How To Setup Plan Pages¹

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Prerequisites

You are going to need to have access to Texas State Linux Servers (Currently Eros, and Zeus), and some basic knowledge of a terminal editor.

Introduction

A plan page is something that shows up when people search for you (via *finger*) (look at step 4 for an example). Generally, people put what they are currently working on, class schedules, and sometimes humor.

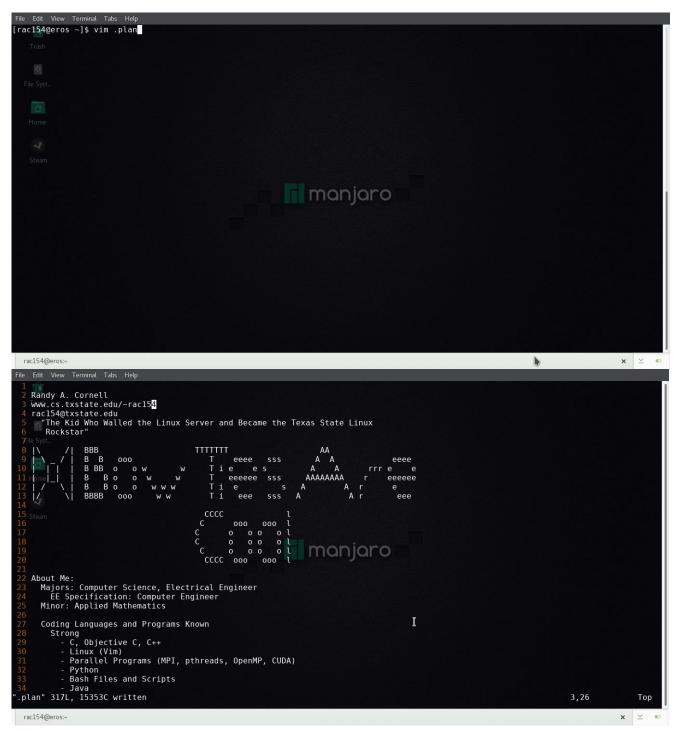
Step 1: Login

First you need to login in to one of the Linux servers (Zeus, Eros) via SSH (terminal, putty).

File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help			
[rac154@obsidian ~]\$ s	sh rac154@eros.cs.txstate.edu		
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j j requi	f Computer and network facilities res prior authorization. Unauthorized s is prohibited. Usage may be subject		
i i to sec	curity testing and monitoring. Abuse is t to criminal prosecution. Use of facilities implies agreement to comply		
j j with	hese policies of Texas State sity and Computer Science Department.		
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Step 2: Create a .plan file

You need to create a **.plan** (IMPORTANT: IT HAS TO HAVE EXACTLY THE SAME NAME) inside your home directory ~/ (IMPORTANT: IT HAS TO BE THE EXACTLY SAME PLACE) via your most favorite text editor (*vim*, *emacs*, *nano*).



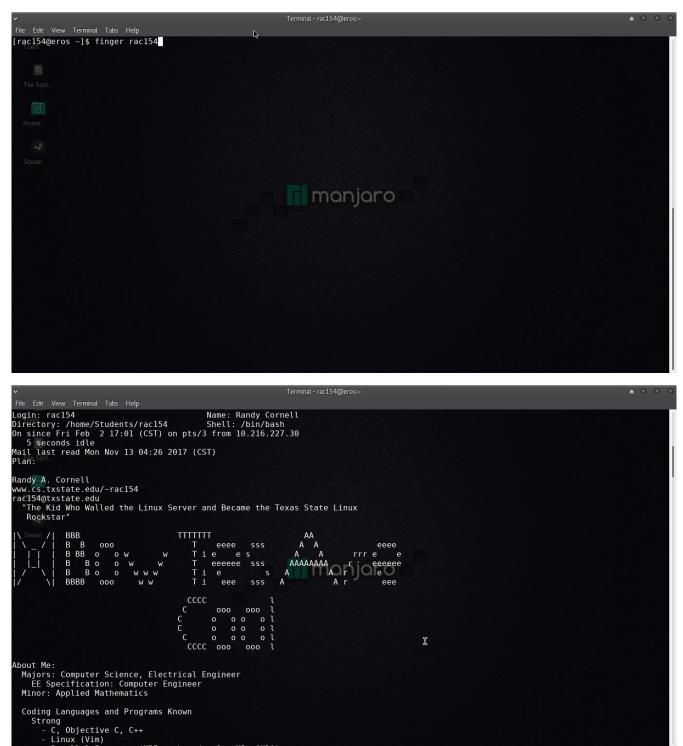
Step 3: Change Permissions for the .plan file

Once you have a basic plan file up you need to change the permission for the **.plan** file to **755** using the same command *chmod*.



Step 4: Test your plan page

There is a strangely named command *finger* (which can lead to some interesting conversations) that you can use to check another people's plan page or your own. (Do Note: That if you can see your plan page but your friend cannot it means you have not set the file permission correctly look at Step 3 above)



Errors:

If you get these errors when you open of the webpage this is what you need to do.

- 1. No Plan (When you use finger):
 - \circ Things to verify:
 - 1. That you created and named the file .plan (EXACTLY THE SAME)
 - 2. That you placed this file directly in your home directory /home/Student/netid/ or ~/
 - 3. That the file permissions for the .plan file are 755
- 2. No Plan (When your friend uses finger):
 - Things to verify:
 - 1. That you changed the file permissions for the .plan file to 755

Final Thoughts

You should now have a basic to go and make your interesting or wacky plan page. You can put whatever you want (but I would recommend something appropriate because everybody can see it). I suggest you put up your schedule, some ASCII art, and your best jokes.