[**Set Linux Terminal Console Column Width**](http://www.thelinuxdaily.com/2010/04/set-linux-terminal-console-column-width/)

tput cols tells you the number of columns.

tput lines tells you the number of rows.

stty size print the number of rows and columns according to the kernel

For example: After using stty cols 10 command, try to type into terminal => You can only type 10 characters into terminal (1234567890). Note: In case you have a prompt [root@hoangqp ~]# => This prompt has 17 characters. If you set stty cols 10, you only see gqp ~]# ang instead of [root@hoangqp ~]#

[root@hoang should be displayed because you set stty cols 10 but since we still have qp ~]# . This qp... will replace [root...) . So in the end, gqp ~]# ang will be displayed.

A quick trick I learned today was how to set the column width for a terminal console with [stty](http://unixhelp.ed.ac.uk/CGI/man-cgi?stty). This way, the shell acts a bit more normal.

[?](http://www.thelinuxdaily.com/2010/04/set-linux-terminal-console-column-width/)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | stty cols 80 |

A snippit from the stty man page reveals some more information and tricks:

[?](http://www.thelinuxdaily.com/2010/04/set-linux-terminal-console-column-width/)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  2  3  4  5 | \* cols N            tell the kernel that the terminal has N columns  \* rows N            tell the kernel that the terminal has N rows  \* size print the number of rows and columns according to the kernel |

I didn’t realize how useful this program was! Certainly worth taking a deeper look into if your always consoled into your embedded Linux system.