

5 Best Productivity Plugins for Tmux

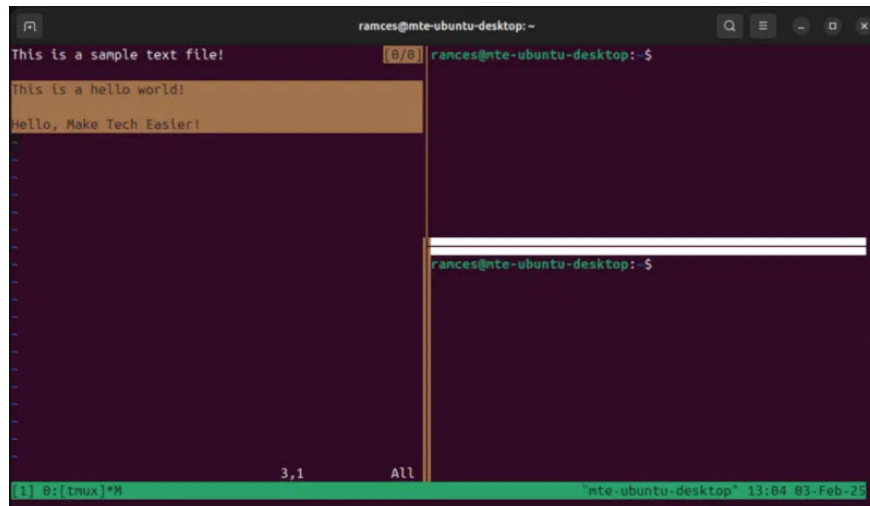
This article will introduce some of the best plugins for Tmux that can help optimize your Terminal workflow.

Tmux is a great terminal multiplexer that can consolidate and manage different console sessions. While its core features cover almost every use case, it also has a plugin framework that allows you to shape the program to your needs. This article will introduce some of the best plugins for Tmux that can help optimize your Terminal workflow.

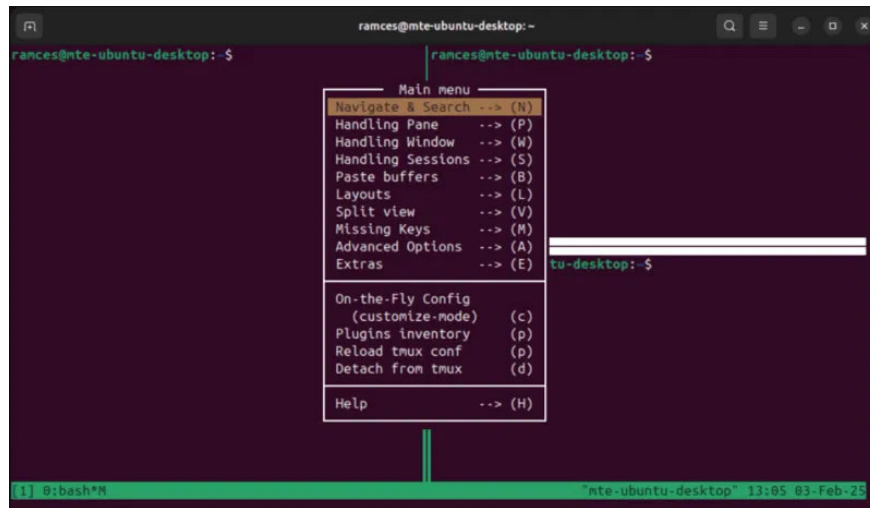
1. 5 Beautiful Themes to Make Your Tmux Sessions More Fun

1. tmux-menus

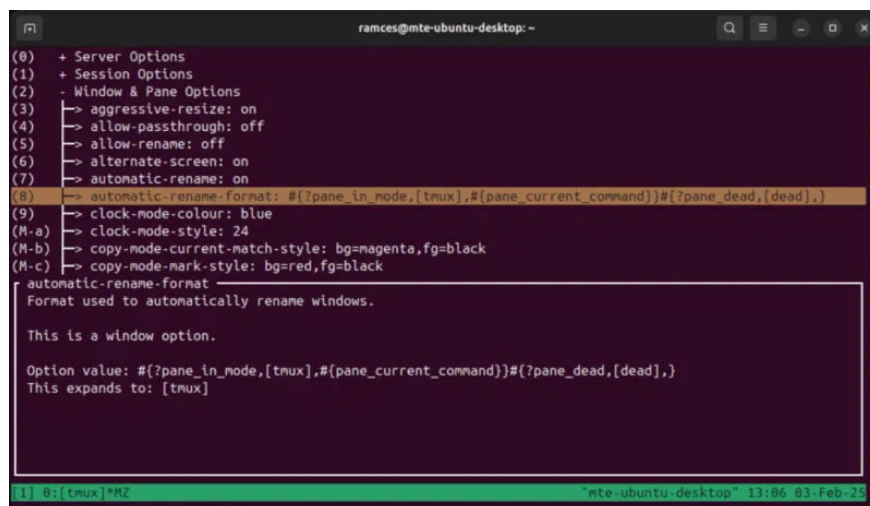
If you're new to Tmux, learning all the keyboard shortcuts can be difficult and frustrating. With unintuitive keyboard combinations, it's easy to forget the shortcuts you need to use lesser-known Tmux features like copy mode and pane marking.



Tmux-menus is a simple plugin that solves this problem. It provides a clean and intuitive TUI-based menu that you can access by pressing **Ctrl + .** Inside, it comes with every Tmux feature, allowing you to intuitively select what you need instead of memorizing their shortcuts.



Aside from making Tmux accessible, one of my favorite features of Tmux-menu is its configurability. Each menu item within the plugin is simply a link to a shell script. This means that with a little knowledge of Bash, you can easily introduce custom functions into Tmux-menu.



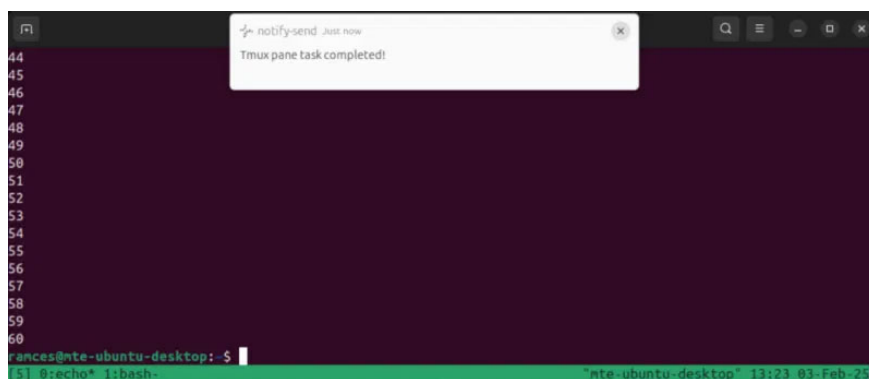
2. tmux-resurrect

One of the biggest drawbacks of Tmux is that it is a stateless program. This means that it doesn't remember anything about your session after you close it. This is annoying because it forces you to recreate your Tmux layout every time you restart your computer .

Keeping track of background programs can be difficult if you're dealing with multiple Tmux panes and sessions. In my experience, this leads to times when you forget you have a command running in the background and accidentally close Tmux.

```
ramces@mte-ubuntu-desktop:~$ tmux attach
[exited]
ramces@mte-ubuntu-desktop:~$ tmux
[exited]
ramces@mte-ubuntu-desktop:~$
```

Tmux-notify is a plugin that sends notifications when it detects a process has completed. It works by checking for any active Tmux panes that have just switched to a Bash shell prompt. The plugin then sends a libnotify notification, which can be a visual terminal sound or an audible ping.



While that style of notification is fine for most users, Tmux-notify also offers support for Telegram bots, Pushover alerts, and custom commands. This makes it possible to integrate Tmux-notify into almost any workflow, making it an attractive option for tinkerers who want to tweak their terminal setup.

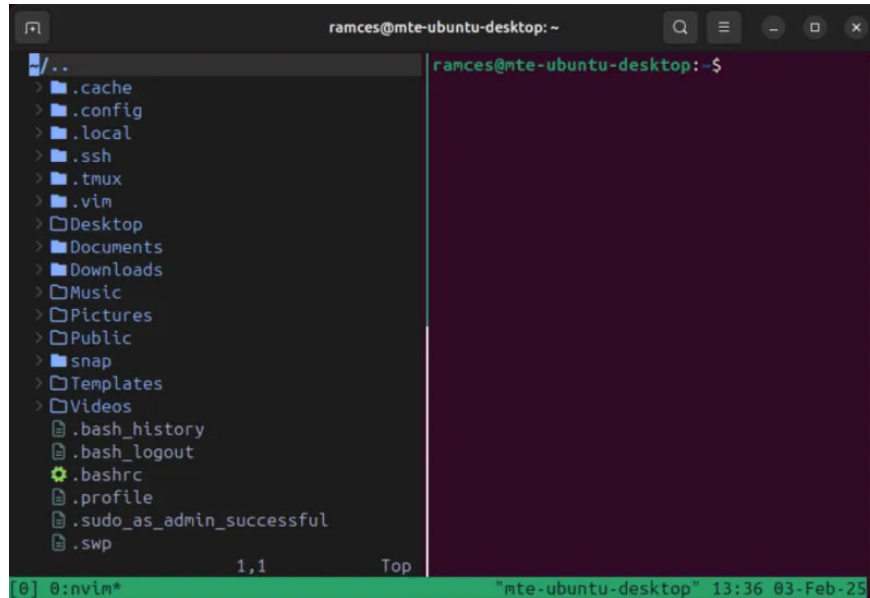
4. tmux-jump

Buffer navigation is arguably one of the most awkward parts of Tmux. The multiplexer offers no built-in keyboard shortcuts for moving outside of copy mode and window focus. If you're someone who uses Tmux for everyday productivity tasks, you'll find this odd quirk both tedious and annoying, especially for long terminal sessions.

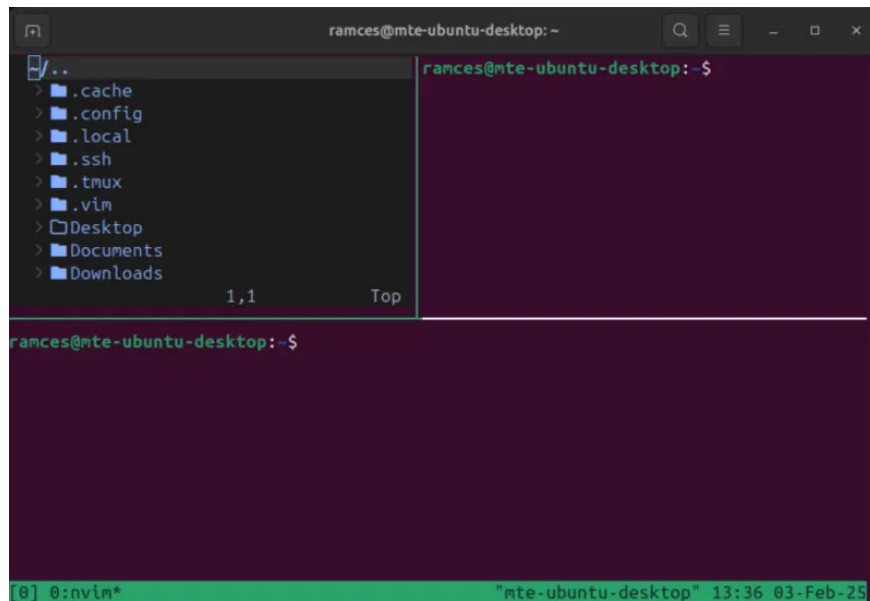
Tmux-jump solves this problem by making navigating the Tmux pane both easy and intuitive. Inspired by Vimium, it uses keyword suggestions to create 'jump points' within your Tmux windows. These points allow you to quickly move around within Tmux without relying on its complex keyboard shortcuts.

5. treemux

Treemux is a powerful plugin that seamlessly integrates Neovim's tree-based file browser with Tmux. It can navigate directories, open files, and even display the current working directory. This makes it an invaluable plugin if you want to build a Neovim-based IDE inside Tmux.



The Treemux developers also designed this plugin to be as unobtrusive as possible. It is invisible by default and resizes depending on the pane it is attached to. So, Treemux is a great plugin if you prefer a terminal with minimal distractions.



Finally, Treemux has a couple of Neovim extensions that extend the plugin's default feature set. `Tmuxsend.vim` adds support for sending full paths from Treemux to Tmux, making file references quick and easy. Meanwhile, `nvim-tree-remote.nvim` lets you open a file in Treemux by double-clicking it with your mouse.

Ultimately, Tmux is just a multiplexer and these plugins will only extend what it currently does.

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