

**NAME**

File::UserDirs – Find extra media and documents directories

**VERSION**

version 0.09

**SYNOPSIS**

```
use File::UserDirs qw(:all);
print xdg_desktop_dir; # e.g. /home/user/Desktop
```

**DESCRIPTION**

This module can be used to find directories as informally specified by the freedesktop.org xdg-user-dirs software. This gives a mechanism to locate extra directories for media and documents files.

**FUNCTIONS**

May be exported on request. Also the group `:all` is defined which exports all methods.

**xdg\_desktop\_dir**

```
my $dir = xdg_desktop_dir;
```

Returns the desktop directory. Unless changed by the user, this is the directory *Desktop* in the home directory.

**xdg\_documents\_dir**

```
my $dir = xdg_documents_dir;
```

Returns the documents directory. Unless changed by the user, this is the home directory.

**xdg\_download\_dir**

```
my $dir = xdg_download_dir;
```

Returns the download directory. Unless changed by the user, this is the home directory.

**xdg\_music\_dir**

```
my $dir = xdg_music_dir;
```

Returns the music directory. Unless changed by the user, this is the home directory.

**xdg\_pictures\_dir**

```
my $dir = xdg_pictures_dir;
```

Returns the pictures directory. Unless changed by the user, this is the home directory.

**xdg\_publicshare\_dir**

```
my $dir = xdg_publicshare_dir;
```

Returns the public share directory. Unless changed by the user, this is the home directory.

**xdg\_templates\_dir**

```
my $dir = xdg_templates_dir;
```

Returns the templates directory. Unless changed by the user, this is the home directory.

**xdg\_videos\_dir**

```
my $dir = xdg_videos_dir;
```

Returns the videos directory. Unless changed by the user, this is the home directory.

**DIAGNOSTICS**

```
``xdg-user-dir`` failed to start: %s
```

The executable `xdg-user-dir` could not be run, most likely because it was not installed. See “DEPENDENCIES”.

**CONFIGURATION AND ENVIRONMENT**

The location of the directories can be specified by the user in the file `$XDG_CONFIG_HOME/user-dirs.dirs`. It is a shell file setting a number of environment variables. To find the exact pathname from Perl, run:

```
use File::BaseDir qw(config_home);
print config_home('user-dirs.dirs');
```

**Example customised *user-dirs.dirs***

```
XDG_DESKTOP_DIR="$HOME/Workspace"
XDG_DOCUMENTS_DIR="$HOME/Files"
XDG_DOWNLOAD_DIR="$HOME/Files/Downloads"
XDG_MUSIC_DIR="$HOME/Files/Audio"
XDG_PICTURES_DIR="$HOME/Files/Images"
XDG_PUBLICSHARE_DIR="$HOME/public_html"
XDG_TEMPLATES_DIR="$HOME/Files/Document templates"
XDG_VIDEOS_DIR="$HOME/Files/Video"
```

**DEPENDENCIES**

This module requires the executable *xdg-user-dir* from the package *xdg-user-dirs*. Source code is available from <http://cgit.freedesktop.org/xdg/xdg-user-dirs/>.

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