How to set Nano as the default text editor on ClearOS

2021-07-20: WikiSuite will now support all major Linux distros. Thus, the information below is no longer updated. It may still be valid, or not. It will be eventually removed from this site, so anything relevant should be moved to the appropriate site. For anything related to ClearOS, please search among the following: ClearOS site, code base, Developer docs, Wiki or forum.

Please contact us if you would like to help out.

This document will guide you through the process of setting a default editor. There are two safe ways. Both are covered here.

Temporal editor passing a variable

You will need to put a variable, for example. To use nano when you are going to edit a crontab, do the following:

```
EDITOR=nano crontab -e
```

This will use nano only for that execution.

Permanent for specific commands

You will need to do the following:

```
alias crontab='EDITOR=nano /usr/bin/crontab'
```

This will work on your current session. If you want to make it permanent, you can put this line in your bash files

```
nano ~/.bash_profile
nano ~/.bashrc
```

Related links

https://tracker.clearos.com/view.php?id=5252