Ferrolho's blog

About

WeChat Desktop on Linux

Dec 22, 2018

大家好！今天我向大家讲解如何在 Ubuntu 18.04 系统上安装微信桌面客户端。

This post describes how to install *WeChat for PC* on Ubuntu using Wine.
More specifically, I will be using Ubuntu 18.04, but the procedure should be similar for other releases.

Installing WineHQ

Install WineHQ according to the instruction in https://wiki.winehq.org/Ubuntu.
Install the *staging branch* for the most up-to-date packages.

Setup Wine

Open a terminal (`Ctrl + Alt + T`) and run the following commands:
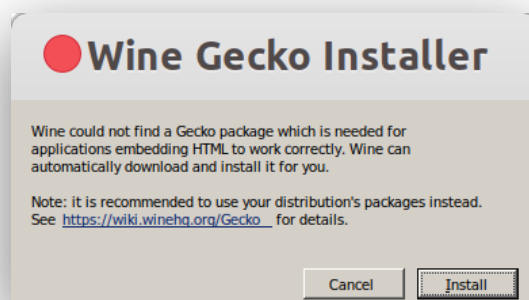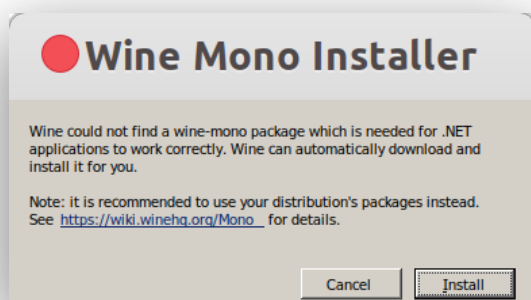
```
$ export WINEARCH=win32
```

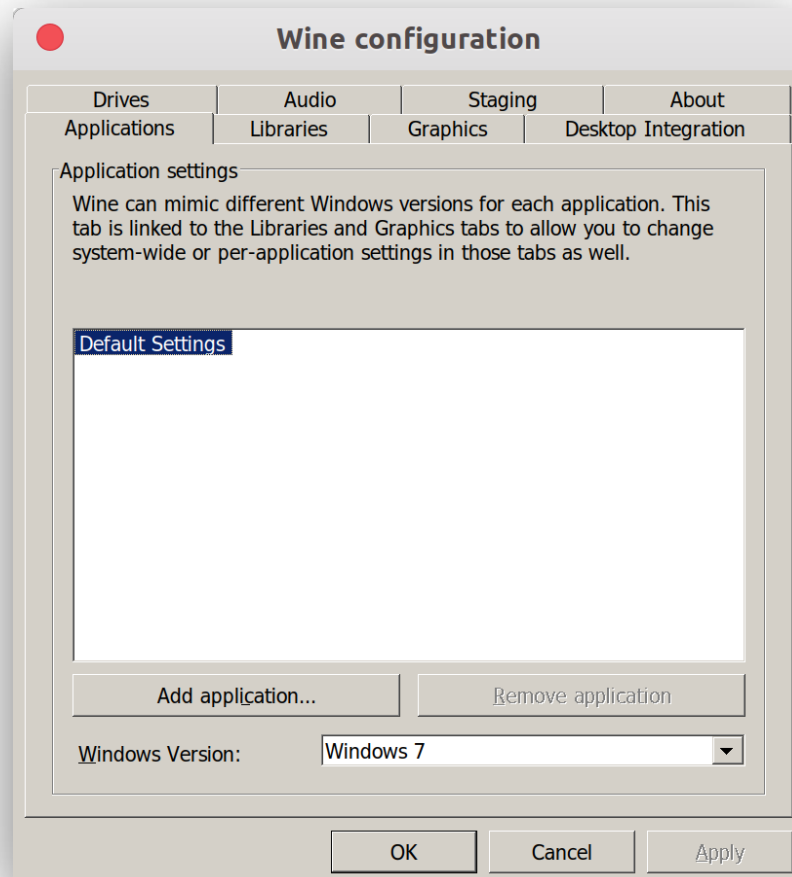```
$ export WINEPREFIX=~/.wine32
```

```
$ winecfg
```

When you run the `winecfg` command for the first time, Wine will start to setup the required environment under the specified `WINEPREFIX`, which in this case we set to `~/.wine32`.
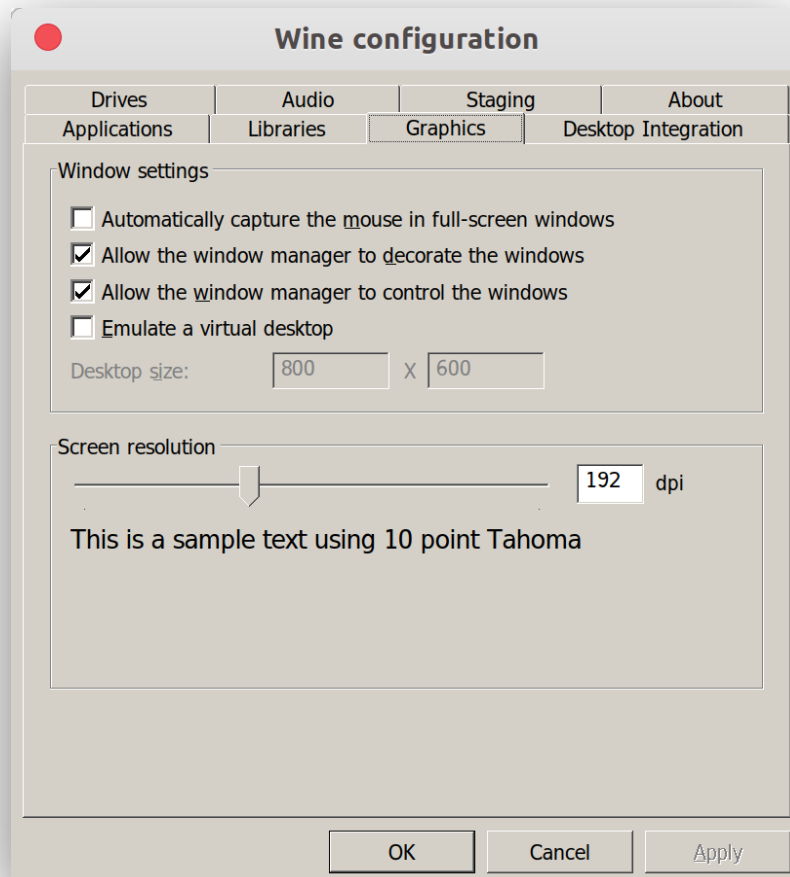
You should be prompted with the dialogues below. Choose **Install** for both.

Finally, once both installers are finished, this window should appear:

If you are using a HiDPI screen, it might be worth scaling the interface under *Screen resolution*, in the **Graphics** tab:

Providing a Chinese font

For the Chinese characters to be rendered correctly we need to provide Wine with a Chinese font. We will use `winetricks` for this, which is a helper script to download and install extra Wine stuff.

Download `winetricks`:

```
$ wget   https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Winetricks/winetricks/master/
```

Set the executable flag:

```
$ chmod +x winetricks
```

Some winetricks "packages" require a few external tools to be installed. We need `cabextract`:

```
$ sudo apt install cabextract
```

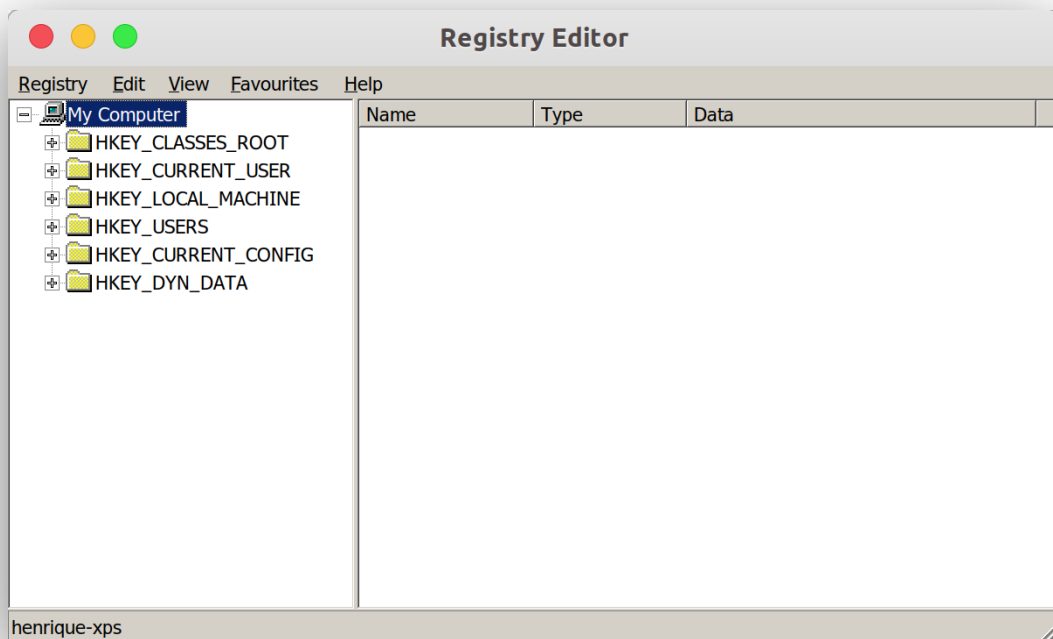And now we install the fonts and some other libraries:

```
$ ./winetricks corefonts gdiplus riched20 riched30 wenquanyi
```

Finally, we need to edit `regedit` to enable the font we just installed. **Download this .reg file**.
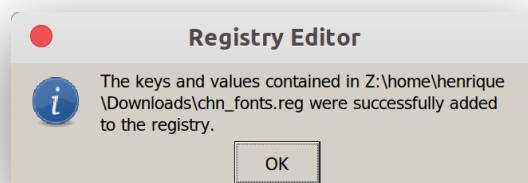
Open `regedit` with the command:

```
$ ./winetricks regedit
```
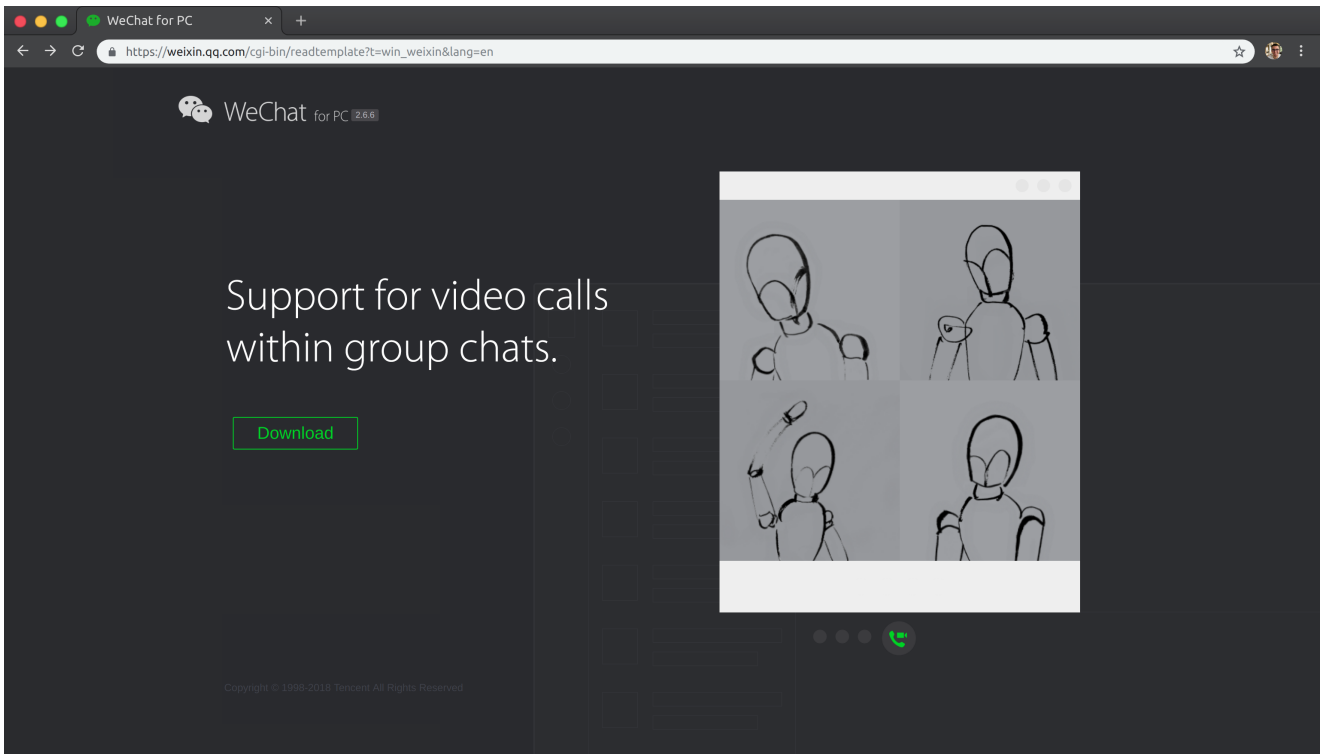
The following window should show up:

In the Menu bar, click **Registry** and select **Import Registry File…**

When the browser shows up, select the *.reg* file you have just downloaded. If successful, the following dialogue should greet you:

Installing WeChat

We are now ready to install WeChat itself. Download the installer from **here**:
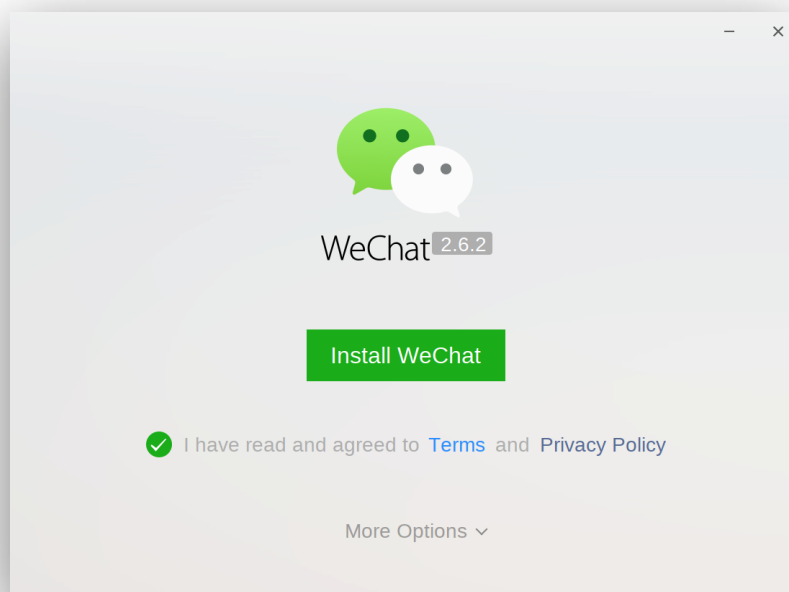
Once the download has finished, install it by running:
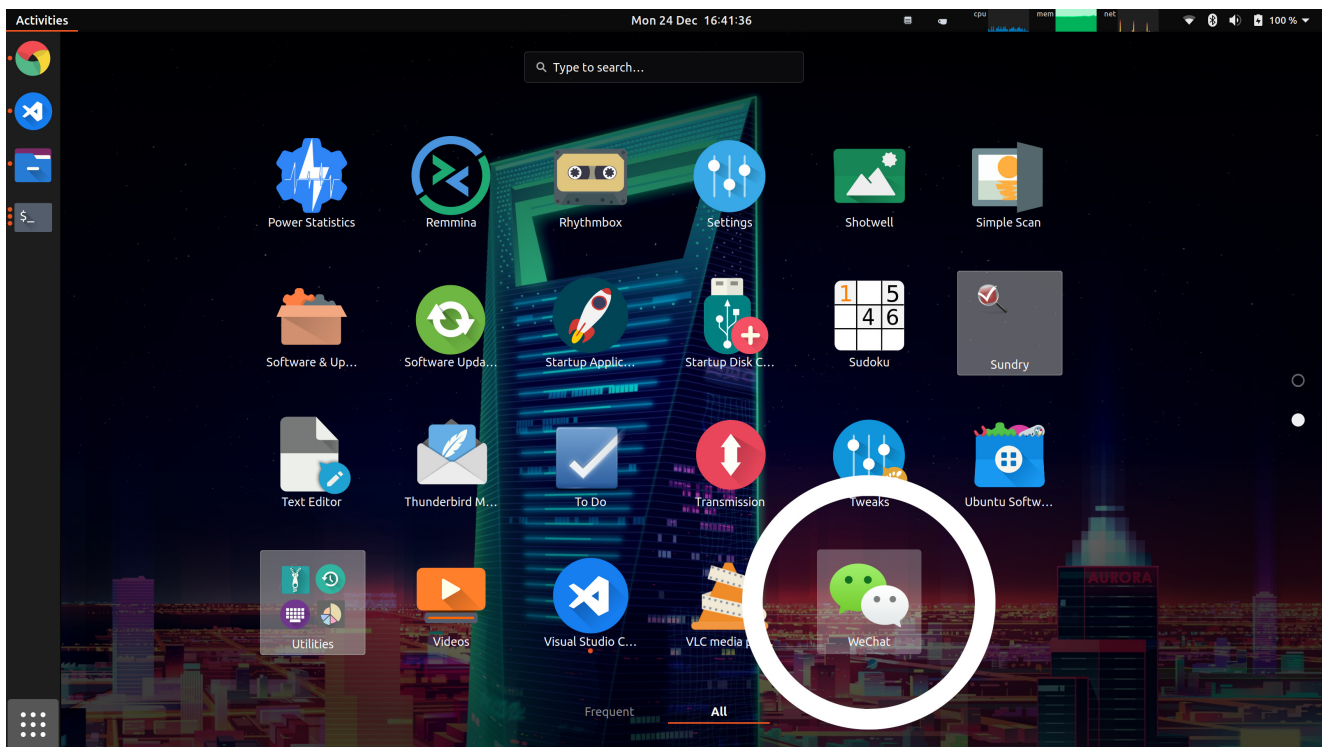
```
$ wine ~/Downloads/WeChat_C1018.exe
```

> *Please note that your installer might be more recent than the version shown here. As such, you might need to change* `WeChat_C1018.exe` *to whichever installer you have downloaded.*

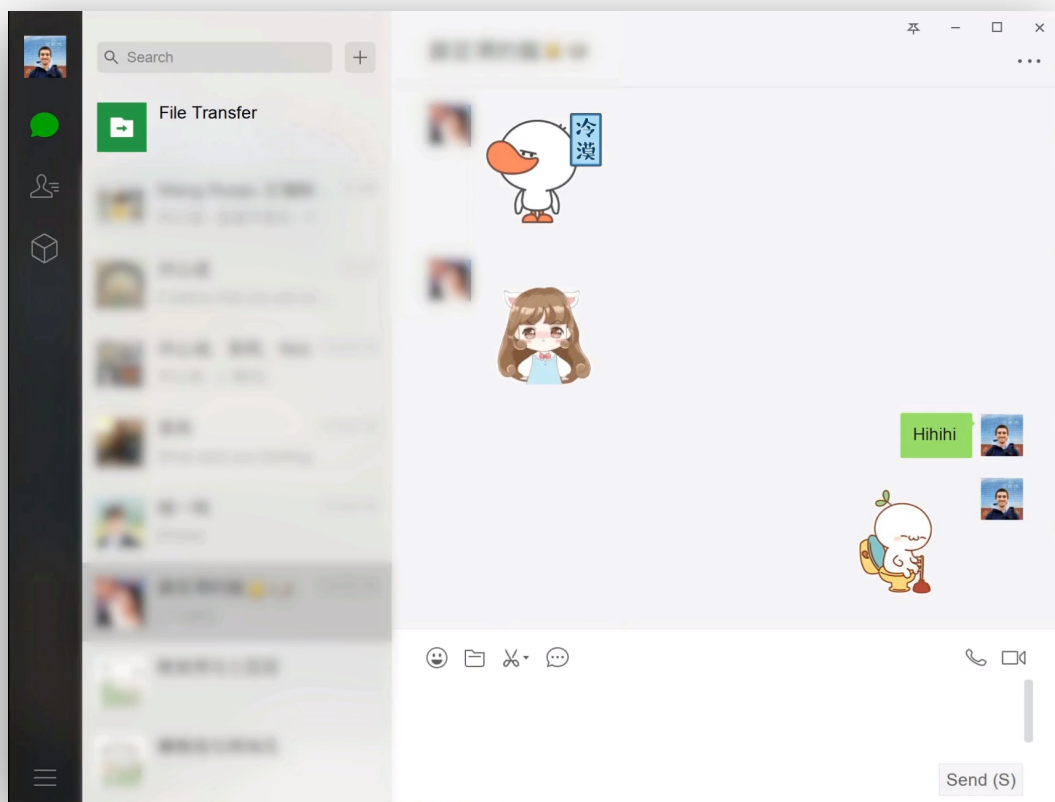The installer should start. Click on *Install WeChat*.

Final result

After the installation has completed, you may launch WeChat. The application should be listed in the Applications drawer:
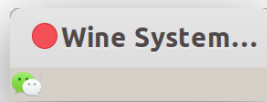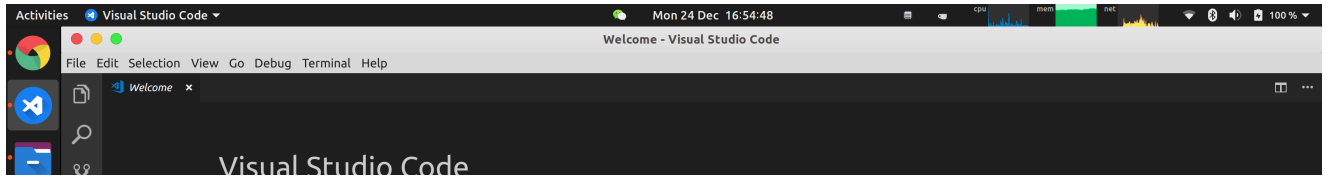

Stickers work too!

System Tray on Gnome

If you are using *Gnome* on *Ubuntu 18.04* or a more recent release, chances are you will be greeted by this nasty windowed legacy system tray:

Install **this Gnome Extension** and the problem will be gone:

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Suleman Hasib • 9 months ago

Does file transfer work?

1 ⌃ │ ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

        Henrique Ferrolho Mod ➜ Suleman Hasib
        • 9 months ago • edited

        Yes! Check the screenshot below: