Irssi quickstart guide

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A quick guide to the basic features of irssi, a powerful console-based IRC client.

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1. What is irssi?

irssi is a very good text-based irc client. It can be used in any terminal.
2. Installation

Irssi follows the general Linux installation steps (./configure, make, make install).

Gentoo Linux: emerge irssi
3. The command shortcuts

Use the shortcuts for commonly used commands.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/j kde,gnome</td>
<td>(/join #kde,#gnome)</td>
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<td>/c</td>
<td>(/clear)</td>
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<tr>
<td>/c -all</td>
<td>(/clear -all)</td>
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<td>/wi nickname</td>
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<tr>
<td>/pa</td>
<td>(/part)</td>
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<td>/m</td>
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<tr>
<td>/al</td>
<td>(/alias)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/al X</td>
<td>(/alias X)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
4. Make your own /aliases

You can easily make your own aliases for commonly used commands and remarks:

```
/alias linuxfriends /me has a few good friends. man, info, /usr/doc, tlpd, & google.
```

The command

```
/alias linuxfriends
```

will now tell the channel that

jonny has a few good friends. man, info, /usr/doc, tlpd, & google.

To make the alias use text (variables) used together with the alias, use $X:

```
/alias hipeople /me waves to $0 $1 $2 **
```

```
/hipeople jon mary jane
```

jonny waves to jon mary jane

To tell the channel what Gentoo Linux package contains program X:

```
/alias whatpackage /exec -o qpkg -f -nc `which $0 2>/dev/null` awk '{print "$*="$$1}';``
```

```
/whatpackage epsxe
```

epsxe=app-emulation/epsxe

Some aliases are important
/alias help! say This will probably help you with your problem, $0:
http://www.kyra.ath.cx/~meow/clue.txt

/help! roger

//jonny This will probably help you with your problem, roger:
http://www.kyra.ath.cx/~meow/clue.txt //

To view very good examples of useful aliases, type:

/al uptime

```
UPTIME eval exec - expr date +%s - $F \ awk '{print "Irssi uptime:"int($1/3600/24)"d "int($1/3600%24)"h "int($1/60%60)"m"int($1%60)"s" }'
```

/al calc

```
CALC exec - if which bc &>/dev/null; then echo '$*' | bc | awk '{print "$*="$$1}'; else echo bc was not found; fi
```

Add -o to exec to tell the world about the output.

/al/alias cao exec -o echo '$*' | bc | awk '{print "$*="$$1}"

Do remember to

/save

your aliases..

**Bonus** : The /set variables are tab-completable
5. Tell users who /msg you that you are away:

/set show_away_once ON

This setting makes Irssi /msg your away message set by

/away sleeping

to people who /msg you while you are away.

-!- yournick is away: sleeping

is what users who /msg you while away get.

Do not forget to

/save

your settings!
6. Window management

Window management is easy and done with the keyboard.

Alt+# to switch between windows (Alt+1 for Window 1, Alt+2 for Windows 2 etc). Use qwerty for window numbers higher than 10 (and 0 for 10). The modifier key may differ depending on your shell/terminal. If Alt+# does not work, try Esc+# (openbsd).

Alt+left/right move between the channels in a window. This works in KDEs konsole and aterm, but not in xterm.

Alt+up/down moves between the window tabs. This works in KDEs konsole and aterm, but not in xterm.

Use alt+a to change to the next active window (where someone has uttered a word)

To make a new window:

/window new

Use the shortcut:

/win new

You can move the current channel with:

/win m u (/window move up)

/win m d (/window move down)

You can resize a window with:

/win gr 5 (/window grow #)
/win shr 5 (/window shrink #)

Use /win # where # is the window number to jump directly to a window:

/win 1

To close a window:

/win c (/window close)

This actually parts the channel but only closes the window if you have no other channels open in it. So usually it will the same as /part:

/pa (/part)

To get some nice information about the current window, just type:

/win

You can save your window settings so your windows are restored the next time you start irssi:

/layout save
7. Paste the output of programs to a channel

To execute a command in link:irssi, just do:

```
/exec program
```

Add `-o` to paste the output to the current channel:

```
/exec -o ls /pub/
```
8. Stats based on irssi logs

irssistats is a tool that generates IRC stats based on irssi logs.

- irssistats-0.51.tar.gz (40K)

There are also two stat programs based on irssistats available:

- nudelstats
- irCstats

Pisg (Perl IRC Statistics Generator) can also make nice stats based on irssi (and most other) logs.
9. Links to more information about irssi

- Irssi Homepage
- The top reasons why you should use irssi
- Irssi Documentation Wiki
- irssi scripts archive
- David Leadbeaters Irssi Script Archive
- perl irssiscripts
- more perl irssiscripts
- Juerds Irssi page
- Debian cvs-irssi for unstable Debian
- Penguin Breeder Perl-Scripts for the Irssi IRC Client
- ninja RedHat stable RPMs
- http://irssi.atn.pl some irssi stuff like scripts and slackware packages
- Jean-Yves Lefort irssi's page
- debian irssi-scripts
- Polish page with scripts
- http://ratings.irssi.de Irssi scripts rated
- Irssi Themes Rating Page
- wouter.coekaerts.be a nice page about irssi
- jamesoffs irssipages

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