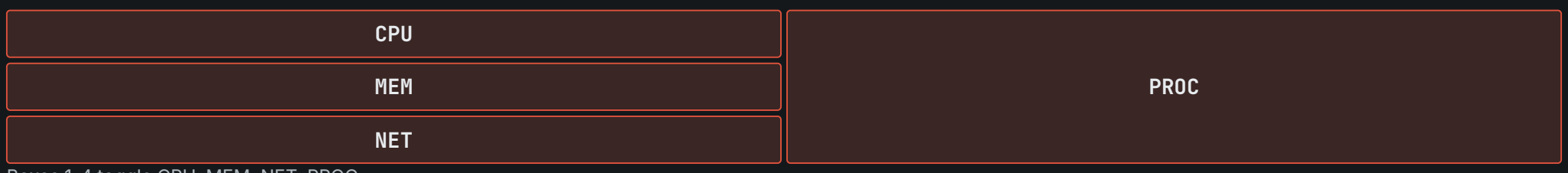
btop++ Resource monitor

START HERE

- **q** Quit
- **f** Filter processes
- **Esc** / **m** Main menu
- **Left** / **Right** Change sort column
- **F1** / **?** Help window
- **t** Terminate selected
- **Up** / **Down** Select a process
- **p** Cycle view presets



Boxes 1-4 toggle CPU, MEM, NET, PROC

CONCEPTS

Keys marked Selected only work while a process is highlighted in the PROC box; press Up or Down first.

Buttons with a highlighted letter on screen are clickable, and the mouse wheel scrolls lists.

Vim keys (h j k l g G) are off by default; with vim_keys on, help and kill move to Shift+H and Shift+K.

BOXES AND VIEWS

- **1** Toggle CPU box
- **2** Toggle MEM box
- **3** Toggle NET box
- **4** Toggle PROC box
- **5** Toggle GPU box

Where a GPU is detected; further GPU boxes sit on 6, 7 and 0.

- **p** / **Shift** + **p** Next / previous preset

Presets are box layouts defined in the config.

- **d** Toggle disks view in MEM
- **i** Disk IO mode with big graphs
- **Plus** / **Minus** Update interval +/- 100ms

Slower updates lower btop's own CPU use.

- **b** / **n** Previous / next network device
- **a** Toggle network auto scaling
- **y** Toggle synced network scaling
- **z** Reset network totals

PROCESS LIST

Up / **Down** Select a process

Enter Show details of selected process

Opens a panel with graphs, memory and parent info.

PgUp / **PgDn** Jump one page

Home / **End** First / last page

Left / **Right** Previous / next sort column

r Reverse sort order

e Toggle tree view

Space Expand / collapse in tree (Selected)

C Expand / collapse children

E Expand / collapse all in tree

c Per-core CPU usage of processes

% Toggle memory display mode

F Follow selected process

Keeps the selection on that process as the list reorders.

u Pause the process list

FILTER

f / **/** Enter a process filter

Matches name, command or user; Enter confirms, Esc cancels.

Delete Clear the filter

!<regex> Filter by regex

Start the filter text with ! to treat it as a regular expression.

`btop -f <text>`
Start with a filter

SIGNALS

t Terminate with SIGTERM (Selected)

Polite request to exit; try this first.

k Kill with SIGKILL (Selected)

Cannot be caught; unsaved work is lost.

s Choose or enter a signal (Selected)

Pick from the list or type a number.

N Set nice value (Selected)

Lowering below 0 needs root.

MENU AND CONFIG

Esc / **m** Toggle main menu

F2 / **o** Show options

Theme, update rate, graph symbols, sorting and more.

F1 / **?** / **h** Show help window

Ctrl + **r** Reload config from disk

Ctrl + **z** Sleep to background

Resume with fg.

q / **Ctrl** + **c** Quit

~/.config/btop/btop.conf
Config file

Under $XDG_CONFIG_HOME/btop when that is set; written on exit.

~/.config/btop/themes/
Your themes

Pick them in the options menu under color_theme.

COMMAND LINE

btop
Start btop

COMMAND LINE (cont.)

`btop -p <0-9>`
Start with a preset

`btop -u <ms>`
Set update rate

`btop -c <file>`
Use another config file

`btop -l`
256 colours only

For terminals without true colour.

`btop -t`
Force TTY mode

16 colours and ANSI graph symbols for a Linux console.

`btop --default-config`
Print default config

`btop --themes-dir <dir>`
Look for themes in a directory

`btop --help`
List all options

`btop --version`
Show version

RECIPES

Find and stop a runaway process

```
# open btop, then:
# f  type the name  Enter
# Down  select it
# t  (or k if it ignores
SIGTERM)
```

See who owns the memory

```
# Right until the Mem column is
sorted
# r  to flip the order
# e  tree view to group children
```

Dedicated process view

```
btop -p 2 -f nginx
# or hide boxes 1-3 with the
keys
```

Watch a service in tmux

```
tmux new -d -s mon 'btop'
tmux a -t mon
```