

Starting with AwesomeWM

Installation

- Install awesome WM in ubuntu

```
sudo apt install awesome
```

Config File

- Awesome provides a default config file which will be our starting point. You will usually find this [rc.lua](#) file in `/etc/xdg/awesome/`. Copy it to `~/.config/awesome/`, and then start X (for example by running `startx`).

Default Keybinds

- Let's open a terminal: press *Mod4+Enter*. Mod4 is your "**Windows key**", Now press *Mod4+Shift+c* to close the terminal. This is the command which lets you close any application. Awesome has an elegant way to launch programs: press *Mod4+r*. Now you will see a **Run:** prompt in the status bar. Start anything you like, it also features Tab-completion!

- Open more applications to see the tiling features. You can now press *Mod4+Space* to cycle through all the possible tiling (and floating) layouts. Note that the icon in the upper right changes.
 - Also try *Mod4+h*, *Mod4+l*, *Mod4+Shift+h* and *Mod4+Shift+l* to resize windows. You can also resize with *Mod4+Button3* (right click). *Mod4+f* will make your current window fullscreen.
 - With *Mod4+Number* (1–9) you can browse through your tags. With *Mod4+Shift+Number* (1–9) you can send a window to a specific tag. *Mod4+Left* and *Mod4+Right* moves to the next tag in the specified direction.
 - Use *Mod4+k* and *Mod4+j* to change your focused client – moving your mouse will also do that.
 - *Mod4+Shift+q* quits Awesome.
 - For an overview of all key bindings, press *Mod4+s*. Pressing any key closes this overview again.
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Changing The Awesome Theme

- To change the theme, open your `rc.lua`, find this line near the beginning of the file, and change `default` to one of the other values mentioned:

```
beautiful.init(gears.filesystem.get_themes_dir() ..  
"default/theme.lua")
```

- However, for this tutorial we will copy and customize the default theme. Copy `/usr/share/awesome/themes/default/theme.lua` to `~/.config/awesome/` and change the line shown above in

`rc.lua` like this. Make sure to replace `USER` with your user name.

```
beautiful.init("/home/USER/.config/awesome/theme.lua")
```

Changing the Wallpaper

- Your desktop background image is handled in your theme file. To change it, edit this line in your theme file:

```
theme.wallpaper = themes_path .. "default/background.png"
```

- The default uses a path relative to `themes_path` by using the `..` operator to join two strings together. To just set it to an absolute path for example, you could do:

```
theme.wallpaper = "/usr/share/backgrounds/my-awesome-wallpaper.png"
```

Personalizing Layouts

- To optimize our workflow, we now want to give names to our tags and set the specific tiling or floating mode for each of them. Open your `rc.lua` and find the layouts section. It should look like this:
-

```
awful.layout.layouts = {  
    awful.layout.suit.floating,  
    awful.layout.suit.tile,  
    awful.layout.suit.tile.left,  
    awful.layout.suit.tile.bottom,  
    awful.layout.suit.tile.top,  
    awful.layout.suit.fair,  
    awful.layout.suit.fair.horizontal,  
    awful.layout.suit.spiral,  
    awful.layout.suit.spiral.dwindle,  
    awful.layout.suit.max,  
    awful.layout.suit.max.fullscreen,  
    awful.layout.suit.magnifier,  
    awful.layout.suit.corner.nw,  
    -- awful.layout.suit.corner.ne,  
    -- awful.layout.suit.corner.sw,  
    -- awful.layout.suit.corner.se,  
}
```

- These are all possible tiling and floating layouts Awesome has. If you don't find all of them useful, you can comment some of them out by adding "--" to the beginning of the line. Awesome already comes with three layouts which are not used in the default config, as you can see above.

Personalizing Tags

- Next, we want to name our tags. This is the default tag creation with numbers from 1 to 9:

```
-- Each screen has its own tag table.  
awful.tag({ "1", "2", "3", "4", "5", "6", "7", "8", "9"
```

```
}, s, awful.layout.layouts[1])
```

- Now we want to change the tag names and assign a specific layout to each of them. By default, each tag has a floating layout (the first entry in the `layouts` table). To change this, we define a specific layout for each tag.

```
local names = { "main", "www", "skype", "gimp", "office",  
"im", "7", "8", "9" }  
local l = awful.layout.suit  
local layouts = { l.floating, l.tile, l.floating, l.fair,  
l.max, l.floating, l.tile.left, l.floating, l.floating }  
awful.tag(names, s, layouts)
```

- We use `layouts` to set the layout for each tag. Edit this as you like.

Wrapping up

- Save your `rc.lua` and restart awesome (*Mod4+Ctrl+r*). Now the modifications done above should be applied.
- Note that any mistakes in your `rc.lua` can cause problems. You can save yourself some trouble by using `Xephyr` to test your changes.
- Open a terminal and run the following command:

```
Xephyr :5 & sleep 1 ; DISPLAY=:5 awesome
```

reference : [Awesome](#)