

Install ZSH on Linux and make it your default Shell

How to install and configure Zsh on Linux



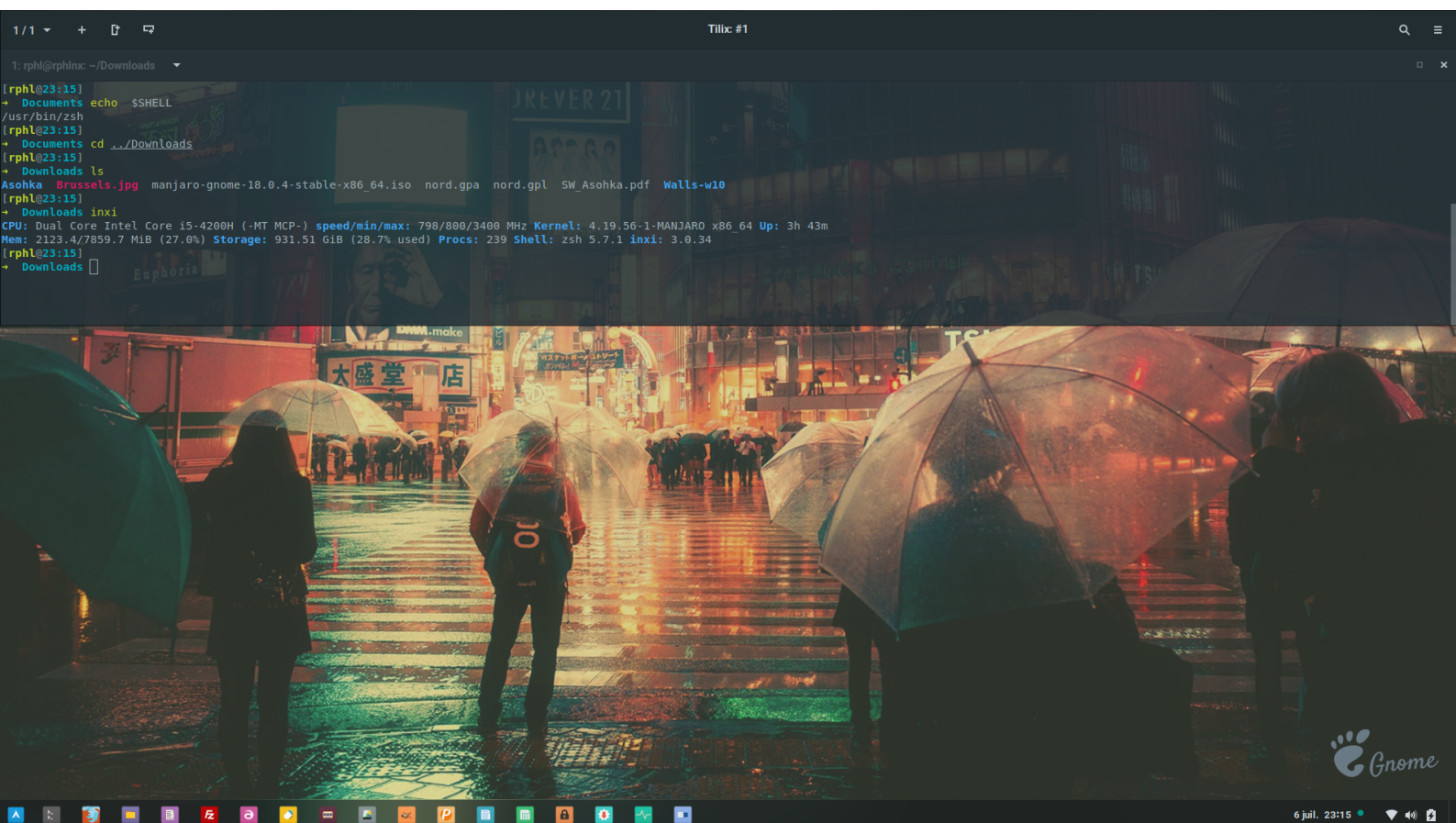
Rphl-Mstl

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Jul 7, 2019 · 3 min read

Bash (*Bourne Again Shell*) is the default command-line shell on many distributions. Zsh (*Z Shell*) is a powerful shell that operates as both an interactive shell and as a scripting language interpreter.



Zsh on Tilix 'Quake' drop-down terminal

Check your current shell:

```
> echo $SHELL
/usr/bin/bash
```

1. Z Shell

Please replace **pacman** in the following codelines by your distro package manager: **apt**, **dnf** etc.

Install the `zsh` package:

```
$ sudo pacman -S zsh
```

Test it by running `zsh` in your terminal. If you were using *bash*, you'll switch to the *zsh* prompt. The prompt model will be different, since you're using a different config file, not your classic `.bashrc`:

```
22:15 rphl ~ : echo $SHELL
/usr/bin/bash
22:15 rphl ~ : zsh

→ ~
```

For basic configuration run the following command:

```
→ ~ zsh /usr/share/zsh/functions/Newuser/zsh-newuser-install -f
```

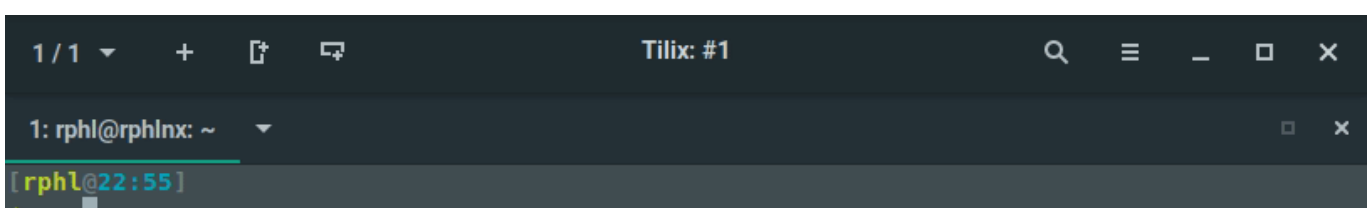
Follow the recommended options, save and exit.

2. Oh-My-Zsh & plugins

Now, let's install a powerful additional program: [Oh My Zsh](#)

*A delightful community-driven (with 1,300+ contributors) framework for managing your zsh configuration. Includes **200+ optional plugins**, over **140 themes** to spice up your morning, and an auto-update tool so that makes it easy to keep up with the latest updates from the community.*

This framework will easily make Zsh friendlier by improving its usability, through plugins and themes.



Syntax highlight

`zsh`, `wget` and `git` should be installed first. Install the program:

```
→ ~ sh -c "$(wget -O-  
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ohmyzsh/ohmyzsh/master/tools/install.sh)"
```

I recommend installing 4 additional plugins that we'll activate later through OMZ configuration file :

zsh-syntax-highlighting

```
→ ~ git clone https://github.com/zsh-users/zsh-syntax-highlighting.git ${ZSH_CUSTOM:-~/.oh-my-zsh/custom}/plugins/zsh-syntax-highlighting
```

zsh-autosuggestions

```
→ ~ git clone https://github.com/zsh-users/zsh-autosuggestions ${ZSH_CUSTOM:-~/.oh-my-zsh/custom}/plugins/zsh-autosuggestions
```

zsh-Z

```
→ ~ git clone https://github.com/agkozak/zsh-z  
$ZSH_CUSTOM/plugins/zsh-z
```

fzf

```
→ ~ git clone --depth 1 https://github.com/junegunn/fzf.git ~/.fzf
→ ~ ~/.fzf/install
```

Fantastic search tool combined with `fd`

```
→ ~ sudo dnf install fd-find
```

You'll need to add the following lines at the end of `.zshrc`

```
export FZF_DEFAULT_COMMAND='fdfind --type f'
export FZF_DEFAULT_OPTS="--layout=reverse --inline-info --height=80%"
```

2. Configuring Zsh

For advanced configuration, modify the `~/.zshrc` config file.

- **Plugins ([list of plugins](#))**: OMZ comes with a large list of plugins waiting to be activated by entering their names in the *plugins* section, as follow. In this section, add the name of the additional plugins we installed manually, in bold:

```
plugins=(
  fzf
  git
  history-substring-search
  colored-man-pages
  zsh-autosuggestions
  zsh-syntax-highlighting
  zsh-z
)
```

- **Theming ([list of themes](#))**: enter the name of your favorite theme in the *ZSH_THEME* section:

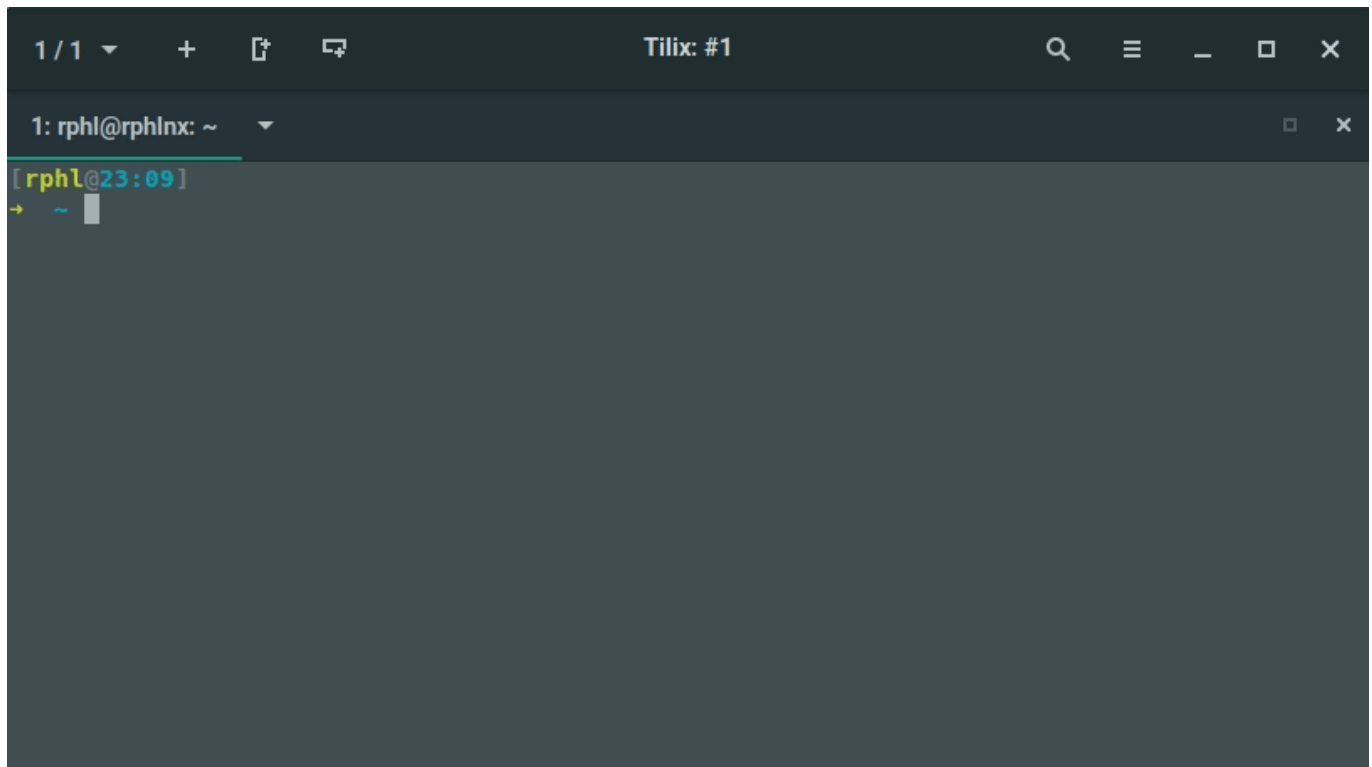
```
# default theme
# ZSH_THEME="robbyrussell"

ZSH_THEME="alanpeabody"
```

Would you want to modify some theme colors, ZSH use Spectrum. Get a list of colors code with `ls`

Copy your **aliases** from the `.bashrc` file into `.zshrc`, as well as other commands you may have created.

Tip: Apply the changes without needing to logout and then back in by running `source ~/.zshrc`.



History & Ranger

4. Make Zsh default

On Manjaro, Fedora, Ubuntu... :

```
→ ~ chsh -s $(which zsh)
```

Log out and log in back for the changes to take effect.

Enjoy!

Linux

Shell Script

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