

NAME

xdg-settings – get various settings from the desktop environment

SYNOPSIS

xdg-settings { *get* | *check* | *set* } {**property**} [**subproperty**] [**value**]

xdg-settings { **--help** | **--list** | **--manual** | **--version** }

DESCRIPTION

xdg-settings gets various settings from the desktop environment. For instance, desktop environments often provide proxy configuration and default web browser settings. Using xdg-settings these parameters can be extracted for use by applications that do not use the desktop environment's libraries (which would use the settings natively).

xdg-settings is for use inside a desktop session only. It is not recommended to use xdg-settings as root.

OPTIONS

--help

Show command synopsis.

--list

List all properties xdg-settings knows about.

--manual

Show this manual page.

--version

Show the xdg-utils version information.

PROPERTIES

When using xdg-settings to get, check or set a desktop setting, properties and possibly sub-properties are used to specify the setting to be changed.

Some properties (such as default-web-browser) fully describe the setting to be changed. Other properties (such as default-url-scheme-handler) require more information (in this case the actual scheme to set the default handler for) which must be provided in a sub-property.

EXIT CODES

An exit code of 0 indicates success while a non-zero exit code indicates failure. The following failure codes can be returned:

1

Error in command line syntax.

2

One of the files passed on the command line did not exist.

3

A required tool could not be found.

4

The action failed.

SEE ALSO

xdg-mime(1), **xdg-open(1)**, **[MIME applications associations specification](#)**^[1]

EXAMPLES

Get the desktop file name of the current default web browser

```
xdg-settings get default-web-browser
```

Check whether the default web browser is firefox.desktop, which can be false even if "get default-web-browser" says that is the current value (if only some of the underlying settings actually reflect that value)

```
xdg-settings check default-web-browser firefox.desktop
```

Set the default web browser to google-chrome.desktop

```
xdg-settings set default-web-browser google-chrome.desktop
```

Set the default mailto URL scheme handler to be evolution.desktop

```
xdg-settings set default-url-scheme-handler mailto evolution.desktop
```

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NOTES

1. MIME applications associations specification
<http://www.freedesktop.org/wiki/Specifications/mime-apps-spec/>