Install i3 (or i3-gaps)

pacman -S i3 (installs multiple packages: 1) i3-wm 2) i3blocks 3)i3lock 4) i3status

pacman -S i3-gaps

Additional packages:

- dmenu (utily for launching apps)
- feh (image/wallpaper utility)
- conky (display system info)
- xorg-backlight (probably already installed, adjust laptop screen brightness)
- lxappearance (for GTK-theme customization)

To boot:

- Install xorg (also installs xorg-server)
  - Test if xorg works by running 'startx'
- Install xorg-xinit
- Add "exec i3" to "xinitrc" in user home directory or /etc/X11/xinit/ and replace default exec's (by default there is e.g. xterm, replace it)
  - to get xinitrc in home directory use: cp /etc/X11/xinit/xinitrc ~/.xinitrc
- Add to ~/.bash_profile:

  if [[-z $DISPLAY]] && [[$(tty) = /dev/tty1]]; then startx fi
- Make sure that a terminal emulator is installed before autostarting i3. In case of being stuck in i3 without being able to open any terminal, use another ttyN, run as root, and install one.

Set correct resolution and background

- run xrandr to see information on possible options, as well as connected screen (e.g. VGA-1)
- run feh –bg-scale /path/to/image.png (pay attention to include the *full* path, not ~)

Add the following options to ~/.xinitrc

- Run xrandr –output VGA-1 –mode 1920x1080
- add “~/.fehbg &” to .xinitrc

GRUB (adjust kernel paramters for resolution)

- In /etc/default/grub set GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT =“quiet video=1920x1080” or ...“quiet vga=799” (deprecated method for 1600x1200). Check if format is supported.
- To activate new config, run: grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg
- For GRUB itself, set GRUB_GFXMODE to a desired resolution.

For framebuffer info

- hwinfo –framebuffer –log hwinfo.log (did not work for me without logging)

Custom ratios in VirtualBox (on host)

in VirtualBox install folder, run in shell: ./VBoxManage setextradata “Arch Linux” “CustomVideoModel” “1920x1080x32”