Monitor processes, CPU and RAM with htop

I’ve been using htop for so long that it’s now my go-to tool for the visual representation of key process performance metrics on a server: CPU usage, RAM, Swap, average load and most resource-hungry processes.

htop command for process monitoring

This is how a default htop screen looks on a properly configured colour-capable terminal: just run “htop” without any parameters.

How To Install htop in Linux

htop is available via EPEL repository for CentOS/RedHat/Fedora projects:

reys@rhel:~ $ yum whatprovides htop
Loaded plugins: fastestmirror, langpacks
Determining fastest mirrors
How To Install htop in MacOS

On MacOS I’ve been using brew to install htop:

greys@maverick:~ $ brew install htop

or

greys@maverick:~ $ brew upgrade htop

===> Upgrading 1 outdated package:
htop 2.0.2  ->  2.2.0_1
===> Upgrading htop

===> Installing dependencies for htop: ncurses

===> Installing htop dependency: ncurses

===> Downloading
https://homebrew.bintray.com/bottles/ncurses-6.1.mojave.bottle.tar.gz

#########################################################################
########## 100.0%

===> Pouring ncurses-6.1.mojave.bottle.tar.gz

===> Caveats
ncurses is keg-only, which means it was not symlinked into
/usr/local,
because macOS already provides this software and installing
another version in
parallel can cause all kinds of trouble.

If you need to have ncurses first in your PATH run:

echo 'export PATH="/usr/local/opt/ncurses/bin:$PATH"'  >>
~/.bash_profile

For compilers to find ncurses you may need to set:
export LDFLAGS="-L/usr/local/opt/ncurses/lib"
export CPPFLAGS="-I/usr/local/opt/ncurses/include"

For pkg-config to find ncurses you may need to set:
export PKG_CONFIG_PATH="/usr/local/opt/ncurses/lib/pkgconfig"

==> Summary
• /usr/local/Cellar/ncurses/6.1: 3,869 files, 8.3MB
==> Installing htop

Download
https://homebrew.bintray.com/bottles/htop-2.2.0_1.mojave.bottle.tar.gz

Pouring htop-2.2.0_1.mojave.bottle.tar.gz

Caveats
htop requires root privileges to correctly display all running processes,
so you will need to run `sudo htop`.
You should be certain that you trust any software you grant root privileges.

==> Summary
• /usr/local/Cellar/htop/2.2.0_1: 11 files, 188KB
Removing: /usr/local/Cellar/htop/2.0.2... (11 files, 185KB)

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```bash
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That's it for today. Hope you find htop command useful!
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**See Also**

- [htop – official page](#)
- [Unix Commands](#)
- [top command](#)
- [Basic Unix Commands](#)
- [Advanced Unix Commands](#)