HandyLinux Configuration

HandyLinux comes with configuration tools :

- **Configure your desktop** : wallpaper, desktop icons, display brightness.
- **Configure your system theme** : Internal appearance of windows, icon theme, used fonts, toolbars/menus/windows, sounds.
- **Configure your windows** : window decorations, keyboard shortcuts, theme and focus behavior (window in the foreground).
- **Configure your login screen** : automatic connection, theme of the login screen and numlockX.
- **Configure your mouse** : device used, behavior, theme and focus behavior (active window).
- **Configure your panel** : the panel of HandyLinux is handled by the “Xfce Panel”
- **Set time and date** : adjust the date and time displayed by your system.
- **Configure your keyboard layout** : change your keyboard layout from the panel.

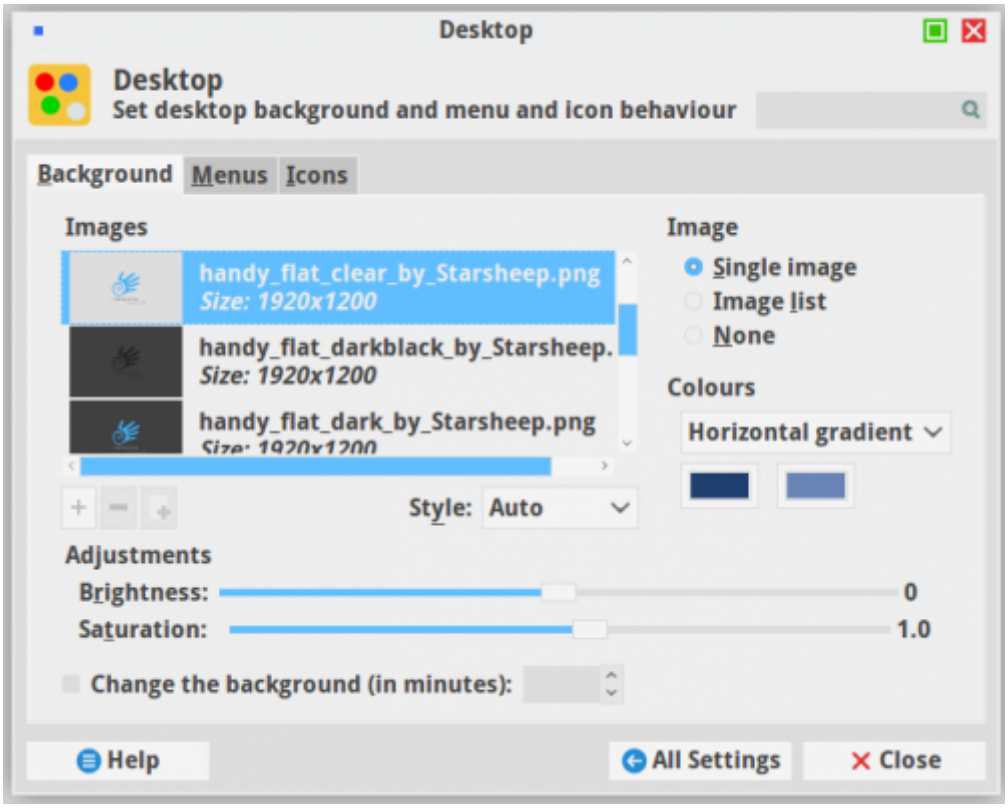
For a complete configuration, visit the dedicated section

Configure your desktop

To open the desktop settings that allow you to access the management and configuration of your wallpapers and icons on the desktop system:

- HandyMenu, “Raiders” section, “Detailed Configuration”, **Desktop**
- or simply right-click on the desktop and choose “Desktop Settings”

Configure wallpapers



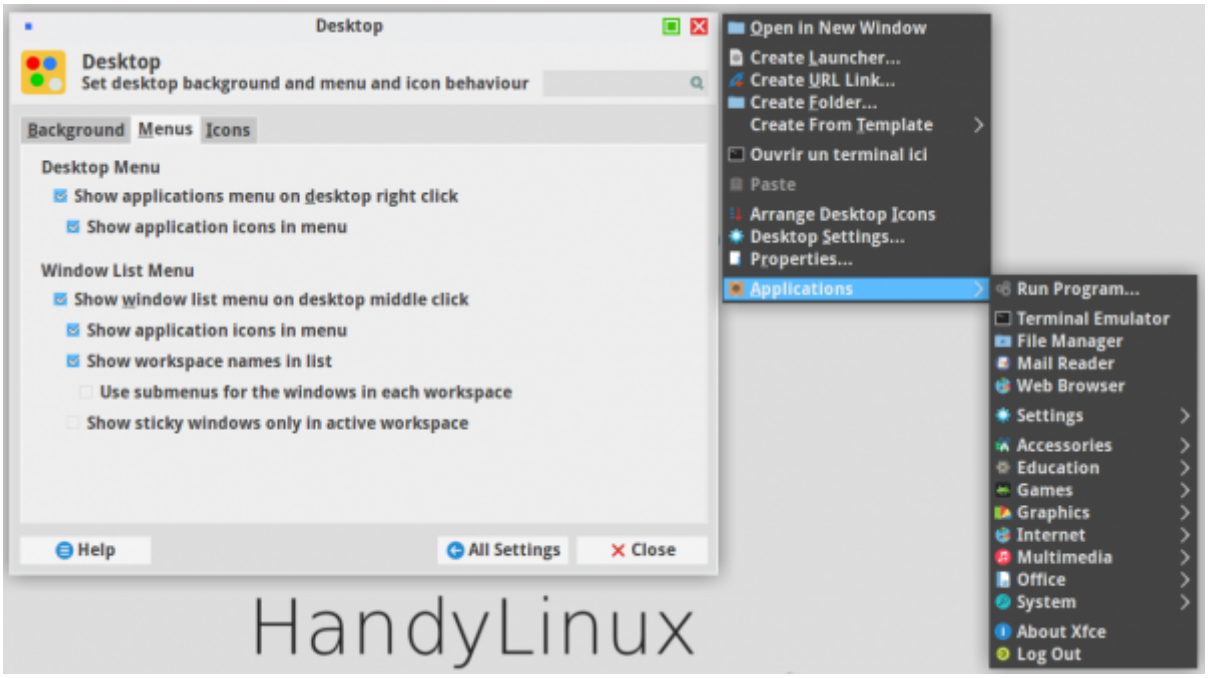
“Background” Tab does open by default and allows you to choose wallpapers among those already included in the distribution but also add the ones you want.
Just click on an image available in the menu : it is automatically applied to your desktop and then click “Close” once the change is made so that the choice is persistent.

Add wallpapers :
To add images so that they are available in the selection menu, just click on the blue cross representing a “+” below left menu. A file manager window opens. Navigate through your folders and select the image(s) you want to add and click “Add”.

Where to find wallpapers? :
HandyLinux has its own wallpapers website with walls for everybody without any adds ;) ⇒ http://wallpapers.handylinux.org ..
Here are some external websites to make your choice :)

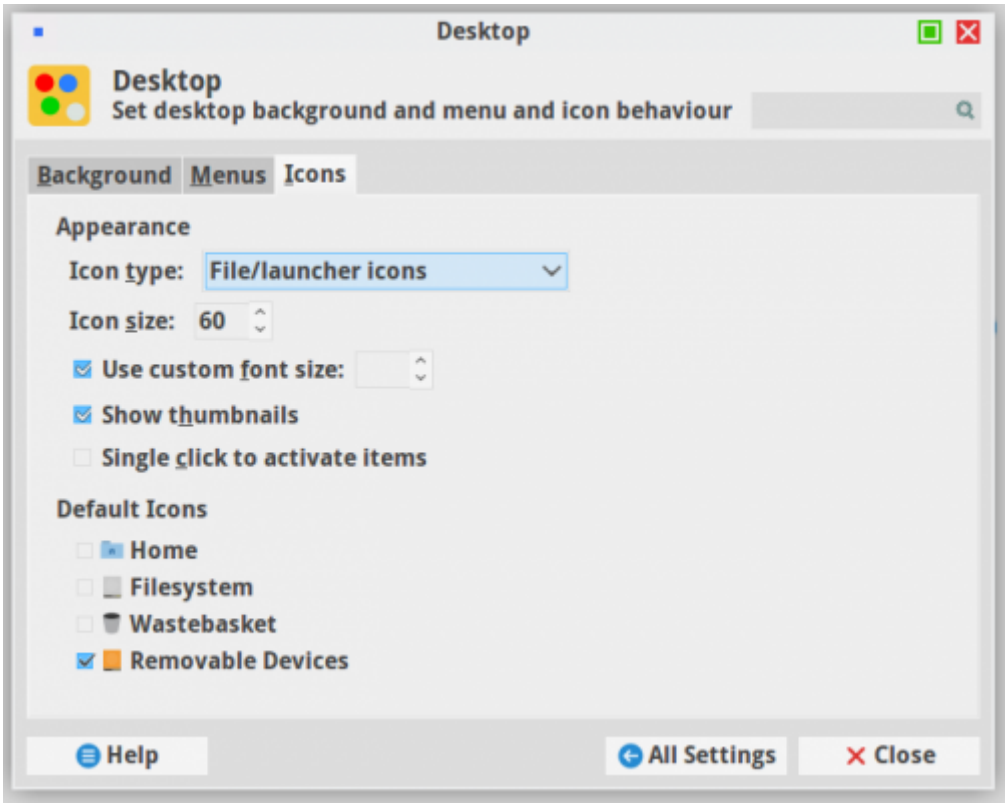
- Gnome-Look.org
- Wallbase.cc
- VladStudio
- thePaperWall.com
- WallpapersWide.com
- ZoneWallpaper.free.fr

Desktop menu



If you want to access the **full XFCE menu** when you right-click the desktop, click the “Menus” tab in the desktop preferences, then choose “Show applications menu …”. By default, right-click on the desktop displays the context menu of the folder “Desktop”.
You can also see a list of open windows when middle-clicking on the desktop.

Desktop icons



The “Icons” tab allows you to define the type of icons that appear on your desktop:

- No icon: Disable the display of desktop icons. Note that if you choose this option, the desktop context menu will not be displayed anymore.

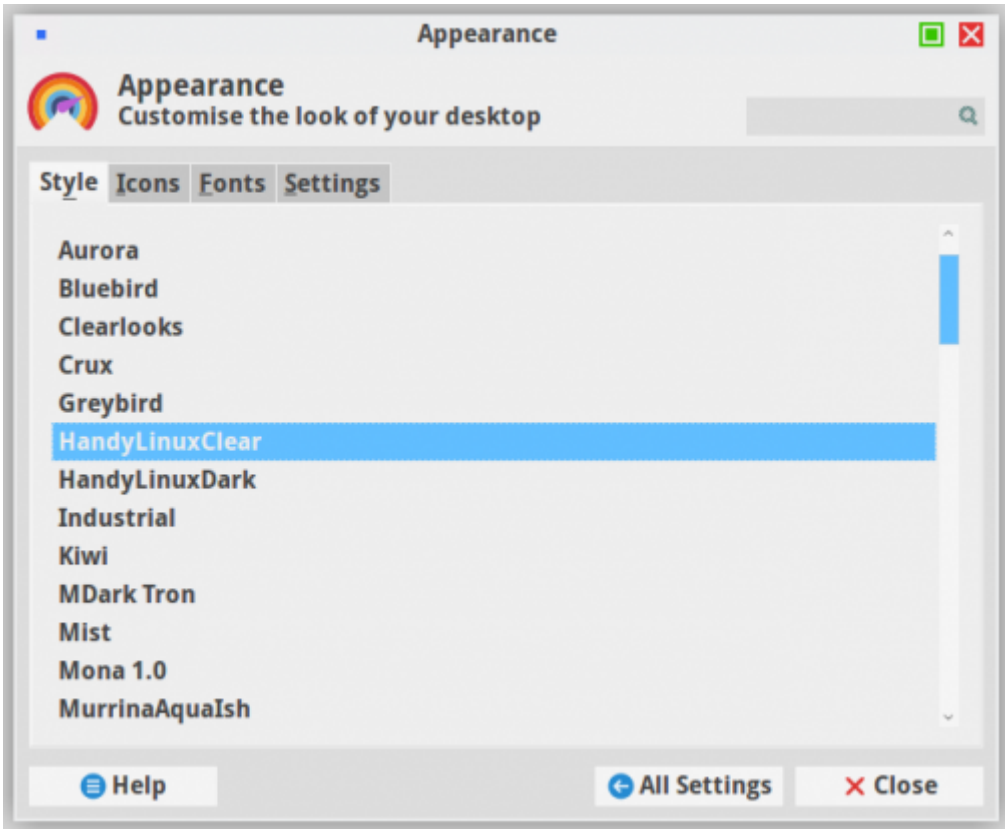
- Minimized applications's icons: minimized windows are displayed in the taskbar and on the desktop.
- Icons of files/applications: displays all the items from the “Desktop” folder (HandyLinux default behaviour).

It is possible to select from the bottom list (“Default icons”) icons that will appear on your desktop and can allow you to add shortcuts to applications or folders.

Configure your system theme

This section allows you to configure the internal appearance of windows, the icon theme used, the font, and the windows menu bar. To access it:

- HandyMenu, section “Raiders”, “detailed configuration”, **Appearance**



Style

In this tab you choose from themes already installed, the interior appearance of your windows, simply click on the choices present to observe directly the changes which helps to make a choice quickly. All system windows will have the look you choose here.

System icons

Here are a few icon packs available. Simply select the one you want to see the changes in the panel. If you want a larger view, open the file manager to see more icons changed.

System fonts

In this tab, settings the font can be adjusted :

- Default font: Choose the font that will be used for display on the overall system as well as its size.
- Report: allows to refine the visual rendering order to have a more aesthetic appearance.
- DPI: change the screen resolution if the handwriting fonts do not appear in the correct size.

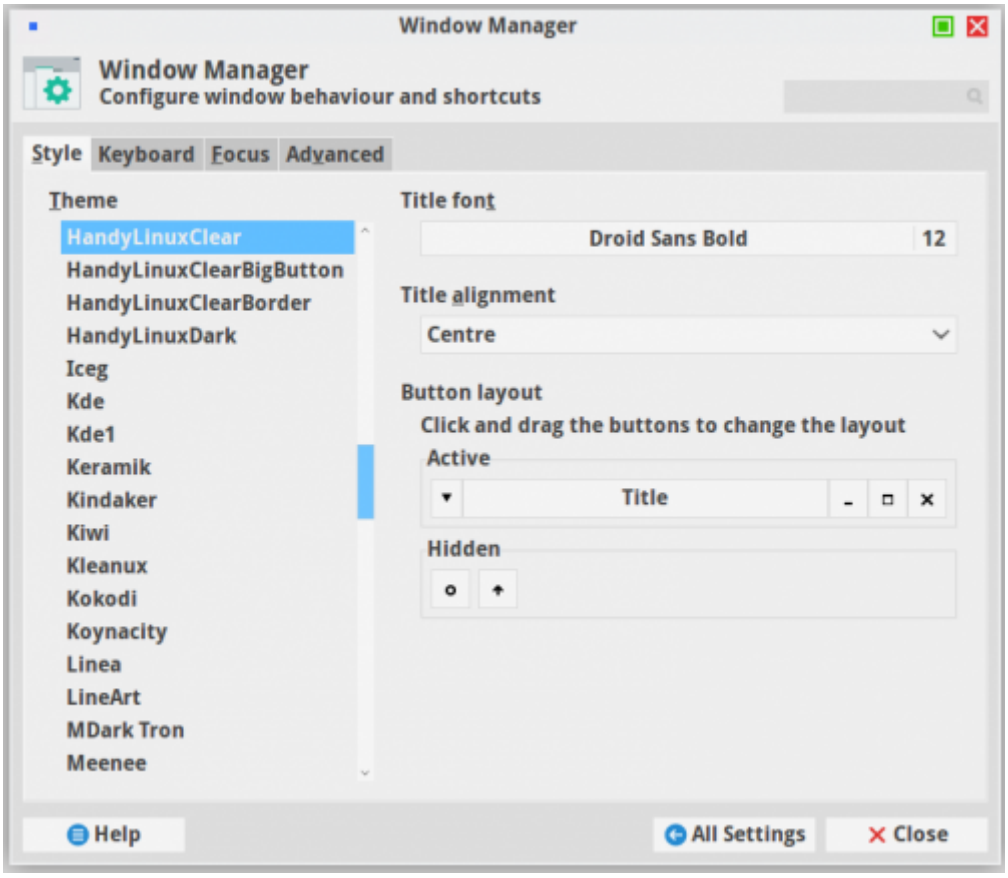
Configure menus, buttons & sounds

Semi-detailed configuration :

- Style toolbar: choose if icons and text must appear individually or together.
- Menus and buttons: to select the display of icons in menus and buttons.
- Sounds and events: lets you choose what sounds are played by the system to make it more or less warning.

Configure your windows

Configure your window decorations, keyboard shortcuts and the award of focus (active window).



Choice of windows decoration

Decoration window frame including buttons windows of your programs, default is “clear” but it can change its appearance by following these steps:

- HandyMenu section “Raiders”, “Detailed configuration” then “Window manager”
- In the tab “Style” (open by default), choose from the available list a theme that suits you : a simple left-click on it directly displays the changes.

Keyboard shortcuts

You can change the shortcuts to close a window, to move among open windows, etc. The method is simple: double-click (two pressures left-clicking) on the line to change the shortcut, then just type your new shortcut in the dialog that appears.
note that if you want to change applications shortcuts, you have to open the HandyMenu section “Raiders”, choose “detailed configuration”, then “Keyboard” tab

Focus mode

The award of focus (active window) is set in this tab :

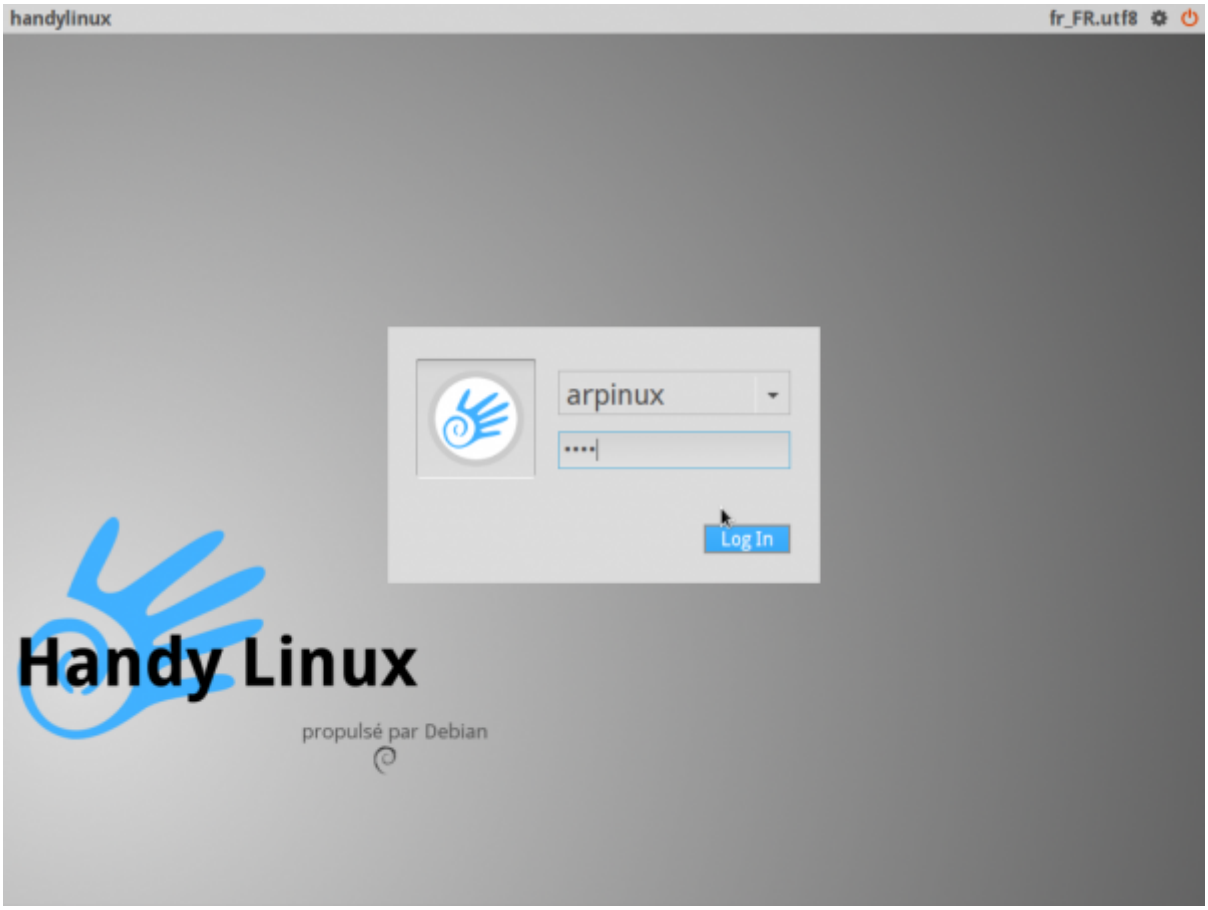
- Click to focus: You must perform a left-click on a part of the window to make it active.
- Focus follows mouse: no need to click, the active window is the one where your pointer. Time focus is set with the cursor in this section.
- Focus new windows: determines whether the newly created windows get focus automatically or not.
- Put foreground when clicked allows you to click to make the window active, even if another window calls the focus.

Advanced... almost raiders

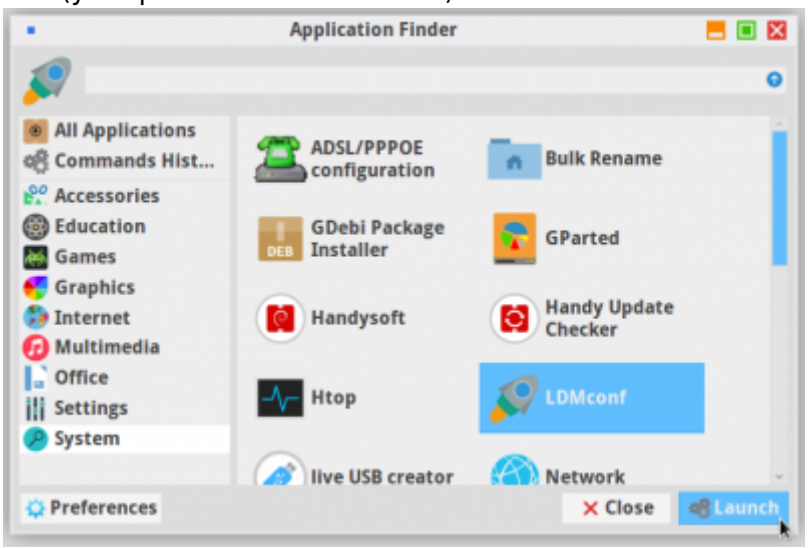
This tab of the configuration window manager allows you finer adjustments. The labels are very explicit and changes immediate.

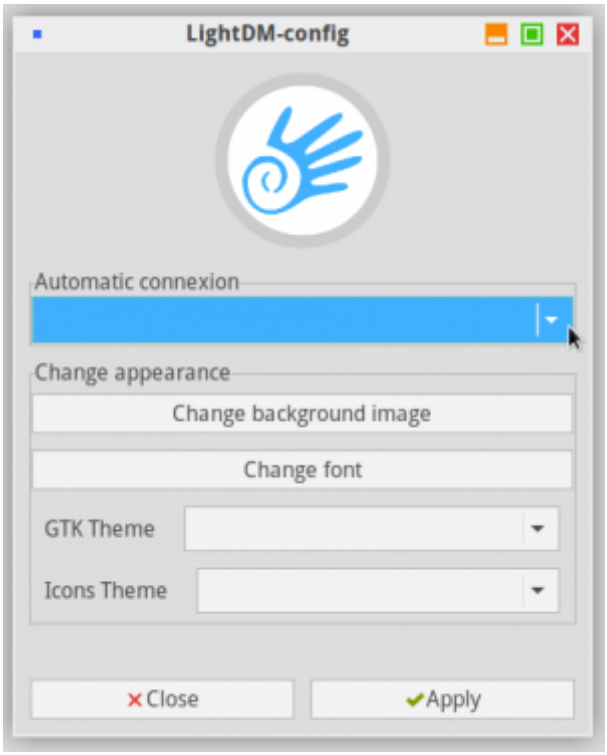
Configure your login screen

Since 2.3 release, session connection and its configuration are handled by **LightDM** and **ldmconf**



Your login screen, the one displayed to let you in (login / password), is handled by **LightDM**. To configure your login screen, let's use **ldmconf** from your HandyMenu > Adventurers > Applications List > System > ldmconf (your password will be asked) :



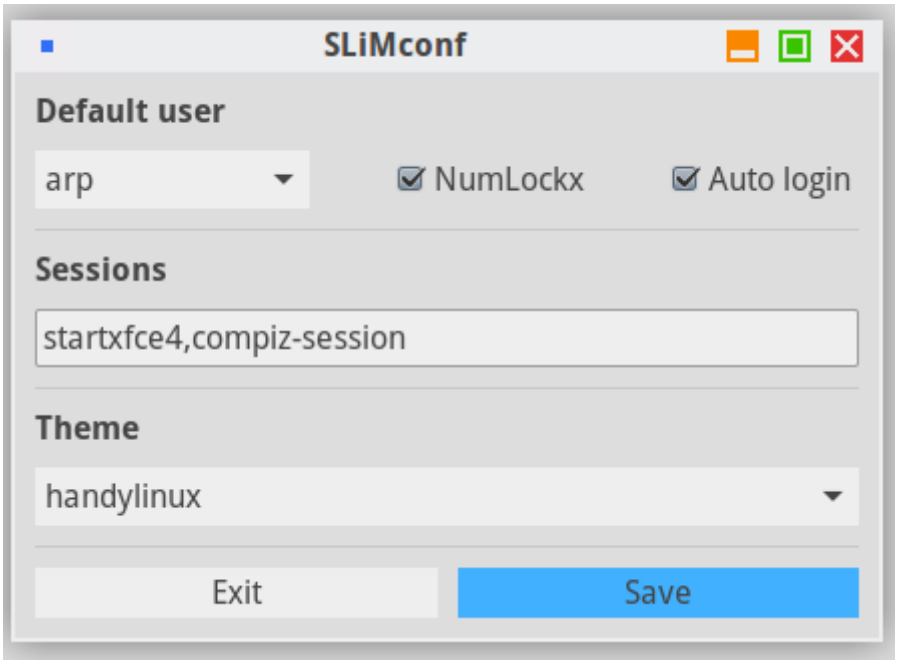


- Configuration of the automatic login (simply choose the user)
- Change the wallpapers displayed on login
- Define the used font
- Define the GTK theme (login screen appearance)
- Define icon theme (little buttons uper right)

Once your configuration's done, click on “Apply” to save it.

Befor HandyLinux-2.3, login screen was handled by **Slim** and its configuration by **SlimConf**.
SlimConf is a small graphical tool that allows you to configure your login screen (managed by SLIM). It starts from the HandyMenu:

- Section “Raiders”, then “Applications list”. In the category “System”, click “Slimconf”



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- The first drop-down menu lets you choose the default user : its name will be displayed directly in the login window.
- Check the “numlockx” box to activate the keypad lock in the session.
- Check the “automatic login” box to start the session of the default user directly (without password).
- The session selection allows you to choose your desktop environment if you add others. HandyLinux comes only with XFCE4 environment.
- The drop-down menu at the bottom allows you to choose the appearance of your login screen.

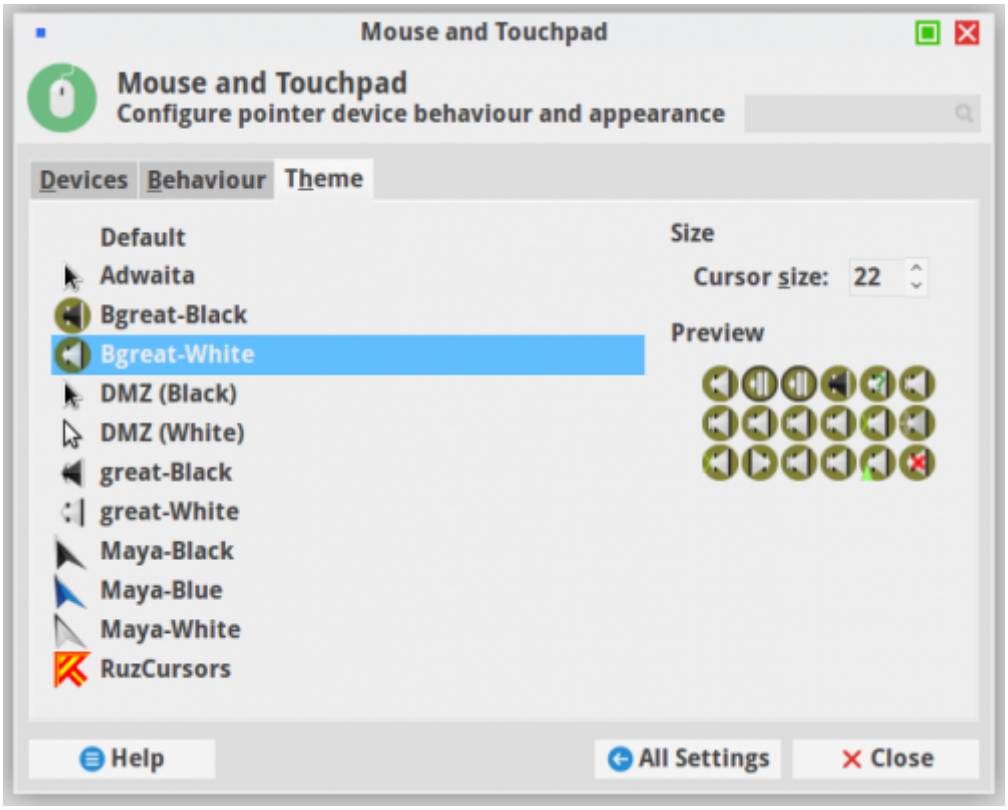
Once you're satisfied, click “save” to make your changes permanent .

Configure your mouse

The mouse configuration go through several sections : focusing (previous chapter), the theme and the behavior of the pointer.

Mouse theme

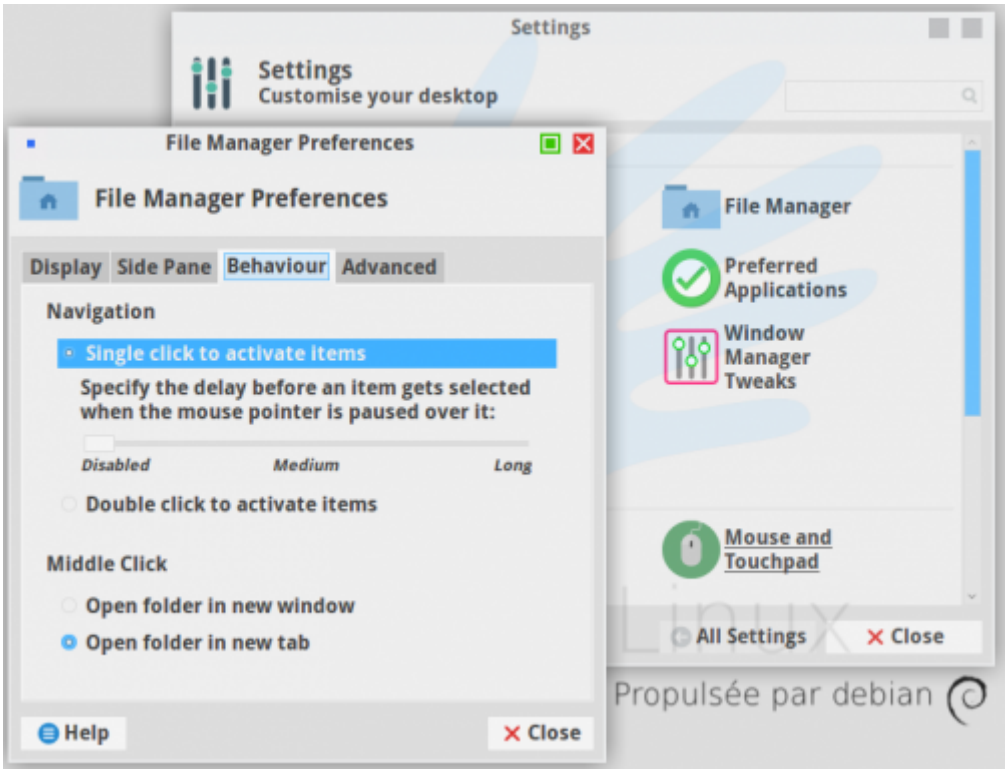
- Open the HandyMenu, category “Raiders”, then clic on “Detailed configuration” then “Mouse”.
- Select “Theme” tab, then make your choice.



Single or Double-click

HandyLinux is configured in “Single-Click” mode. This setting is editable from the Thunar file manager :

- From a Thunar window, left-click on “Edit” in the menu bar, then select “Preferences.”
- In the “Behaviour” tab, choose single-click or double-click.



- “Click-automatic” mode: while in “single-click” mode, you can perform an automatic left-click, leaving the pointer over an icon file/folder or application. The delay before the automatic click is configured using the cursor of the preferences window.

Right or left handed mouse

- Open the HandyMenu, category “Raiders”, then clic on “Detailed configuration” then “Mouse” (same menu as for the theme).
- Select the “Devices” tab, then make your choice between right/left.

Tap-to-Clic

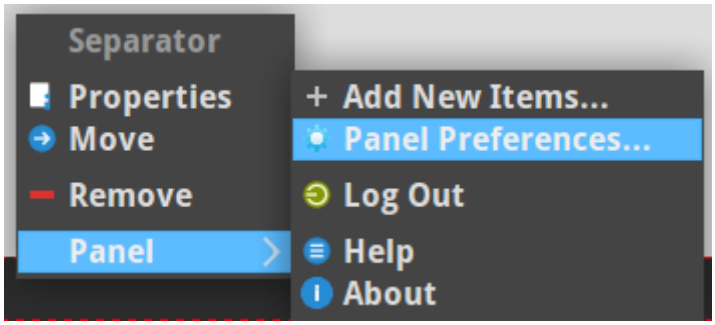
HandyLinux includes a script to activate the “tap-to-click”, ie the ability to click with the touchpad of your laptop. This option is disabled by default to avoid “errors click”.
To enable this feature, direction HandyMenu > section “Raiders” > “Detailed Configuration” button. Then choose the category “Session and Startup”. In the “Auto Start” tab, select “touchpad-tap”. and then.

Configure your Panel

Configure your default panel

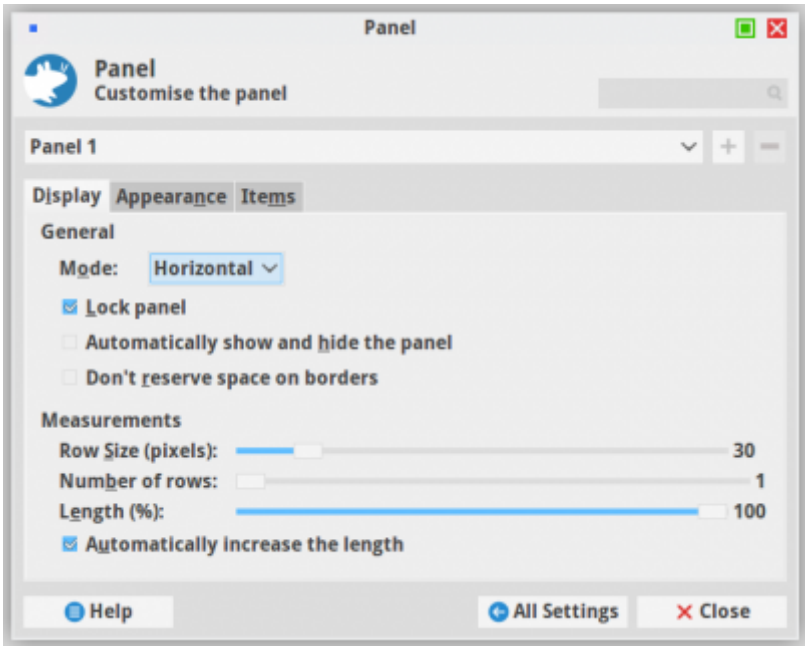
The panel HandyLinux is provided by the “**Xfce4-panel**”.
In the default configuration, the dashboard includes: HandyMenu launcher, the window list, the time, the “Tools” menu, notification area and the action button allows you to exit the session or shutdown your computer .

To configure your panel, right-clic on it and choose “Panel preferences” :



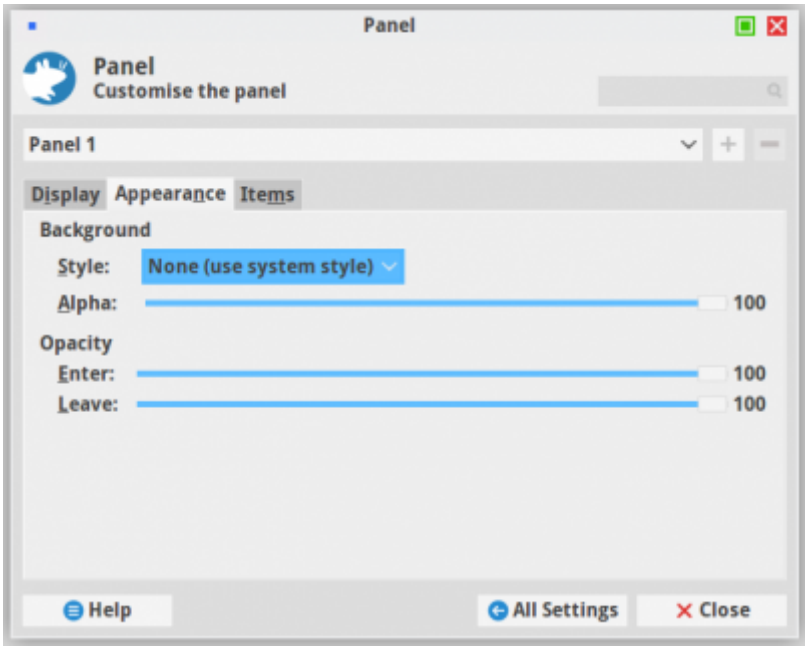
The window that appears allows you to define the appearance and behavior of the dashboard:

- **display** :



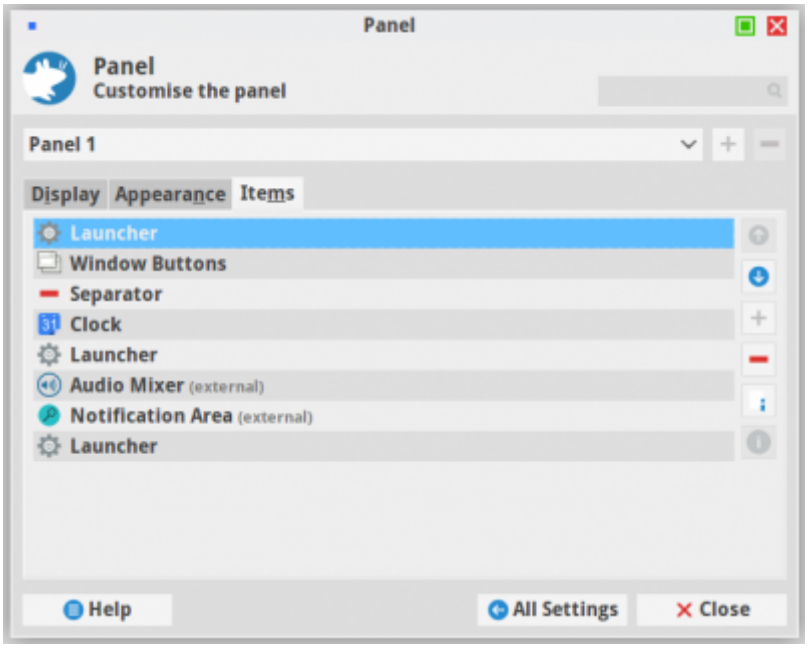
- Orientation: for an horizontal or vertical panel.
- Lock : show/hide the handles to move your panel.
- Auto Hide : your panel is displayed only on request by approaching the pointer.
- Size : height in pixels of the panel.
- Width : percentage of the size of the screen.
- Automatic Width : allows you to adjust the panel to the number of items included.

- **Appearance** :



- Background: Set the style (one of the theme, an image or a color) and opacity percentage to the bottom of the panel.
- Opacity : Set the default level of transparency of the entire panel.

- **Items** :



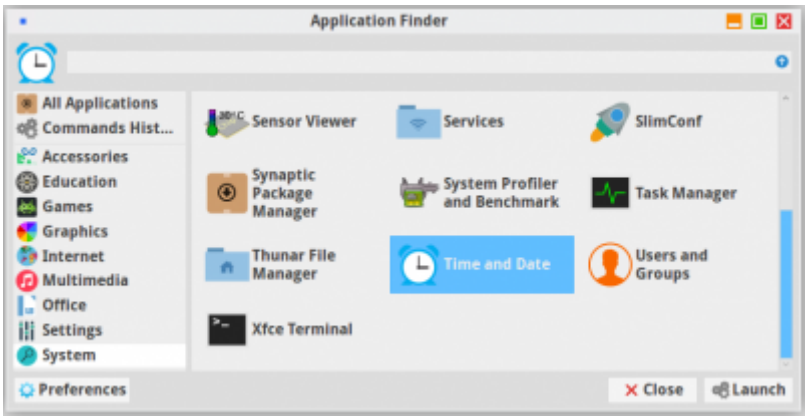
- Change the location of elements with arrows “up”/“down” to the right list.
- Adding a plugin with the “+” button on the right list.
- Remove an item with red minus “-”.
- Configure a plugin with the edit button “i”.

Add a Dock

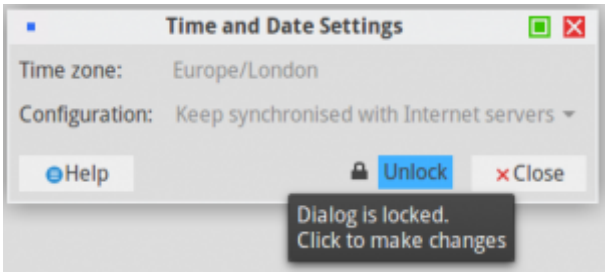
For a dock with your favorite applications available in one click, please see the dedicated section

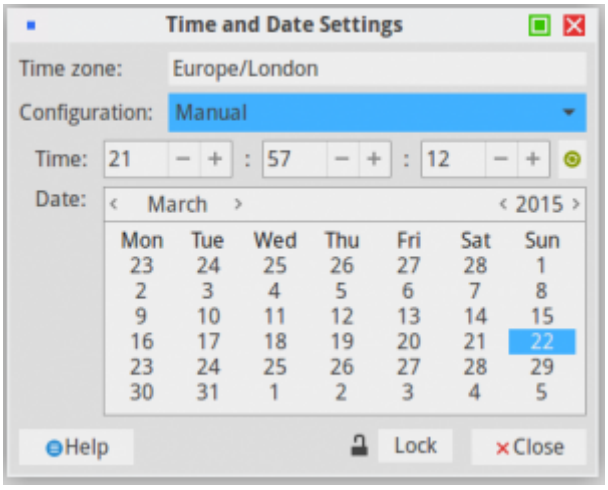
Configure date and time

HandyLinux is configured to calibrate the time and date on your system clock and, if available, on the network through NTP protocol. But if you want to manually change the data as well as your time zone, go to HandyMenu, “Raiders” > “List of Applications” > “System”, select “Time and Date” :



In the window that opens, the entries are “grayed out” because you need to log in to change the system settings. Click on “Unlock” to change the settings. Your password will be requested. Once unlocked, you can change the settings of your machine :



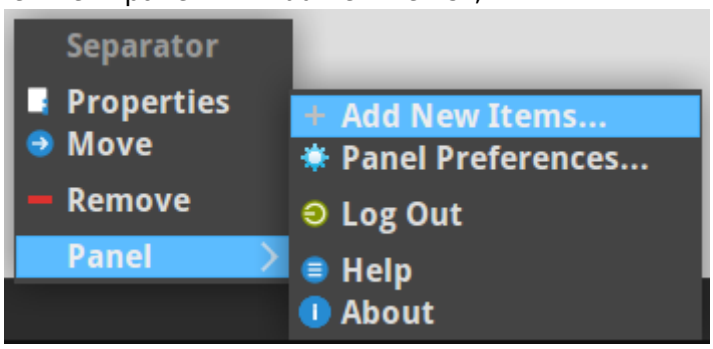


et voilà.

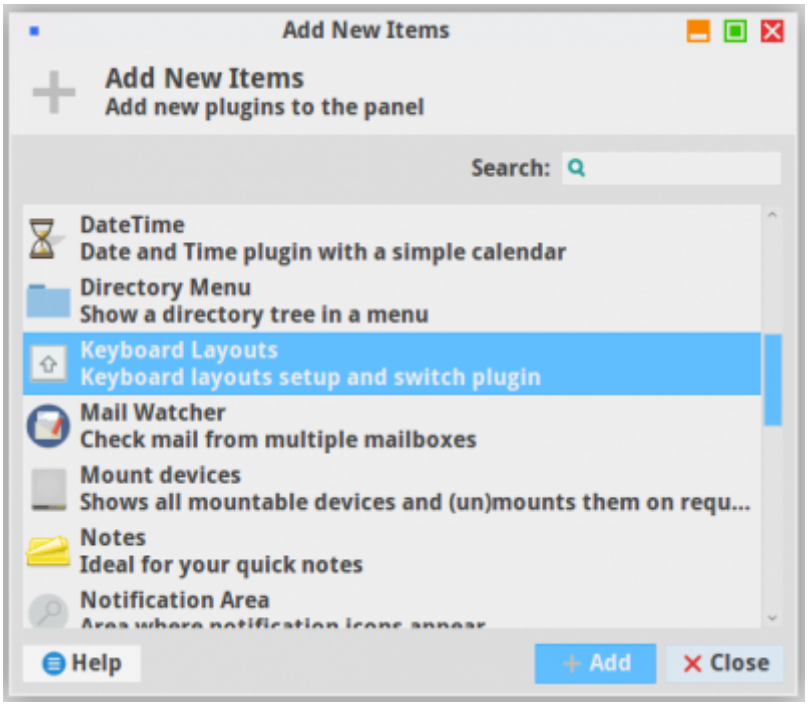
Configure keyboard layout

If you want to use different languages and keyboard layouts, you need to add a plugin to Xfce panel (the taskbar at the bottom of the screen). to do this:

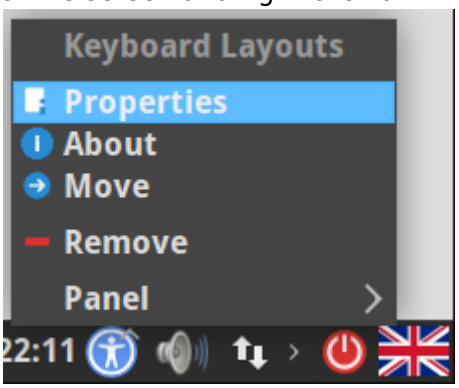
1. right-click on xfce panel then “panel” > “Add new items”,



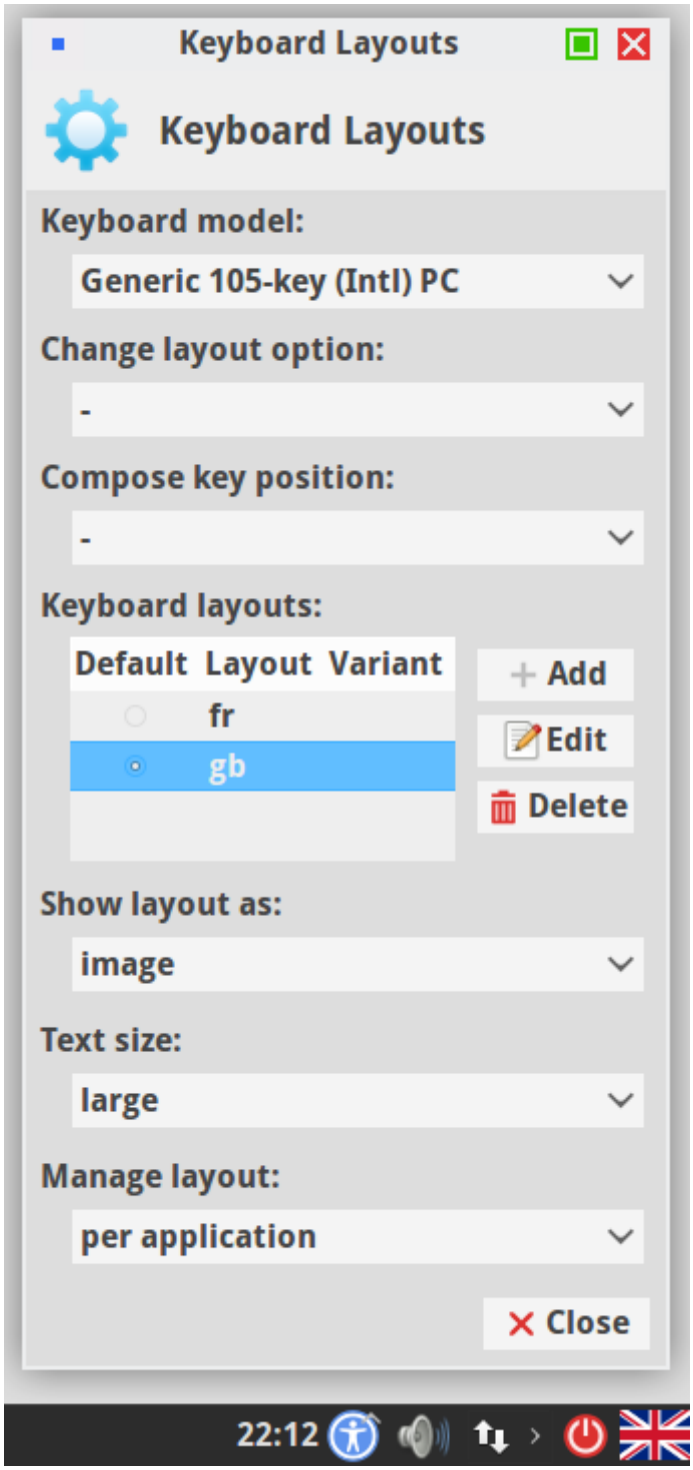
2. in the new window, search for **Keyboard layouts**. Click on **Add**,



3. check the flag on bottom right of the screen and right-click on it to edit **Properties**,



4. the main config window is displayed, you can customize it then close it. Entries are explicits :



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