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screen

in a terminal. Press **Enter** after reading the introductory text. Virtual terminals in Screen can be manipulated by pressing the **Ctrl+A** key combination, and subsequently pressing a key to execute one of the commands given below:

- **c** creates a new virtual console
- **n** switches to the next available virtual console
- **p** switches back to the previous virtual console
- **"** lists all available virtual consoles and their assigned numbers
- hitting a number key brings the corresponding virtual console to the foreground
- **Esc** lets you scroll back and forth in your terminal output
- **d** detatches the current screen sessions and brings you back to the normal terminal

When a Screen session is detached, the processes that were running inside it aren't stopped. You can re-attach a detached session by typing

```
screen -r
```

in a terminal.

First, create a session:
screen -S *sessionname*

It's good to choose a descriptive session name. For example, before I switched to using Gmail I used mutt[1]. So I would often start a session with the command "screen -S mutt" in one terminal window. If I went home, I could attach to that session from home, so I never needed to start-up or shutdown mutt.

You can easily have 10 interactive shells (numbered from 0 to 9) open in one terminal window. When you start a new session, you'll be in shell 0. To create a new shell, hold down the "Control" key, press and release the 'a' key, and then type the letter 'c'. I'll write this as:

To create a new interactive shell, press Control-a c

Switching between shells is easy too.

To switch between shells, press Control-a # where # is the number of the shell. For example, to switch to shell number 1, press Control-a 1

Voilà! Now you can easily run 10 different shells in one terminal window! But what about if you want to go home and attach to a session from home? Use something like ssh to get on your work machine. Then here's the command:

screen -d -R *sessionname* will resume a session that you started in a different location.

Technically this command is doing some special things. If you started the session somewhere else, the "-d" option will "detach" it at the other location, and "-R" will reattach your current terminal window to the session. If *sessionname* hasn't been created, it will create the session for you. So the command above will migrate a session to your current window and disable the session at other locations. That's usually what you want.

To exit a session, it's easiest to exit all the shells in the session. If you want some more info on screen:

Control-a ? will give help inside of screen.
Typing "man screen" at a Linux command-line will show more help on screen.
There are web pages with more[2] info[3] on screen.

- https://www.vultr.com/docs/using-screen-on-ubuntu-14-04

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[1] http://www.mutt.org/

[2] http://www.pixelbeat.org/lkdb/screen.html

[3] http://www.kuro5hin.org/story/2004/3/9/16838/14935