

Linux: Configure Midnight Commander to use mcedit instead of nano or vi text editor

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I use *Midnight Commander console file manager* on any *UNIX like servers*, since my early days as system administrator. **mc** comes with its own text editor **mcedit** which is often very handy for reading config files or pieces of source code. Many times I had to modify files which were spitting errors which I couldn't track in **VIM**, jor or whatever text editor had on server at hand and after checking file with **mcedit** I caught my config or source code mistake. I guess many other admins has similar nice experiences with **mcedit** - *Internal file editor of GNU Midnight Commander*. Nowadays, I install mostly Debian Linux on new configured servers and using **mc** to navigate in file system is very useful. I prefer **mc** to *open files for edit with F4 (Edit - kbd shortcut)* with its default mcedit, however for some reasons most of *Debian / Ubuntu* and other Linuxes, nowadays has set global environment text editor to **nano**. I totally dislike this text editor and like **changing mc always to use mcedit**. This is done straight from **MC** menus by:

Pressing F9 -> Going to Options -> Configuration -> (Setting mark on) -> Use Inernal Edit /code>

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Left  File  Command  Options  Right
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'n    Name    Configuration... 2:48
/..   /..         Layout...       2012
/.dir /.dir       Panel options... 2012
/.AbiSuite /.AbiSuite Confirmation... 2012
/.PlayOnLinux /.PlayOnLinux Display bits... 2:57
/.Skype /.Skype      Learn keys...   0:07
/.VirtualBox /.VirtualBox Virtual FS...    2011
/.abe /.abe
/.abuse /.abuse
/.acetoneiso /.acetoneiso 4096 Jun 23 2008
/.adobe /.adobe      4096 Dec 14 2011
/.alex4 /.alex4      4096 Jul 5 2008
/.alsaplayer /.alsaplayer 4096 Jan 22 2012
/.arista /.arista     4096 Feb 15 2012
/.armagetronad /.armagetronad 4096 Feb 1 2012
/.audacity-data /.audacity-data 4096 May 8 2012
/.audacity1.3-hipo /.audacity1.3-hipo 4096 Apr 5 12:19
/.avidemux /.avidemux   4096 Mar 21 2012
/.blender /.blender    4096 Nov 29 2011
/.bluefish /.bluefish   4096 Apr 19 2011
/.boswars /.boswars    4096 Jul 17 2009
/.briquolo /.briquolo   4096 Apr 20 2011
/.btanks /.btanks     4096 May 29 2012
/.byobu /.byobu      4096 Jun 21 10:41
/.cache /.cache
/.camstream /.camstream  4096 Sep 25 2008
/.centerim /.centerim   4096 Oct 10 2011
/.chmsee /.chmsee     4096 Dec 25 2009
/.city28 /.city28     4096 May 30 15:09
/.clamtk /.clamtk     4096 Jun 20 21:26
/.cmus /.cmus       4096 Jun 17 23:01
/.compiz /.compiz     4096 Sep 4 2009

UP--DIR 2891M/20G (14%)

hint: M-! will allow you to execute programs and see the output in the viewer.
nipo@noah:~$
1 Help 2 Menu 3 View 4 Edit 5 Copy 6 RenMov 7 Mkdir 8 Delete 9 PullDn 10 Quit

```

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Left  File  Command  Options  Right
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'n    Name    Size    Modify time
/..   /..         UP--DIR May 27 12:48
/.dir /.dir       4096 Apr 26 2012
/.AbiSuite /.AbiSuite 4096 Nov 13 2012
/.PlayOnLinux /.PlayOnLinux 4096 Apr 26 12:57
/.Skype /.Skype     4096 Jun 21 00:07
/.VirtualBox /.VirtualBox
/.abe /.abe
/.abuse /.abuse
/.acetoneiso /.acetoneiso
/.adobe /.adobe
/.alex4 /.alex4
/.alsaplayer /.alsaplayer
/.arista /.arista
/.armagetronad /.armagetronad
/.audacity-data /.audacity-data
/.audacity1.3-hipo /.audacity1.3-hipo
/.avidemux /.avidemux
/.blender /.blender
/.bluefish /.bluefish
/.boswars /.boswars
/.briquolo /.briquolo
/.btanks /.btanks
/.byobu /.byobu
/.cache /.cache
/.camstream /.camstream
/.centerim /.centerim
/.chmsee /.chmsee
/.city28 /.city28
/.clamtk /.clamtk
/.cmus /.cmus
/.compiz /.compiz

UP--DIR 2892M/20G (14%)

hint: Leap to frequently used directories in a single bound with C-\.
nipo@noah:~$
1 Help 2 Menu 3 View 4 Edit 5 Copy 6 RenMov 7 Mkdir 8 Delete 9 PullDn 10 Quit

```