ssh connection is established to both servers (admin@server2 and admin@server4).