jless JSON viewer

CONCEPTS

jless is a read-only viewer, not an editor. It opens in data mode: no commas or closing braces, so structure stays visible. Press m for the familiar pretty-printed line mode.

Open file or pipe
↓ collapse
Navigate fold, search
↓ yank
Copy path or value paste into jq
Find a value, then take it with you

MOVING

j / Down / Ctrl + n
Down one line

k / Up / Ctrl + p
Up one line

J
Next sibling

K
Previous sibling

g / Home
First line

G / End
Last line

<n>g
Jump to line <n>

Ctrl + f / PageDown
Down one screen

Ctrl + b / PageUp
Up one screen

FOLDING

h / Left
Collapse, or go to parent

l / Right
Expand, or go to first child

Space
Toggle collapsed state

c
Collapse node and siblings

FOLDING (cont.)

e
Expand node and siblings

E
Deep expand node and siblings

SEARCHING

/<pattern>
Search forward

?<pattern>
Search backward

n
Next match

N
Previous match

COPY AND PRINT

y › y
Copy value, pretty-printed

y › s
Copy string without escapes

y › p
Copy path from root

y › q
Copy path as a jq filter

p*<key>*
Print instead of copy

VIEW AND SCROLL

m
Toggle data mode and line mode

Ctrl + d / Ctrl + u
Half screen down / up

COMMANDS AND FLAGS

:help / F1
Show built-in help

q / Ctrl + c / :quit
Quit

jless --yaml *<file>*
Parse input as YAML

<cmd> **| jless**
Read JSON from stdin