Welcome to Manjaro XFCE 0.8.4!
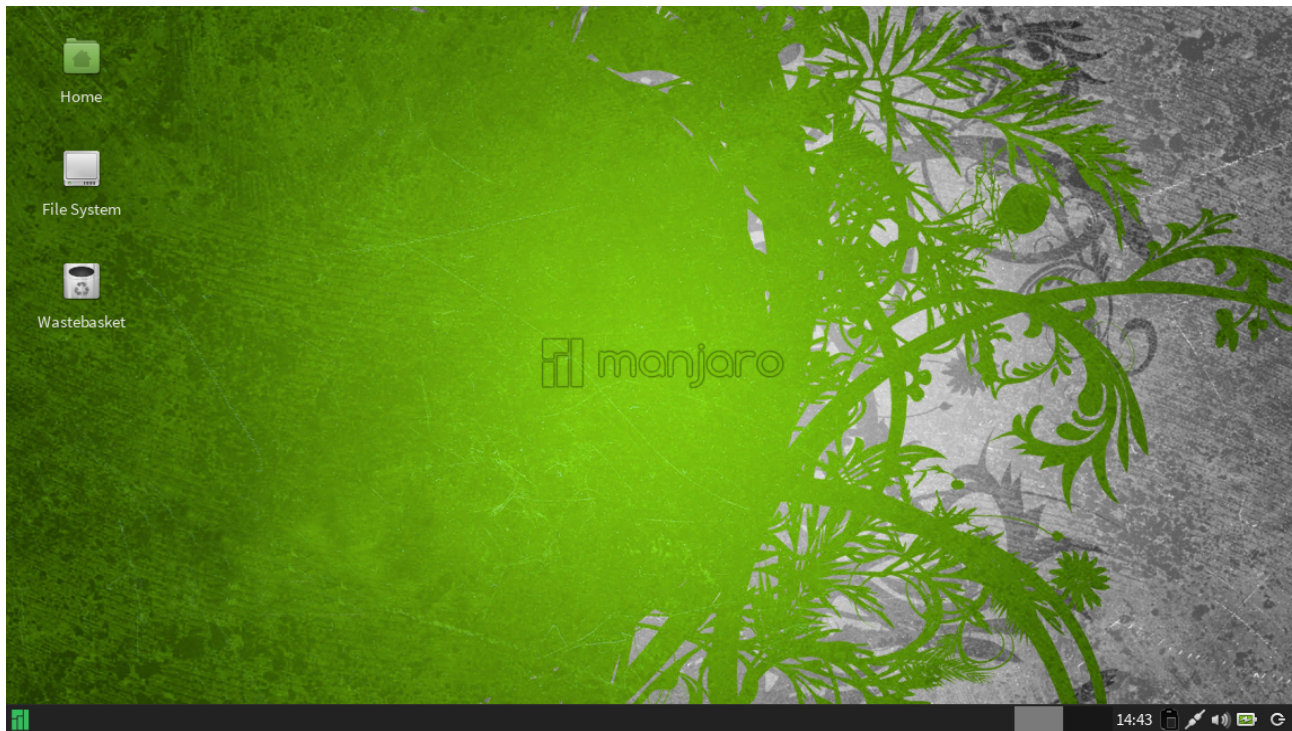
Contents

1. Introduction

This 0.8.4 release of the Manjaro XFCE flavour introduces several new enhancements and features:

- **Manjaro Exclusive:** *Pamac* replaces the *Package Browser, Pacman-GUI,* and *Kalu* applications to manage software and update the system
- Access to the Arch User Repository has been pre-installed
- The default kernel has been upgraded from 3.4 to version 3.7
- The XFCE environment itself has a brand new theme and look
- A comprehensive suite of new multimedia applications have been pre-installed

We hope you enjoy using it as much as we have creating it!

2. Customising The XFCE Panel

A major strength of the XFCE desktop is that it is highly configurable. This includes its highly versatile panel.

2.1 Moving the Panel

To move the panel elsewhere on the screen, right-click the panel itself, select *Panel ->*, and then *Panel Preferences*. A new window will pop-up, and the panel itself will be surrounded by dotted lines.

To then move the panel, ensure that the **Lock Panel** box is un-checked (otherwise, just click it). This will bring up dotted "handles" at either side of the panel, which can be clicked and conseuquently used to drag the panel to the desired location. Once complete, re-check the Lock Panel box to set it in place.

Note: If you wish for a vertical panel on the left or right of the screen, then select the *Vertical* or *Deskbar* option next to the **Mode** heading.

2.2 Adding Application Launchers to the Panel

It is very easy to add launchers for your favourite applications to the panel. To do so:

1. Find the desired application in your menu – or even in the Application Finder program
2. Drag and drop that application to the desired position on the panel
3. Confirm that you wish to create a launcher

Note: Existing launchers and components on the panel can also be moved. To do so:

1. Right-click the desired item and select **move**
2. Move the mouse-pointer to the desired location
3. Click to confirm the new position.

2.3 Adding New Widgets and Plugins to the Panel

Panel widgets and plugins are – generally speaking - helpful tools to undertake various tasks. For example, by default, this includes presenting the date and time, as well as a workspace switcher. There are numerous other tools available:

1. Right-click the panel, select *Panel*, and then **+ Add New Items...**
2. A new window willl pop-up. This will list all the available widgets and plugins available to add to the panel.
3. Highlight the desired addition, and then click the **Add** button.

3. Window Compositing Effects

In a nutshell, it is possible to enable additional transparency effects for application windows, depending on what they are (or are not) doing at the time. For example, this can include making application windows semi-transparent when they are being moved or when they are inactive. To look at the options available:

1. In the menu, find the *Settings* category, and then click the **Settings Manager**
2. A new window will pop-up. Find and launch **Window Manager Tweaks**
3. Open the compositor tab.

Once the compositor tab has been open, a numer of options to tweak the opacity / transparency of application windows will be presented. Each has a slider to determine the level of opacity / transparency.

Note: Effects can be tested out in real time – there is no need to close any windows or to reboot to see your tweaks.

4. ALSA

Although Pulse-Audio is used as standard for sound, ALSA can also be optionally enabled instead with the following command in the terminal:

sudo pacman -S xfce4-mixer

Once installed, right-click on the volume icon, select *Preferences*, and then the *Behaviour* tab. Here, under the header *Volume Control Command*, simply replace **pavucontrol** with **xfce4-mixer**. Press OK to save the changes. Once done, go into your sound settings to ensure that ALSA rather than Pulse-Audio is being used.

5. Accessing the Arch User Repository (AUR)

The Arch User Repository contains a substantial amount of additional software not otherwise available from the official Manjaro repositories. However, the AUR itself is not officially supported by the Manjaro Team, <u>so use it at your own risk</u>.

All the necessary software has already been pre-installed, so the AUR can be immediately accessed by using the **yaourt** command in the terminal (not Synapse), along with the full or partial name of the software package desired:

yaourt [full or partial name of software package]

More details on accessing the AUR can be found in our *Beginner User Guide,* available in the Manjaro folder / User Guides desktop menu option.

6. Power Management

It is worth taking the time to configure your system's power management, particularly as the default settings will not do very much. For example, this can include determining what a laptop will do if the screen is closed (e.g. suspend or hibernate), and/or what will happen if the battery runs very low. To determine the behaviour of your system:

1. In the menu, find the *Settings* category, and then click the **Settings Manager**
2. Click the **Power Manager** option.

7. System Security (Firewall and Open-SSH)

Uncomplicated FireWall (UFW) and Open-SSH have not been pre-installed. To install them, enter the following command in the terminal:

sudo pacman -S ufw openssh

In addition, new users may wish to obtain a user-friendly graphical interface to use the firewall. To do so, enter the following command in the terminal:

yaourt gufw