Posted by Derek Hildreth in [Tips and Tricks](http://www.thelinuxdaily.com/category/tips-and-tricks/) » [3 Comments »](http://www.thelinuxdaily.com/2010/04/set-linux-terminal-console-column-width/#comments)

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

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.