

Complete Guide: Customize Lock Screen Background on Linux Mint XFCE

How to resolve lock screen conflicts and set your custom image

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The Problem

On Linux Mint XFCE, it's common to have **conflicts between multiple lock screens** that cause:

- ❤️ Black backgrounds
- 🔄 Duplicate lock screens
- 🚫 Inability to customize the background
- ⚠️ Service errors

Typical symptoms:

```
GDBus.Error:org.freedesktop.DBus.Error.ServiceUnknown: The name org.freedesktop.ScreenSaver was not provided by any .service files
```

Step-by-Step Solution

Step 1: Complete System Cleanup

First, let's remove all existing lock screens and their configuration files:

```
# Remove all lock screen packages
sudo apt remove --purge light-locker light-locker-settings xfce4-screensaver xscreensaver cinnamon-
screensaver mate-screensaver -y

# Remove residual configuration files
sudo find /etc -name "*screensaver*" -o -name "*light-locker*" 2>/dev/null | xargs sudo rm -f
sudo find /usr -name "*screensaver*" -o -name "*light-locker*" 2>/dev/null | xargs sudo rm -f
rm -rf ~/.config/autostart/*screensaver* ~/.config/autostart/*light-locker*
```

Step 2: Clean Reinstallation

Reinstall only the necessary components:

```
# Update repositories
sudo apt update

# Install light-locker and gnome-screensaver (required for the service)
sudo apt install light-locker light-locker-settings gnome-screensaver -y
```

Step 3: Image Preparation

Copy your preferred image to a system-accessible location:

```
# Find your image
find /home/$USER -name "*wallpaper*" -o -name "*pxfuel*" 2>/dev/null

# Copy image to system (replace with your image path)
sudo cp "/home/$USER/Pictures/wallpaperflare.com_wallpaper (1).jpg" /usr/share/backgrounds/
lockscreen.jpg
sudo chmod 644 /usr/share/backgrounds/lockscreen.jpg
```

Step 4: XFCE Configuration

Configure XFCE to use light-locker:

```
# Create XFCE configuration
cat > ~/.config/xfce4/xfconf/xfce-perchannel-xml/xfce4-session.xml << 'EOF'
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<channel name="xfce4-session" version="1.0">
  <property name="general" type="empty">
    <property name="LockCommand" type="string" value="light-locker-command -l"/>
    <property name="SaveOnExit" type="bool" value="true"/>
  </property>
</channel>
EOF
```

Step 5: Background Configuration

Set your image as the lock screen background:

```
# Configure gsettings to use your image
gsettings set org.gnome.desktop.screensaver picture-uri "file:///usr/share/backgrounds/
lockscreen.jpg"
gsettings set org.gnome.desktop.screensaver picture-options "scaled"
```

Step 6: Test

Test the system:

```
# Test the lock screen
light-locker-command -l
```

Final Configuration

File Structure

```
/usr/share/backgrounds/
├─ lockscreen.jpg      # Your main image
├─ lockscreen-alt.jpg  # Alternative image (optional)

~/ .config/xfce4/xfconf/xfce-perchannel-xml/
├─ xfce4-session.xml   # XFCE configuration
```

Useful Commands

```
# Lock screen manually
light-locker-command -l

# Change image (replace with path to new image)
sudo cp "/path/to/new/image.jpg" /usr/share/backgrounds/lockscreen.jpg
gsettings set org.gnome.desktop.screensaver picture-uri "file:///usr/share/backgrounds/lockscreen.jpg"

# Check lock screen status
ps aux | grep light-locker
```





Automatic Script

To automate the process, use the included `set-lockscreen.sh` script:

```
# Make script executable
chmod +x set-lockscreen.sh

# Run the script
./set-lockscreen.sh
```

The script:

-  Automatically finds images in the same folder
-  Lets you choose between available images
-  Automatically configures the lock screen
-  Handles permissions and configurations

Troubleshooting

Problem: "ServiceUnknown" Error

Cause: Missing gnome-screensaver service

Solution:

```
sudo apt install gnome-screensaver -y
```

Problem: Black Background

Cause: Image not accessible or wrong permissions

Solution:

```
# Verify image exists
ls -la /usr/share/backgrounds/lockscreen.jpg

# Fix permissions
sudo chmod 644 /usr/share/backgrounds/lockscreen.jpg

# Reset gsettings
gsettings set org.gnome.desktop.screensaver picture-uri "file:///usr/share/backgrounds/lockscreen.jpg"
```

Problem: Duplicate Lock Screens

Cause: Residual configuration files





Solution:

```
# Remove all autostart files
rm -f ~/.config/autostart/*lock* ~/.config/autostart/*screensaver*

# Restart session
sudo reboot
```

Conclusions

With this guide you have:

-  **Resolved** lock screen conflicts
-  **Configured** light-locker as main system
-  **Set** your custom image
-  **Created** a stable and functional system

Solution Benefits

-  **Clean system:** No conflicts between lock screens

- 🎨 **Customizable:** Easy to change image
- ⚖️ **Stable:** Standard XFCE configuration
- 🛠️ **Maintainable:** Easy to update and modify

Next Steps

1. 🖼️ **Further customization:** Use "Light Locker Settings" for other options
2. 💾 **Backup:** Save configuration for future updates
3. 🔍 **Explore:** Try other images for the lock screen

Additional Resources

- [Official XFCE Documentation](#)
- [Linux Mint Community](#)
- [Light Locker GitHub](#)

Guide created to solve lock screen issues on Linux Mint XFCE. Tested and working!

Enjoy your personalized lock screen! 🗝️✨