

# Configuration

With a basic knowledge of Qt, you could change the configuration of the default Kvantum theme by following these steps:

(1) Create the folder “*~/.config/Kvantum/*” (~ is your home);

(2) Create the file “*kvantum.kvconfig*” in the above folder with this line in it:

theme=***MY\_THEME***

Here, ***MY\_THEME*** could be any name you choose for the new configuration;

(3) Create the folder “*~/.config/Kvantum/MY\_THEME/*” and the file “***MY\_THEME.kvconfig***” in it;

(4) In the file “***MY\_THEME.kvconfig***”, you could write down your own configuration. The easiest way is to copy/paste the contents of “*style/themeconfig/default.kvconfig*” (from the source) to it and change the values of some variables. Please note that deleting a variable often means that its value will be taken from the default configuration, so that you could keep only those sections or variables you want to change. See [below](#) for a more accurate explanation.

There are many sections (groups) and variables (keys) in the config file. That's intentional: unlike most theme engines, Kvantum is supposed to be able to control virtually all aspects of widgets.

Here are the meanings of various sections:

## Sections Table

Section (Group)	Meaning
[%General]	General info on the theme and some general variables.
[PanelButtonCommand]	Panel for a button used to initiate an action, for example, a push button.
[PanelButtonTool]	Panel for a tool button.
[Dock]	A dock widget.
[DockTitle]	The title of a dock widget.
[IndicatorSpinBox]	Indicators of a spin widget.
[RadioButton]	A radio button.

[CheckBox]	A check box.
[Focus]	Generic focus indicator.
[GenericFrame]	Generic frame.
[LineEdit]	A line edit (one-line text editor).
[DropDownButton]	Indicator for a drop down button, for example, a tool button that displays a menu.
[ToolboxTab]	Redundant! Kvantum uses the default look for toolboxes.
[Tab]	The tab shape within a tab bar. Also the tear indicator of a tab bar and the close button of a tab.
[TabFrame]	The frame for tab widgets.
[TabBarFrame]	The frame that is drawn for a tab bar, ususally for a tab bar that isn't part of a tab widget.
[TreeExpander]	Indicators used to represent the branch of a tree in a tree view.
[HeaderSection]	A header section. Also its label and arrow.
[SizeGrip]	Window resize handle if it exists.
[Toolbar]	A toolbar. Also its handle and separator.
[Scrollbar]	Scrollbar increase/decrease indicators (arrows).
[ScrollbarGroove]	The groove of a scrollbar.
[ScrollbarSlider]	A scrollbar slider.
[Slider]	A slider (a classic widget for controlling a bounded value).
[SliderCursor]	The handle of a slider.
[Progressbar]	The groove and label of a progressbar.
[ProgressbarContents]	The progress indicator.
[ItemView]	An item in an item view.
[Splitter]	A splitter handle.
[Widget]	A plain QWidget.
[Menu]	The panel and frame of a menu. Also its frame shadow.
[MenuItem]	A menu item in a menu. Also the tear-off section of a menu.
[MenuBar]	The empty area of a menu bar.
[MenuBarItem]	A menu bar item, like the buttons in a menubar.
[TitleBar]	A title bar, like those used in QMdiSubWindow.
[ComboBox]	A combo box and its label.
[GroupBox]	A group box and the frame around it.
[ToolTip]	The panel for a tooltip label.
[StatusBar]	The frame of a status bar.

The following table shows the variables (keys) you could change to configure the current theme – without necessarily making a new one. These are the rules for the value inheritance:

**(1) If a section (group) is not present in your configuration, its variables and their values will be taken from the default config file.**

**(2) If a variable is not present in a section of your configuration:**

**(2a) First the “*inherits*” section will be searched for it and then, If nothing is found,**

**(2b) its value will be taken from the same section of the default config file.**

**There are three logical exceptions to these rules:**

**Exception No.1: The “*inherits*” variable will not be taken from the default config file if it is not present.**

**Exception No.2: If normal, focused or pressed text colors are omitted or not valid or if a section they could belong to is not present, they will be taken from the currently used color scheme.**

**Exception No.3: Any variable related to compositing will be neglected if omitted. For now, there are only three compositing variables, namely, *composite*, *menu\_shadow\_depth* and *tooltip\_shadow\_depth*.**

## Variables Table

Variable (Key)	Value	Meaning
author	string	Obvious.
comment	string	Obvious.
x11drag	true/false	Drag windows from anywhere possible? <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
alt_mnemonic	true/false	Show underlines only when Alt is pressed? <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
left_tabs	true/false	Align tabs to the left edge? Tabs are centered by default. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
joined_tabs	true/false	Join tabs together? They are detached by default. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
attach_active_tab	true/false	Attach the active tab to the tab widget? It is detached by default. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
group_toolbar_buttons	true/false	Raise and group neighbor toolbar buttons? By default, they are not raised. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>

composite	true/false	Use compositing to have translucent menus or tooltips? It is automatically set to false if no compositing is available. Its absence also means false. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
menu_shadow_depth	integer	The depth of the shadow menus cast. A value of zero, its absence or a false value for <i>composite</i> means no shadow. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
tooltip_shadow_depth	integer	The depth of the shadow tooltips cast. A value of zero, its absence or a false value for <i>composite</i> means no shadow. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
splitter_width	integer	The width of splitter handles. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
scroll_width	integer	The width of scrollbars. The default value is 12px. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
slider_width	integer	The width of sliders. The default value is 8px. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
slider_handle_width slider_handle_length	integer	The width or height of slider handles. The default values are 16px. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
check_size	integer	The width and height of checkboxes and radio buttons. The default value is 13px. <i>(Only in the General section.)</i>
inherits	string	The name of a section (in the same config file and without brackets) whose configuration is also used for this one.
frame	true/false	Draw a frame around the widget?
frame.top frame.bottom frame.left frame.right	integer	The height or width of the corresponding frame part.
frame.repeat.top.patternsize frame.repeat.bottom.patternsize frame.repeat.left.patternsize frame.repeat.right.patternsize	integer	The frame pattern sizes if a pattern is used for drawing the frame.
interior	true/false	Draw an interior for the widget?
interior.repeat.x.patternsize interior.repeat.y.patternsize	integer	The interior pattern sizes. <i>If you use patterns, set these to <math>\geq 50</math> for large areas because otherwise, CPU usage might get high.</i>
indicator.size	integer	Some widgets, like scrollbar arrows, have indicators. This is their size.
text.margin	true/false	Put a margin around the text?

text.margin.top text.margin.bottom text.margin.left text.margin.right	integer	The sizes of the text margins if there is any.
text.normal.color	String (#RRGGBB)	The color of the normal text as #RRGGBB or with a valid name like white, black, red, etc.
text.focus.color	String (#RRGGBB)	The color of the focused (hover) text as #RRGGBB or with a valid name like white, black, red, etc.
text.press.color	String (#RRGGBB)	The color of the pressed text as #RRGGBB or with a valid name like white, black, red, etc.
text.shadow	true/false	Draw a shadow for the text?
text.shadow.xshift text.shadow.yshift	integer	The vertical/horizontal shifts of the text shadow if it exists.
text.shadow.color	string (#RRGGBB)	The color of the text shadow as #RRGGBB or with a valid name like white, black, red, etc.
text.shadow.alpha	integer (0-255)	The opacity of the text shadow. 255 means completely opaque.
text.shadow.depth	integer	The text shadow depth.
size.minwidth size.minheight	integer	Minimum/fixed width or height of a menu/menuitem, for example.

If you want to make your own theme (see the file "Theme-Making"), you'll also need to know the meanings of these variables:

## Elements Table

Variable (Key)	Value	Meaning
interior.element	string	The SVG element to be used for drawing the interior of a widget.
frame.element	string	The SVG element to be used for drawing the frame of a widget.
indicator.element	string	The SVG element to be used for drawing the indicator of a widget.

## Some Examples

If you don't want menus and tooltips to be translucent or cast shadow and want the color scheme to be

used for all texts, you could use a blank configuration or a very basic one with just this in it:

```
[%General]
```

You could also be more explicit:

```
[%General]  
composite=false
```

```
[PanelButtonCommand]  
text.normal.color=none  
text.focus.color=none  
text.press.color=none
```

Here “none” is not a valid color, so text colors will be taken from the currently used color scheme.

If you want to have bigger buttons without increasing your font sizes, you could use this:

```
[%General]  
composite=true  
menu_shadow_depth=6  
tooltip_shadow_depth=6
```

```
[PanelButtonCommand]  
text.normal.color=white  
text.focus.color=#80C0FF  
text.press.color=white  
text.margin.top=4  
text.margin.bottom=4  
text.margin.left=5  
text.margin.right=5
```

```
[PanelButtonTool]  
inherits=PanelButtonCommand
```

To have black text shadows with light green focused text, use this (black text shadows are already defined but disabled in the default config file):

```
[%General]  
composite=true  
menu_shadow_depth=6
```

```
tooltip_shadow_depth=6
```

```
[PanelButtonCommand]  
text.normal.color=white  
text.focus.color=lightgreen  
text.press.color=white  
text.shadow=true
```

Note that, in the two examples above, the compositing values and normal/focused/pressed text colors are also added because otherwise, they would be disabled ([see the exceptions above](#)). In the previous example, customized text colors were disabled for all widgets other than push-buttons because there were no sections for them. If you want them back, you could add sections like these:

```
[PanelButtonTool]  
inherits=PanelButtonCommand
```

```
[Tab]  
inherits=PanelButtonCommand
```

```
[MenuItem]  
inherits=PanelButtonCommand
```

And so on.