Atuin Shell history, synced

START HERE

`eval "$(atuin init zsh)"`
Hook into your shell

`atuin history list`
List recorded commands

`atuin import auto`
Bring in old history

`atuin stats`
Usage summary

`Ctrl+R`
Search history (TUI)

`atuin register -u <name> -e <mail>`
Create sync account

`atuin search <query>`
Search from the CLI

`atuin sync`
Sync now

Shell hook preexec / precmd → `records` → **Local DB** SQLite → `atuin sync` → **Sync server** end-to-end encrypted → `login + key` → **Other machines** same history

CONCEPTS

Atuin records each command with its directory, exit code, duration and host in a local SQLite database, so you can search by context, not just text.

Sync is end-to-end encrypted. Keep the key from atuin key safe: nobody can recover your history without it.

SETUP

`eval "$(atuin init zsh)"`
Enable in zsh (~/.zshrc)

`eval "$(atuin init bash)"`
Enable in bash (~/.bashrc)
Recent versions load bash-preexec themselves; ble.sh also works.

`atuin init fish | source`
Enable in fish (config.fish)

`atuin init nu | save <file>`
Generate nushell init script

`atuin import auto`
Import history of current shell

`atuin import <shell>`
Import bash, zsh, fish history

`atuin init <shell> --disable-up-arrow`
Keep Up arrow untouched

`atuin init <shell> --disable-ctrl-r`
Keep Ctrl+R untouched

`atuin doctor`
Diagnose setup problems

`atuin info`
Show paths and version

`atuin gen-completions --shell <shell>`
Generate completions

SEARCH UI

`Ctrl+R`
Open search from the prompt

`Up`
Open search from the prompt

`Enter`
Run selected command

`Tab`
Paste selected command to edit

`Esc / Ctrl+G`
Cancel, keep original input

`Ctrl+R`
Cycle filter mode (inside UI)

SEARCH UI (cont.)

`Ctrl+S`
Cycle search mode

`Alt+1-9`
Pick result by number

`Ctrl+N / Ctrl+P`
Next / previous result

`Ctrl+O`
Open inspector

`Ctrl+Y`
Copy selected command

`Ctrl+A d`
Delete selected entry

`Ctrl+A D`
Delete all entries matching it

`Ctrl+U`
Clear the query line

Bare Enter runs immediately only if enter_accept is true; set it to false to always edit first.

SEARCH (CLI)

`atuin search <query>`
Search history, print matches

`atuin search -i <query>`
Open interactive search

`atuin search --cwd <dir> <query>`
Only commands run in a directory

`atuin search --exit 0 <query>`
Only successful commands

`atuin search --exclude-exit 0 <query>`
Only failed commands

`atuin search --after "yesterday 3pm"`
Only commands after a time

`atuin search --before <time>`
Only commands before a time

`atuin search --limit <n>`
Cap number of results

`atuin search --reverse <query>`
Oldest first

`atuin search --human <query>`
Readable times and durations

SEARCH (CLI) (cont.)

`atuin search --format "{time} {command}"`
Custom output format
Placeholders: {command} {directory} {duration} {user} {host} {time} {exit} {relativetime}.

`atuin search --delete <query>`
Delete matching entries

Queries are prefix matches by default; use * or % as wildcards.

HISTORY AND STATS

`atuin history list`
List recorded history

`atuin history list --cwd`
Only this directory

`atuin history list --session`
Only this shell session

`atuin history list --cmd-only`
Commands without metadata

`atuin history list --format "{time} - {duration} - {command}"`
Custom list layout

`atuin stats`
Most used commands, all time

`atuin stats week`
Stats for the last 7 days

`atuin stats <date>`
Stats for one day
Periods: today, week, month, year, all or a date like 2025-04-01.

SYNC

`atuin register -u <name> -e <email>`
Create an account

`atuin login -u <name>`
Log in on another machine

`atuin key`
Show your encryption key

`atuin sync`
Sync now

`atuin sync -f`
Force a full sync

`atuin logout`
Log out of the server

A new machine needs both the password and the key from atuin key.

CONFIGURATION

`~/.config/atuin/config.toml`
Config file

`filter_mode = "directory"`
Default scope of the UI
Values: global, host, session, directory, workspace, session-preload. filter_mode_shell_up_key_binding sets a separate scope for Up.

`search_mode = "fuzzy"`
How queries match
Values: prefix, fulltext, fuzzy, daemon-fuzzy.

`style = "compact"`
UI style: auto, full, compact

`inline_height = 20`
Lines used by the UI; 0 = fullscreen

`enter_accept = true`
Enter runs the command at once

`auto_sync = true`
Sync after commands

`sync_frequency = "10m"`
Sync interval

`history_filter = ["^secret"]`
Regexes of commands never stored

`cwd_filter = ["^/tmp"]`
Regexes of directories to skip

`keymap_mode = "vim-normal"`
Vim keys in the UI

`secrets_filter = true`
Skip commands that contain secrets

`store_failed = false`
Do not store failed commands

RECIPES

Add Atuin to zsh and keep Up arrow native

```
eval "$(atuin init zsh --disable-up-arrow)"
# Ctrl+R opens Atuin, Up still walks plain history
```

Find what failed in this project

```
cd ~/src/app
atuin search --cwd . --exclude-exit 0 --limit 20
```

Pipe history into fzf

```
atuin history list --cmd-only | fzf
```

Set up a second machine

```
# machine A
atuin key
# machine B
atuin login -u <name>
atuin sync
```