GentoObox
simple manual for minimalistic Gentoo installation with Openbox environment

October 17, 2017

Contents

1   Introduction

Thanks to my father, I am an Gentoo user since high school. Although 10 years have passed from my first installation, there is little difference with my last. I always go to the Gentoo handbook, always google additional information, always have new ideas to achieve, and always spend a week or two configuring the system to suit my needs. I cannot say that my needs are so special - I need a browser, video player, unified look and feel in the GUI, little programming tools. I like when things work as smooth and fast as possible, and of course as reliable as possible.

My initial choice of environment was Gnome2, but after the changes introduced in Gnome3 I was on a crossroad. I never liked how KDE looks and feels, so the next logical choice was Xfce. It truly was fast and easy to use, but somehow did not feel right and my search continued. Governed by the idea that everything should be as fast and light as possible I started experimenting with windows managers. From all of the ones out there Openbox got my heart.

Of course choosing to use window manager has its benefits and drawbacks. The pros are small dependencies, lightweight, fast, reliability, freedom to choose what you want to use. The cons are how much work and effort you have to put into building your system, but isn't this the Gentoo way after all?

Unfortunately there are not many guides how to build your system. Some honourable mentions are Urukrama openbox guide, Gentoo Openbox Wiki, Arch Openbox Wiki, but they do not contain all the answers. For example it took me embarrassingly long time to understand what is a dock, example plank, system tray and how they do not mix in all cases. Or how to create dual head configuration using ZaphodHeads method in xorg. This document is dedicated to all of those problems I faced and put numerous hours to resolve.

2   Basic Gentoo installation

2.1   Preparing the disks

This section is dedicated on the basic Gentoo installation. It follows for the most part Gentoo AMD64 Handbook and will include additional details.

I usually use some live distro for the installation and initial configuration, and thus presume this position for the rest of the text. Without further ado the first step, of course is preparing the disk. For the moment I have not met any need for GPT or UEFI and continue using MRB with BIOS. Almost all of the live distros I have encountered include *Gparted*, so I use it for the partitionin.

2.1.1   MBR with BIOS

Using *Gparted*

1. you have chosen the correct device, */dev/sdb*[1]

2. go to *Device -> Create Partition table* and make sure it is **MBR**

For all of my purposes I need no more than 150 GB so sufficient configuration for me is something like:

- **swap** - swap - as much as the physical RAM on the machine

- **boot partition** - ext4 - 512 MB - boot partition, for historical reasons and structural benefits, I have found article which discusses the differences between /boot, bootloader partition in greater detail, but at the time of writing I did not manage to find it again

- **root partition** - ext4 - 60 GB - the partition for root /

- **home partition** - ext4 - 120 GB - the partition for /home, reasons see above link

After the partitioning is done the live distro usually automaticly activates the swap, but if necessary you can do it by hand with.

```
root #   swapon /dev/sdb{swap partition number}
```

---

[1] I am presuming we are working from live usb distro, so usually **/dev/sda** is the usb drive, and **/dev/sdb** is the disk we are working on.

2.2   Installing a stage tarball

Now lets mount the root partition.

```
root #   mkdir /mnt/gentoo && \
      mount /dev/sdb{root partition number} /mnt/gentoo
```

Make sure the date is correct

```
root #   date
Sun Sep 24 10:58:24 EEST 2017
```

If it is not, set it using the format *MMDDhhmmYYYY*, so to set it as the above

```
root #   date 092410582017 && date
Sun Sep 24 10:58:24 EEST 2017
```

Navigate to Gentoo download section and choose **Stage 3** for your architecture, mine is *amd64*, and place the tarball in /**mnt**/**gentoo**, and unpack it

```
root #   cd /mnt/gentoo && \
curl -O http://distfiles.gentoo.org/releases/amd64/{path to file} && \
tar xvjpf stage3-*.tar.bz2 --xattrs --numeric-owner
```

2.3   Initial Gentoo configuring

2.3.1   Pre requires

Now we will **chroot** into */mnt/gentoo* and configure everything within there. For this to happen we need to

1. copy dns info

2. mount our partitions

3. mount the necessary filesystems

1. to ensure that networking still works even after entering the new environment. This is done by

```
root #   cp -L /etc/resolv.conf /mnt/gentoo/etc/
```

2. mount our partitions

  Firstly lets mount them

```
root #   mount /dev/sdb{boot partition number} /mnt/gentoo/boot
root #   mount /dev/sdb{home partition number} /mnt/gentoo/home
```

  Lets add them to /**etc**/**fstab**, which should look something like this

<div align="center">sample_configs/fstab_example</div>

```
30  /dev/sda6 /boot    ext4   defaults,noatime  0 2
31  /dev/sda5 none     swap   sw       0 0
32  /dev/sda7 /    ext4   noatime     0 1
33  /dev/sda8 /home    ext4   noatime     0 2
34  /dev/cdrom  /mnt/cdrom   auto   noauto,ro   0 0
```

  Quick reference by field, for more details for example see here or here

(1) device/partition, can be specified with label, network id, device path

(2) mount point

(3) filesystem type

(4) mount options, some of the used are:
  - defaults: Uses the default options that are rw, suid, dev, exec, auto, nouser, and async
  - noatime: fully disables writing file access times to the drive every time you read a file. This works well for almost all applications, except for those that need to know if a file has been read since the last time it was modified.
  - auto: noauto

(5) dump field: single digit, sets whether the backup utility dump will backup filesystem, set to 0 to ignore or 1 to back up

(6) pass field: single digit, **fsck** order to check the filesystem at boot
  - 0 means do not check recommended for network shares
  - 1 check this partition first, highly recommended only for root partition
  - 2 check this partition next, all partitions marked with it are checked in sequence and we do not need to specify an order

3. mount the necessary filesystems, again I presume using non-Gentoo installation media

```
root #   mount -t proc /proc /mnt/gentoo/proc
root #   mount --rbind /sys /mnt/gentoo/sys
root #   mount --make-rslave /mnt/gentoo/sys
root #   mount --rbind /dev /mnt/gentoo/dev
root #   mount --make-rslave /mnt/gentoo/dev
root #   test -L /dev/shm && rm /dev/shm && mkdir /dev/shm
root #   mount -t tmpfs -o nosuid,nodev,noexec shm /dev/shm
root #   chmod 1777 /dev/shm
```

2.3.2   Chroot at /mnt/gentoo

We need to enter the new installation environment by chrooting into it:

```
root #   chroot /mnt/gentoo /bin/bash
root #   source /etc/profile
root #   export PS1="CH${PS1}"
```

Which should result into following line, thus we will recognize if we are at the live medium or into the changed root of Gentoo.

```
CHroot #
```

2.4 Configure portage

2.4.1 Repository

First we need to configure the repository, if it does not exist.

```
CHroot # mkdir -p /etc/portage/repos.conf
CHroot # touch /etc/portage/repos.conf/gentoo.conf && nano /etc/portage
    /repos.conf/gentoo.conf
```

It should look like this:

sample_configs/gentoo.conf_example

```
1  [gentoo]
2  location = /usr/portage
3  sync-type = rsync
4  sync-uri = rsync://rsync.gentoo.org/gentoo-portage
5  auto-sync = yes
```

Now lets fetch the latest snapshot, up to the last hour. The command might complain about some missing locations, but it is safe to ignore.

```
CHroot # emerge-webrsync && emerge --sync
```

2.4.2   Profile selection

Now lets choose our profile, each one comes with predefined use flags (if you are not sure come here)

```
CHroot # eselect profile list
Available profile symlink targets:
[1]    default/linux/amd64/13.0
[2]    default/linux/amd64/13.0/selinux
[3]    default/linux/amd64/13.0/desktop
[4]    default/linux/amd64/13.0/desktop/gnome
[5]    default/linux/amd64/13.0/desktop/gnome/systemd
[6]    default/linux/amd64/13.0/desktop/plasma
[7]    default/linux/amd64/13.0/desktop/plasma/systemd
[8]    default/linux/amd64/13.0/developer
[9]    default/linux/amd64/13.0/no-multilib
[10]   default/linux/amd64/13.0/systemd
[11]   default/linux/amd64/13.0/x32
[12]   hardened/linux/amd64
[13]   hardened/linux/amd64/selinux
[14]   hardened/linux/amd64/no-multilib
[15]   hardened/linux/amd64/no-multilib/selinux
[16]   hardened/linux/amd64/x32
[17]   hardened/linux/musl/amd64
[18]   hardened/linux/musl/amd64/x32
[19]   default/linux/uclibc/amd64
```

For my purposes I need *default/linux/amd64/13.0/desktop*

```
CHroot # eselect profile set 3
```

2.4.3   /etc/portage/make.conf

The **/etc/portage/make.conf** is used to define settings and options applied to every package that is emerged. In the following lines I will explain in detail my configs. More details click here

- **CFLAGS**, **CXXFLAGS** are variables who define the build and compile flags that will be used for all package deployments. CFLAGS are for C based applications, CXXFLAGS are for C++ based ones.

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
6   CFLAGS="-march=native -O2 -pipe"
7   CXXFLAGS="${CFLAGS}"
```

  - o **-march=native** option: If the type of CPU is undetermined, or if the user does not know what setting to choose, it is possible use the *-march=native* settings. When this flag is used, GCC will attempt to detect the processor and automatically set appropriate flags for it. *This should not be used when intending to compile packages for different CPUs!*
You can find the kind of CPU you have by using

```
user $   cat /proc/cpuinfo
```

  If you are interested in what flags a specific option, lets say **core2**, will activate check by

```
user $   gcc -c -Q -march=core2 --help=target
```

  If you are interested how the flags of different options will differ check with:

```
user $   diff \
    <(gcc -march=native -Q --help=target) \
    <(gcc -march=core2 -Q --help=target)
```

  - o **-O2** option: This variable controls the overall level of optimization. -O0 will turn it off, -O1 will do most basic. -O2 is a step up from -O1 and the recommended level. -O3 is the highest level, but does not guarantee to improve performance and in some cases can slow down system due to large binaries and increased memory usage.

  - o **-pipe** option: Is a common flag which makes compilation process much faster.

- **CHOST** variable is passed through the configure step of ebuilds to set the build-host of the system. Note that the Gentoo profile already sets the appropriate CHOST value, and updating it requires insight and experience in build chains.

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
12   CHOST="x86_64-pc-linux-gnu"
```

- **ACCEPT_KEYWORDS** defines globally, for all packages, on one hand the architecture, in our case it is **amd64**, since we have x86_64, but it could have been **arm**; and if we are to use stable or unstable ~ packages. In our case we want only stable packages for x86_64. more detail on accept_keywords

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
17   ACCEPT_KEYWORDS="amd64"
```

- **MAKEOPTS** specify arguments passed to *make* when packages are built from source. More info here [2] [3] [4] [5]

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
19  MAKEOPTS="--jobs=4 --load-average=3.8"
```

- o **–jobs=4** defines how many parallel sessions to trigger, if they are possible. The recommended value is the number of logical processors in the CPU. You can obtain that number with the following command

```
user $   nproc --all
```

- o **–load-average=3.8** option: This option prevents starting new installations if the load-average is more than 3.8. It is recommend your load-average to be as much as the number of logical CPU.

- **EMERGE_DEFAULT_OPTS** specify arguments passed to *emerge*. More info here See previous footnotes for details on load average and parallelism. [6] [7] [8] [9]

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
20  EMERGE_DEFAULT_OPTS="--jobs=4 --load-average=3.8 --with-bdeps y --
        quiet-build y --keep-going --autounmask-write y"
```

- o **–jobs=4** sets the amount of parallel packages to emerge. Note that if you have set **makeopts -j N** and **emerge_default_opts -j K** you will end up with $N * K$ tasks! The recommended value is the number of logical processors in the CPU.
- o **–load-average=3.8** prevents starting new instance of emerge if the load-average is more than 3.8. Rule of thumb is set it as much as the number of logical CPU.
- o **–with-bdeps y** option: By default, the dependency graph may not include some packages. If you would like to include such build time dependencies even though they are not strictly required. more detail on emerge_default_opts with-bdeps option
- o **–quiet-build y** option: Redirect all build output to logs alone, and do not display it on stdout. If a build failure occurs for a single package, the build log will be automatically displayed on stdout (unless the –quiet-fail option is enabled)
- o **–keep-going** option: Continue as much as possible after an error. When an error occurs, dependencies are recalculated for remaining packages and any with unsatisfied dependencies are automatically dropped.
- o **–autounmask-write y** option: If –autounmask is enabled, changes are written to config files, respecting CONFIG_PROTECT and –ask. If the corresponding package.* is a file, the changes are appended to it, if it is a directory, changes are written to the lexicographically last file.

---

[2] more detail on load average link1
[3] more detail on load average link2
[4] more detail on load average link3
[5] more detail on load average link4
[6] See footnote 2
[7] See footnote 3
[8] See footnote 4
[9] See footnote 5

- **FEATURES** variable specifies options which affect how Portage operates and how packages are compiled. It has some predefined options, depending on what profile has been set, but this is an incremental variable, thus values can be added without directly overriding the default ones. Man page of emerge all *Feature* variables with explanation

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
22  FEATURES="parallel-install multilib-strict candy"
```

- o **parallel-install** option: Use finer-grained locks when installing packages, allowing for greater parallelization. For additional parallelization.
- o **multilib-strict** option: Many Makefiles assume that their libraries should go to /usr/lib, or $(prefix)/lib. This assumption can cause a serious mess if /usr/lib isn't a symlink to /usr/lib64. To find the bad packages, we have a portage feature called multilib-strict. It will prevent emerge from putting 64bit libraries into anything other than (/usr)/lib64.
- o **candy** Enable a special progress indicator when emerge calculates dependencies.

- **AUTOCLEAN** enables portage to automatically clean out older or overlapping packages from the system after every successful merge. This is the same as running 'emerge -c' after every merge. Set with: "yes" or "no", recommended "yes" since can cause serious problems due overlapping packages.

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
23  AUTOCLEAN="yes"
```

- **CPU_FLAGS_X86** enables specific instructions for the architecture/cpu. More info

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
24  CPU_FLAGS_X86="aes avx avx2 fma3 mmx mmxext pclmul popcnt sse sse2
       sse3 sse4_1 sse4_2 ssse3"
```

The easiest way to obtain the flags is by using *cpuinfo2cpuflags-x86*

```
CHroot # emerge -v app-portage/cpuid2cpuflags && \
    cpuinfo2cpuflags-x86 >> /etc/portage/make.conf
```

- **PYTHON_TARGETS** controls support for various Python implementations in packages. More info

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
25  PYTHON_TARGETS="python2_7 python3_4"
```

- **VIDEO_CARDS** sets the video drivers that you intend to use. Will talk about kernel configs later on. More info

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
27  VIDEO_CARDS="intel i965"
```

- **INTEL_MODESETTING** sets the usage of GLAMOR to accelerate 2D graphical over Mesa. It is intel specific thing, since *Intel DDX driver* has been slowly deprecating, it is recommend to use *modesetting DDX driver*. More info

<div align="center">16</div>

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
28   INTEL_MODESETTING="glamor"
```

- **INPUT_DEVICES** sets drivers for input devices. Kernel configs are later. evdev is responsible for keyboards, mice, joysticks, etc.... synaptics is responsible for touchpads

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
30   INPUT_DEVICES="synaptics evdev"
```

- **L10N, LINGUAS** are localization variables. *L10N* will replace the *LINGUAS* in future, but for compatibility reasons should set them both for the moment. More info for LINGUAS and More info for L10N and More info about the replacement

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
32   L10N="bg en en-GB"
33   LINGUAS="bg en en-GB"
```

- **SOUND** variable is to define use-flags related to sound. Its only entry is the necessary use flag for *PulseAudio* - sound server that provides a number of features on top of ALSA(most importantly - youtube with sound) Kernel configs are for further.

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
35   SOUND="pulseaudio"
```

- **NETWORK** variable is to define use-flags related to network. Its only entry is the necessary use flag for NetworkManager. More on kernel config later on.

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
36   NETWORK="networkmanager"
```

- **FONTS** variable is to define use-flags related to fonts config. they are recommended from here, although I am not following the full article any more. More info later on.

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
37   FONTS="truetype type1 cleartype corefonts"
```

- **GUI** variable to define use-flags related to GUI - such as gtk, qt and similar. In general I prefer qt over gtk, but above all I want all of them to look alike. Since my last installation I noticed that including both *qt4* and *qt5* I could not achieve that, but more details later.

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
38   GUI="qt5 -qt4"
```

- **MISC** misc use flags

<div align="center">sample_configs/make.conf_example</div>

```
39   MISC="hdaps xinerama"
```

- **USE** use variable is the keyword, which use flags. Since it permits the usage of variables I did so and the final result is

<div align="center">17</div>

sample_configs/make.conf_example

```
41  USE="${SOUND} ${NETWORK} ${FONTS} ${INTEL_MODESETTING} ${GUI} ${
        MISC}"
```

- **GENTOO_MIRRORS** is setting the mirrors.

sample_configs/make.conf_example

```
50  GENTOO_MIRRORS="http://tux.rainside.sk/gentoo/ ftp://ftp.uni-
        erlangen.de/pub/mirrors/gentoo http://ftp.halifax.rwth-aachen.de
        /gentoo/ http://ftp.twaren.net/Linux/Gentoo/ ftp://ftp.twaren.
        net/Linux/Gentoo/"
```

Let *mirrorselect* to do the job for you with the following command:

```
CHroot # emerge -v mirrorselect && \
        mirrorselect --servers 5
```

2.4.4   Configure timezone and locales

1. Timezone

   Available timezones are placed into */usr/share/zoneinfo/*, and you need to write them in the */etc/timezone* file and then you should reconfigure sys-libs/timezone-data Lets say your capital is Sofia, so

```
CHroot # echo $(find /usr/share/zoneinfo/ -name "Sofia" \
        | cut -d"/" -f5 -) \
        > /etc/timezone \
        && emerge -v sys -libs/timezone -data \
        && emerge --config sys -libs/timezone -data
```

2. Locals

   specify not only the language, but also what the rules are for sorting strings, displaying dates and times etc. Available combinations of locale are placed at */usr/share/i18n/SUPPORTED*, for my case I want to see combinations of *bg*, so

```
CHroot # cat /usr/share/i18n/SUPPORTED | grep bg
bg_BG.UTF-8 UTF-8
bg_BG CP1251
```

   Now to specify wanted locals we shall edit */etc/locale.gen*. Add the ones we want, if missing, or comment/uncomment depending on our needs.

sample_configs/locale.gen_example

```
16  # For the default list of supported combinations, see the file:
17  # /usr/share/i18n/SUPPORTED
18  #
19  en_US ISO-8859-1
20  en_US.UTF-8 UTF-8
21  bg_BG CP1251
22  bg_BG.UTF-8 UTF-8
23  #ja_JP.EUC-JP EUC-JP
24  #ja_JP.UTF-8 UTF-8
```

   Last step is to generate the locals with

```
CHroot # locale-gen
```

   Finally lets set the system-wide locale. In near future will set link to a nice article about all those variables and why I chose *C*

```
CHroot # eselect locale list
Available targets for the LANG variable:
[1]    C
[2]    POSIX
[3]    bg_BG
[4]    bg_BG.cp1251
[5]    bg_BG.utf8
[6]    en_US
[7]    en_US.iso88591
[8]    en_US.utf8
CHroot # eselect locale set 1
```

2.5 Kernel configuration

Despite the method you choose run

```
CHroot # emerge -va sys-kernel/gentoo-sources sys-kernel/linux-firmware
```

2.5.1   Easy way - genkernel

Alternative to manual configuration is using genkernel,click the here for more info.

```
CHroot # emerge -va sys-kernel/genkernel && genkernel all
```

This process should take a while and you are done with your kernel config.

2.5.2   Hard way - manual configuration

Important note: I will not use modules since they make life harder.

For my case important source of info was this gentoo guide

Manual configuration is much easier with *lspci* which is included into *pciutils*. This command will identify PCI-based and AGP-based hardware and help us to find the driver into the kernel.

```
CHroot # emerge -va sys-apps/pciutils sys-apps/usbutils
```

Our first step is to see our hardware and drivers in use. Remember that I presume we are installing Gentoo using an live medium, thus I presume that most or even all the hardware is working. This means that the live usb has successfully recognized and loaded the modules we need to compile. To see which modules are in use and for which device we simply

```
root #  lspci -k
00:00.0 Host bridge: Intel Corporation Xeon E3-1200 v3/4th Gen Core
    Processor DRAM Controller (rev 06)
Subsystem: Lenovo Xeon E3-1200 v3/4th Gen Core Processor DRAM
    Controller
00:02.0 VGA compatible controller: Intel Corporation 4th Gen Core
    Processor Integrated Graphics Controller (rev 06)
Subsystem: Lenovo 4th Gen Core Processor Integrated Graphics
    Controller
Kernel driver in use: i915
00:03.0 Audio device: Intel Corporation Xeon E3-1200 v3/4th Gen Core
    Processor HD Audio Controller (rev 06)
Subsystem: Lenovo Xeon E3-1200 v3/4th Gen Core Processor HD Audio
    Controller
Kernel driver in use: snd_hda_intel
00:14.0 USB controller: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset
     Family USB xHCI (rev 04)
Subsystem: Lenovo 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset Family USB xHCI
Kernel driver in use: xhci_hcd
00:16.0 Communication controller: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220
    Series Chipset Family MEI Controller #1 (rev 04)
Subsystem: Lenovo 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset Family MEI Controller
Kernel driver in use: mei_me
00:1a.0 USB controller: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset
     Family USB EHCI #2 (rev 04)
Subsystem: Lenovo 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset Family USB EHCI
Kernel driver in use: ehci-pci
00:1b.0 Audio device: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset
    High Definition Audio Controller (rev 04)
Subsystem: Lenovo 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset High Definition Audio
    Controller
Kernel driver in use: snd_hda_intel
00:1c.0 PCI bridge: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset
    Family PCI Express Root Port #1 (rev d4)
Kernel driver in use: pcieport
```

```
00:1c.2 PCI bridge: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset
    Family PCI Express Root Port #3 (rev d4)
Kernel driver in use: pcieport
00:1c.3 PCI bridge: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset
    Family PCI Express Root Port #4 (rev d4)
Kernel driver in use: pcieport
00:1c.4 PCI bridge: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset
    Family PCI Express Root Port #5 (rev d4)
Kernel driver in use: pcieport
00:1d.0 USB controller: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset
    Family USB EHCI #1 (rev 04)
Subsystem: Lenovo 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset Family USB EHCI
Kernel driver in use: ehci-pci
00:1f.0 ISA bridge: Intel Corporation HM87 Express LPC Controller (rev
    04)
Subsystem: Lenovo HM87 Express LPC Controller
Kernel driver in use: lpc_ich
00:1f.2 SATA controller: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series
    Chipset Family 6-port SATA Controller 1 [AHCI mode] (rev 04)
Subsystem: Lenovo 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset Family 6-port SATA
    Controller 1 [AHCI mode]
Kernel driver in use: ahci
00:1f.3 SMBus: Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset Family
    SMBus Controller (rev 04)
Subsystem: Lenovo 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset Family SMBus Controller
Kernel driver in use: i801_smbus
02:00.0 Unassigned class [ff00]: Realtek Semiconductor Co., Ltd.
    RTS5227 PCI Express Card Reader (rev 01)
Subsystem: Lenovo RTS5227 PCI Express Card Reader
Kernel driver in use: rtsx_pci
03:00.0 Ethernet controller: Realtek Semiconductor Co., Ltd. RTL8111
    /8168/8411 PCI Express Gigabit Ethernet Controller (rev 10)
Subsystem: Lenovo RTL8111/8168/8411 PCI Express Gigabit Ethernet
    Controller
Kernel driver in use: r8169
04:00.0 Network controller: Intel Corporation Wireless 7260 (rev 73)
Subsystem: Intel Corporation Wireless-N 7260
Kernel driver in use: iwlwifi
 root #  lsusb
Bus 002 Device 002: ID 8087:8000 Intel Corp.
Bus 002 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0002 Linux Foundation 2.0 root hub
Bus 001 Device 002: ID 8087:8008 Intel Corp.
Bus 001 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0002 Linux Foundation 2.0 root hub
Bus 004 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0003 Linux Foundation 3.0 root hub
Bus 003 Device 003: ID 8087:07dc Intel Corp.
Bus 003 Device 002: ID 17ef:604d Lenovo
Bus 003 Device 005: ID 0bda:5719 Realtek Semiconductor Corp.
Bus 003 Device 004: ID 138a:0011 Validity Sensors, Inc. VFS5011
    Fingerprint Reader
Bus 003 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0002 Linux Foundation 2.0 root hub
```

So lets make a list

1. VGA compatible controller (video card) uses kernel module **i915**

2. Audio device, integrated HD Audio controller uses kernel module **snd_hda_intel**

3. USB controller: uses kernel modules**xhci_pci**

4. PCI bridge: **pcieport**

5. isa bridge: **lpc_ich**

6. sata controller: **ahci**

7. smbus: **i2c_i801**

8. ethernet controller: **r8169**

9. network controller (wifi): **iwlwifi**

10. pcie card reader: **rtsx_pci** some info here

11. Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset Family MEI Controller #1: **mei_me**

Now lets go to the kernel menu

```
CHroot # cd /usr/src/linux && make menuconfig
```

If we want to search for any module/driver/config, we simply press / and type what we are searching. For example when we search for **i915**, we get something like

```
Symbol: DRM_I915 [=y]
Type: tristate
Prompt: Intel8xx/9xx/G3x/G4x/HD Graphics
Location:
    -> Device Drivers
        -> Graphics Support
Defined at drivers/gpu/drm/i915/Kconfig:1
Dpends on: HAS_IOMEM [=y] && DRM [=y] && X86 [=y] && PCI [=y]
Slectts: INTEL_GTT [=y] && INTERVAL_TREE [=y] && SHMEM [=y] && TMPFS
    [=y] ...
```

This tells us we can find the current driver under Device Drivers → Graphics Support → Intel8xx/9xx/G3x/G4x/HD Graphics and we can check for its presents in the current kernel(of the live medium) with:

```
root #  zcat /proc/config.gz | grep CONFIG_DRM_I915
CONFIG_DRM_I915=m
# CONFIG_DRM_I915_ALPHA_SUPPORT is not set
CONFIG_DRM_I915_CAPTURE_ERROR=y
CONFIG_DRM_I915_COMPRESS_ERROR=y
CONFIG_DRM_I915_USERPTR=y
# CONFIG_DRM_I915_GVT is not set
```

I will try to include only the stuff which, should be checked, but not include the stuff which is checked by default, so a little mess and that is the problem with kernel configuration... In the future will think of a way to edit this... For now press h and have petitions.

1. **i915**

   Lets not forget our guide. We already saw that the location for that driver is at *Device Drivers*
   → *Graphics Support* → *Intel8xx/9xx/G3x/G4x/HD Graphics* so we go there and check it

```
...
<*> /dev/agpgart (AGP Support)
    <*> Intel 440LX/BX/GX, I8xx and E7x05 chipset support
...
(2)   Maximum number of GPUs
...
<*> Direct Rendering Manager (XFree86 4.1.0 and higher DRI support
  )
    [*]   Enable legacy fbdev support for your modesetting driver
       (NEW)
    (100)   Overallocation of the fbdev buffer (NEW)
...
<*> Intel 8xx/9xx/G3x/G4x/HD Graphics
    [*] Enable capturing GPU state following a hang (NEW)
    [*]   Compress GPU error state (NEW)
    [*] Always enable userptr support (NEW)
...
<*> Backlight & LCD device support
    <*> Generic (aka Sharp Corgi) Backlight Driver (NEW)
...
<*> VGA text console
    [*] Enable Scrollback Buffer in System RAM
    (64)    Scrollback Buffer Size (in KB) (NEW)
    (80) Initial number of console screen columns (NEW)
    (25) Initial number of console screen rows (NEW)
    -*- Framebuffer Console support
    -*-   Map the console to the primary display device
...
<*> Bootup logo
    [*]   Standard 224-color Linux logo (NEW)
...
```

2. **snd_hda_intel**

We will config the kernel for *alsa* and *pulseaudio* simultaneously. Lets navigate to *Device Drivers → Sound card support → Advanced Linux Sound Architecture*

```
Device drivers
    sound card support
        advanced linux sound architecture
            [*]     Dynamic device file minor numbers
            (16) Max number of sound cards
...
            [*]  PCI sound devices
...

                HD - Audio
                    <*> HD Audio PCI
                    [*] Build hwdep interface for hd audio driver
                    <*> Build HDMI/DisplayPort HD - audio codec
                        support
                    <*> Build Conexant HD - audio codec support
...
            Advanced Linux Sound Architecture
                (2048) Pre - allocated buffer size for HD - audio
                    driver

# For microphone
    USB sound devices
        <*> USB Audio/MID driver
...
# Should be already checked in
General setup
    [*] System V IPC
```

3. **USB controllers** following this article

```
...
Device Drivers
    SCSI device support
        ---    SCSI support type (disk, tape, CD-ROM)
        <*>    SCSI disk support
...
Device Drivers
    [*] USB support
        <*> xHCI HCD
        <*> EHCI HCD
        <*> OHCI HCD
        <*> UHCI HCD
        <*> USB printer support
        <*> SUB mass storage support
...
Device Drivers
    HID support
        <*> Generic HID driver
...
Device Drivers
    HID support
        Special HID drivers
            <*> Lenovov/Thinkpad devices  # since I have thikpad
                e440, all the rest are deselected
...
```

4. **pcieport** should be already set, and the other stuff I have no idea about :-)

```
Symbol: PCIEPORTBUS [=y]
Type: boolean
Prompt: PCI Express Port Bus support
Location:
    Bus options
        PCI support:
```

5. **lpc_ich** was not set by default, so lets set it

```
Device Drivers
    Multifunction devices drivers
        <*> Intel ICH LPC
```

6. **ahci** is for the HDD, so lets follow this article Since I have no idea, I will check all of what they have and leave the research for later.

```
Device Drivers
    <*> Serial ATA and Parallel ATA drivers
    [*] ATA ACPI Support

# If the drive is connected to a SATA Port Multiplier:
    [*] SATA Port Multiplier support

# Select the driver for the SATA controller, e.g.:
    <*> AHCI SATA support (ahci)

# If the drive is connected to an IDE controller:
    [*] ATA SFF support
    [*] ATA BMDMA support

# Select the driver for the IDE controller, e.g.:
    <*> Intel ESB, ICH, PIIX3, PIIX4 PATA/SATA support (ata_piix)

# SCSI device support  --->
    <*> SCSI device support
    <*> SCSI disk support
```

7. **i2c_i801** was enabled by default

```
Symbol: I2C_I801 [=y]
Type: tristate
Prompt: Intel 82801
Location:
    Devie Drivers
        I2C support
            I2C support (I2C [=y])
```

8. **r8169** will follow this article

```
Device Drivers
    Network device support
        Ethernet driver support
            [*] Realtek devices
                <*> realtek 8169 PCI gigabit ethernet adapter
```

9. **iwlwifi** for the wifi controller and follow this article and this also according to make sure to built it in like this (check if /lib64/firmware has the wanted firmware, since it is not at /usr/src/linux/firmware). In my case it was recommended to use iwlwifi-7260-16.ucod, but according to this table the **16** should become **17**... Why? I don't know; How I got it to work? - I tried *modinfo iwlwifi* and a little luck.

```
...
Networking support
    Wireless
        <*> cfg80211
            [*] enable ppowersave by default
            [*] cfg80211 wireless extensions compatibility
            <*> Generic IEEE 802.11 Networking Stack (mac80211)
            [*] Default rate control algorithm (Minstrel)
            -*-   Enable LED triggers
...
Device Drivers
    Network device support
        Wireless LAN
            [*] Intel devices
                <*>      Intel Wireless WiFi Next Gen AGN -
                    Wireless-N/Advanced-N/Ultimate-N (iwlwifi)
                <*>      Intel Wireless WiFi DVM Firmware support
                <*>      Intel Wireless WiFi MVM Firmware support
    Generic Driver Options
        -*- Userspaces firmware loading support
        [ ] Include in kernel firmware blobs in kernel binary
        (iwlwifi-7260-17.ucode) external firmware blobs to build
            into kernel binary
        (/lib64/firmware) firmware blobs root directory
```

10. pci card reader is ran by rtsx_pci, more configs later on

```
Device drivers
    Multifunction device drivers
        <*> Realtek PCI-E card reader
```

11. Intel Corporation 8 Series/C220 Series Chipset Family MEI Controller #1

```
Device drivers
    Misc devices
        <*> Intel Management Engine Interface
        <*> ME Enabled Intel Chipsets
```

Now lets check if the minimum required options are set following this guide

1. Enable filesystems

```
File systems
    <*> second extended fs support
    <*> ext3 fs support
    <*> ext4 fs support
...
    DOS/FAT/NT fylesystems
        <*> MSDOS fs support
        <*> VFAT fs support
        [*] Enable utf-8 option by default
        <*> NTFS file system support
            [*]     debugging
            [*]     writing
```

2. Enable ppp

```
Device drivers
   Network device support
       <*> PPP support
       <*> PPP for async
       <*> PPP for tty
```

3. Little twiks on the processor following this guide and those notes

```
Processor type and features
   [*] Symmetric multi processing support
   [*] SMT (Hyperthreading) scheduler support
   [*] Multi-core scheduler support
   Processor family (Core 2/newer Xeon)
```

4. access the kernel config from /proc/config.gz

```
General Setup
    <*> Kernel .config support
        [*] Enable access to .config through /proc/config.gz
```

5. udev

```
...
General setup
    [*] Configure standard kernel features (expert users)
        [ ] Enable deprecated sysfs features to support old
            userspace tools
        [*] Enable signalfd() system call
...
Enable the block layer
    [*] Block layer SG support v4
...
Networking support
    Networking options
        <*> Unix domain sockets
...
Device Drivers
    Generic Driver Options
        ()  path to uevent helper
        [*] Maintain a devtmpfs filesystem to mount at /dev
    < > ATA/ATAPI/MFM/RLL support (DEPRECATED)
...
File systems
    [*] Inotify support for userspace
    Pseudo filesystems
        [*] /proc file system support
        [*] sysfs file system support
```

6. consolekit

```
General setup
    [*] Auditing support
    [*] Enable system-call auditing support
```

7. bluetooth

```
[*] Networking support
    <*>    Bluetooth subsystem support
        [*]    Bluetooth Classic (BR/EDR) features
        <*>      RFCOMM protocol support
        [ ]        RFCOMM TTY support
        < >      BNEP protocol support
        [ ]        Multicast filter support
        [ ]        Protocol filter support
        <*>      HIDP protocol support
        [*]      Bluetooth High Speed (HS) features
        [*]    Bluetooth Low Energy (LE) features
            Bluetooth device drivers
                <*> HCI USB driver
                <*> HCI UART driver
    <*>    RF switch subsystem support
Device Drivers
    HID support
        <*>    User-space I/O driver support for HID subsystem
```

8. built in camera

```
Device drivers
    <*> Multimedia support
        [*] Media USB adapters
            <*> USB Video Class
```

9. acpi, suspend, thinkpad special buttons

```
Power management and ACPI options
    ACPI
        [*] Allow supported ACPI revision to be overriden
        <*> AC adapter
        <*> Battery
        <*> Thermal zone
    [*] Suspend to RAM and standby
    [*] CPU Freq scaling
        Default CPUfreq governor (ondemand)
        -*- 'performance
        <*> 'powersave'
        <*> 'userspace'
        -*- 'ondemand'
        <*> 'conservative' cpufreq governor
        -*- intel p state control
        -*- ACPI processor p-states driver
Device drivers
    X86 Platform Specific Device Drivers
        <*> Thinkpad ACPI Laptop Extras
            [*] Console audio control ALSA interfface
            [*] Support NVRAM polling for hot keys
```

10. udisks for mounting, partitions and etc

```
General setup
    [*] Support for paging of anonymous memory (swap)
Device Drivers
    < > ATA/ATAPI/MFM/RLL support (DEPRECATED)
File Systems
    Native Language Support
        ... choose whatever you want...
    Pseudo filesystems
        -*- Tmpfs virtual memory file system support (former shm
            fs)
        [*]   Tmpfs POSIX Access Control Lists
```

After all the work lets compile.

```
CHroot # make -j4 && make modules_install && make install
```

2.6   Bootloader

2.6.1   MBR with BIOS

With the Linux kernel configured we should make sure that something will boot it - the bootloader. If we have multiple OSs or kernels, to make sure the bootloader will recognize it we need *os-prober*. Notes to follow here

```
CHroot # emerge -av sys-boot/grub:2 sys-boot/os-prober
```

Lest install the bootloader

```
CHroot # grub-install /dev/sdb
```

And now lets let grub to make the configuration of the existing kernels and OSs:

```
CHroot # grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg
```

2.7 Final touches

2.7.1 Default editor

I like *vim*. Little guide to vim

```
CHroot # emerge -va vim
CHroot # eselect editor list
Available targets for the EDITOR variable:
[1]    /bin/nano
[2]    /bin/ed
[3]    /usr/bin/ex
[4]    /usr/bin/vi
[ ]    (free form)
CHroot # eselect editor set 4
```

2.7.2   Bash autocomplete

Very nice feature oh the shell is the autocompletion.

```
CHroot # emerge -av app-shells/bash-completion
```

```
CHroot # emerge -av app-shells/bash-completion
```

2.7.3   Host name

Host information

```
CHroot # nano -w /etc/conf.d/hostname
# Set the hostname variable to the selected host name
hostname="kaktus"
```

Domain information, in my case no domain should be configured, so to get rid of "This is host-name.(none)" messages at their login screen. This should then be fixed by editing /etc/issue and deleting the string ."\O" from that file.

```
CHroot # nano -w /etc/issue
# to look like this, without the
This is \n (\s \m \r) \t
```

2.7.4   Setting root password

Setting root password

```
CHroot # passwd
```

2.7.5   Creating user, setting groups, making him be able to sudo

Lets install *app-admin/sudo*, more info here

```
CHroot # emerge -va app-admin/sudo
```

I prefer all users in *wheel* group to execute without password all commands. To achieve this I edit the sudoers file like this:

```
CHroot # sudoedit /etc/sudoers
```

sample_configs/sudoers_example

```
76  ##
77  ## User privilege specification
78  ##
79  root ALL=(ALL) ALL
80
81  ## Uncomment to allow members of group wheel to execute any command
82  # %wheel ALL=(ALL) ALL
83
84  ## Same thing without a password
85   %wheel ALL=(ALL) NOPASSWD: ALL
```

Adding user with home directory, bash shell and belonging groups:

- **wheel** so to use sudo, for this in a moment

- **floppy** to use the floppy

- **audio** to access the audio devices

- **cdrom** to access the opticaldevices

- **video** to access the video capturing hardware and doing hardware acceleration

- **cdrw** to be able to use writing capabilities of optical devices

- **usb** be able to access USB devices

- **users** general users group

- **portage** be able to run portage as normal user

- **plugdev** be able to use udisks, more later

- **dimitar** be member of its own group

```
CHroot # useradd \
    -m \
    -G wheel,floppy,audio,cdrom,video,cdrw,usb,users,plugdev,portage,
       dimitar \
    -s /bin/bash \
    dimitar
```

And set password

```
CHroot # passwd dimitar
```

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2.7.6   Logging, cron jobs, rotation tools

We need a tool to take care of our logging. My choice is *sysklogd*.

```
CHroot # emerge -av app-admin/sysklogd
CHroot # rc-update add sysklogd default
```

But we will need to rotate those logs, so we need *logrotate*. Some help from the Gentoo Wiki and from Arch Wiki and the manual.

```
CHroot # emerge -av logrotate
```

Now we need to configure the tool. My sample looks like:

sample_configs/logrotate.conf_example

```
1  #
2  # Default logrotate(8) configuration file for Gentoo Linux.
3  # See "man logrotate" for details.
4
5  # rotate log files weekly.
6  weekly
7  #daily
8
9  # keep 4 weeks worth of backlogs.
10 rotate 2
11
12 # create new (empty) log files after rotating old ones.
13 create
14
15 # use date as a suffix of the rotated file.
16 dateext
17
18 # compress rotated log files.
19 compress
20
21 #notifempty
22 # I want to rotate them all, manual says this is default, but I put it
      anyway
23 ifempty
24
25 # Dont send any mails
26 nomail
27
28 # Logs are rotated in the directory they normally reside
29 noolddir
30
31 # If the log files is missing, go on the next one without issuing an
      error message, I want that
32 missingok
33
34 # packages can drop log rotation information into this directory.
```

```
35  include /etc/logrotate.d
36
37  # no packages own wtmp and btmp -- we'll rotate them here.
38  /var/log/wtmp {
39      monthly
40      create 0664 root utmp
41      minsize 1M
42      rotate 1
43  }
44  /var/log/btmp {
45      missingok
46      monthly
47      create 0600 root utmp
48      rotate 1
49  }
50
51  # system-specific logs may be also be configured here.
52  /var/log/emerge-fetch.log {
53  }
54  /var/log/emerge.log {
55  }
56  /var/log/genkernel.log {
57  }
58  /var/log/tallylog {
59  }
```

Important notes: the files at the end are added by me, since they were missing in the original config and the extra configs at */etc/logrotate.d*. You can see what the command will do by executing:

```
CHroot # logrotate -f -d /etc/logrotate.con
```

logrotate should be run at regular intervals, for this we need *cron*. It comes in many forms, but the one I use is fcron since it is designed to work on systems that are not continuously running.

```
CHroot # emerge -av fcron
CHroot # rc-update add fcron default
```

Lets see if we have logrotate as cronjob in any /etc/cron.hourly,daily,weekly,monthly directories.

```
CHroot # grep -r logrotate /etc/cron*
...
/etc/cron.daily/logrotate:/usr/bin/logrotate /etc/logrotate.conf
...
```

This means that at **/etc/cron.daily**/(means it will be started once a day) there is a script named **logrotate**, which contains the execution of the logrotate command with config file **/etc/logrotate.conf**. The full script looks like this:

sample_configs/logrotate_example

```
1  #!/bin/sh
```

```
2
3  /usr/bin/logrotate /etc/logrotate.conf
4  EXITVALUE=$?
5  if [ $EXITVALUE != 0 ]; then
6      /usr/bin/logger -t logrotate "ALERT exited abnormally with [
          $EXITVALUE]"
7  fi
8  exit $EXITVALUE
```

2.7.7   Gentoolkit

Recommend gentoo tools are hidden in *gentoolkit*

```
CHroot # emerge -va getoolkit
```

2.7.8 ALSA

We have already configured the *kernel* and *make.conf*. Make sure that **alsa** use flag is set.

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep alsa
USE="...alsa..."
```

We also need additional software

```
CHroot # emerge -va alsa-utils
```

And make sure the service is going to start

```
CHroot # rc-update add alsasound boot
```

2.7.9   Pulseaudio

We should have already configured the *kernel* and *make.conf.* Lets make sure **pulseaudio** use flag is set

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep pulseaudio
USE="...pulseaudio..."
```

To control the server we can use GUI - either the GTK *pavucontrol* or PulseAudio Preferences *paprefs* or integrated KDE's Phonon. I prefer *pavucontrol*

```
CHroot # emerge -va pavucontrol alsa-plugins
```

Make sure your users are included to **audio** group

2.7.10   udev

udev is the device manager for the linux kernel. The kernel should be already configured. Check for use flag

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep udev
USE="...udev..."
```

Make sure to start it.

```
CHroot # rc-update add udev sysinit
```

2.7.11   consolekit

consolekit is a framework for defining and tracking users. Make sure the use flag is set, as the kernel configs should be already done.

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep consolekit
USE="...consolekit..."
```

Make sure the service is going to be started with

```
CHroot # rc-update add consolekit default
```

2.7.12 policykit

polkit is an authorization API indented to be used by privileged programs offering services to unprivileged programs. Lets check fo the use flag

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep policykit
USE="...policykit..."
```

2.7.13 dbus

dbus is an interprocess communication system for software application. Lets check the use flag

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep dbus
USE="...dbus..."
```

Lets make sure it is started

```
CHroot # rc-update add dbus default
```

2.7.14 Networkmanager

Last but not least - the network manager. We have already configured the kernel. Lets make sure the use flag is set

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep networkmanager
```

We will need an implementation to use it, I prefer the GTK one

```
CHroot # emerge -av nm-applet
```

Lets make sure it will start an startup

```
CHroot # rc-update add NetworkManager default
```

Make sure your users are included into **plugdev** group.

2.7.15   pci card reader

Should already have appropriate kernel config. In my case I need also

```
CHroot #  emerge -va pcsc -tools
```

2.7.16   finger reader

It may work or not with *fprintd fprintd*, but I am leaving it open for now. Last time I tried it did not work.

2.7.17   Acpi, laptop_mode, suspend

Lets see if *acpi* use flag is set

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep acpi
USE="...acpi..."
```

We need the *acpid* package and it should be started at default level, guide

```
CHroot # emerge -av acpid acpitool
CHroot # rc-update acpid default
```

Lets install laptop mode, guide

```
CHroot # emerge -va laptop-mode-tools
CHroot # rc-update laptop_mode default
```

For suspending this program should be sufficient, guide

```
CHroot # emerge -va suspend
```

2.7.18   udiskies

Hadnling the mounting and etc. make sure to have

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep udisks
USE="...udisks..."
```

Additional software is found at

```
CHroot # emerge -av udiskie
```

Don't forget to include your users to **plgudev** group!!!

2.7.19   OPENntpd

We want to have automatic syncing of the time!!! Some hints in Gentoo wiki and Arch wiki and this particular forum entry

```
CHroot # emerge -av openntpd
```

Lets edit the config file by adding some

<div align="center">sample_configs/ntpd.conf_example</div>

```
23  # Choose servers announced from Gentoo NTP Pool
24  servers 0.gentoo.pool.ntp.org
25  servers 1.gentoo.pool.ntp.org
26  servers 2.gentoo.pool.ntp.org
27  servers 3.gentoo.pool.ntp.org
28
29  # Added by me
30  servers pool.ntp.org
31  servers europe.pool.ntp.org
32  servers bg.pool.ntp.org
```

Lets not forget to add it at default boot level:

```
CHroot # rc-update add ntpd default
```

To check if everything is working:

```
CHroot # # Lets see if config file is OK
CHroot # ntpd -n
configuration OK
CHroot # # ntpd -s -d To see about offsets and etc
CHroot # # ntpctl -s status To watch when the clock will be synced,
    while the previus command is running
```

2.7.20   Display manager

I prefer to be greeted with something different of an console, thus the need of display manager. My choice is *lightdm*

```
CHroot # emerge -va lightdm
```

To start LightDM we need *dbus* and *xdm* at default level, but presume *dbus* is already there.

```
CHroot # rc-update add xdm default
```

We need to set LightDM as the default display manager in */etc/conf.d/xdm*

sample_configs/xdm_example

```
8  # What display manager do you use ?  [ xdm | gdm | kdm | gpe | entrance
      ]
9  # NOTE: If this is set in /etc/rc.conf, that setting will override this
      one.
10 #DISPLAYMANAGER="xdm"
11 DISPLAYMANAGER="lightdm"
```

2.7.21   Programs

Here is the list of programs I like to use

- xorg - **xorg-server**

- Desktop environment - **openbox**

- polkit - **lxqt-policykit**

- qt based configuration tool for Openbox - **obconf-qt**

- gtk theme configs with additional plugin for obconf, but not all openbox configs are included - **lxappearance-obconf**

- additional nice features for config - **lxqt-config**

- for monitor configuration I prefer - **arandr**

- menu generator - **obmenu-generator**

- Clipboard manager - **parcellite**

- Filemanager - **spacefm** or **pcmanfm**, but actually prefer the later

- terminal - **xterm** for backup and **qterminal** regularly

- browser - **firefox**

- mail client - **thunderbird** or some addon for firefox

- torrent client - **transmission**

- video/music player - **smplayer**

- image viewer - **nomacs**

- document reader - **qpdfview** and **okular**, since last time I checked the first did not save the page position on exit

- e-book management for my kindle - **calibre**

- editor - **gvim** but in most cases **mousepad** is enough

- office suits - **libreoffice**

- ide - **geany** and **texstudio**

- I like LATEX- **texlive**, with useflags *extra graphics humanities png science*

- I like python - **ipython** with useflags *matplotlib examples latex*, also, maybe if needed use **pip** but BUT ONLY AS USER OR maybe just **jupyter**

- network manager - **nm-applet**, it will pull out NetworkManager

- system monitoring - **qps**

- quick program starter - **gmrun** or **lxqt-runner**, all programs started with gmrun are called gmrun, but I like it better

- program for archives - **xarchiver**, after its emerge is completed it will suggest additional programs as **rar**, **unrar**, **zip**, **unzip** and etc.

- system tray - **stalonetray**

- screensaver - **xscreensaver**

- git - **git**

- flash player - **adobe-flash**

- password manager - **app-admin/keepass**

- composition manager - **compton**

- easy app finder - **xfce4-appfinder**

```
CHroot # emerge -uDNva xorg-server openbox obconf-qt lxappearance-
   obconf lxqt-config arandr obmenu-generator parcellite spacefm xterm
    qterminal firefox thunderbird transmission smplayer nomacs
   qpdfview okular calibre gvim mousepad libreoffice texstudio texlive
    jupyter nm-applet qps gmrun xarchiver stalonetray xscreensaver git
    app-admin/keepass compton xfce4-appfinder
```

Here is the software installed in the previous subsubsections

- default editor - **vim**

- bash autocomplete - **bash-completion**

- sudo - **sudo**

- logger - **sysklogd logrotate fcron**

- gentoo tool kit - **gentoolkit**

- alsa - **alsa-utils**

- pulseaudio - **pavucontrol**

- network manager applet - **nm-applet**

- pci card reader - **pcsc-tools**

- acpi - **acpid acpitool laptop-mode-tools suspend**

- udisks - **udiskie**

- display manager - **lightdm**

Last but not least check if services are added to apporpiate levels with **rc-update | grep name_of_service**

- **alsasound** should be at **boot**

- **NetworkManager** should be at **default**

- **acpid** should be at **default**

- **consolekit** should be at **default**

- **dbus** should be at **default**

- **fcron** should be at **default**

- **laptop_mode** should be at **default**

- **sysklogd** should be at **default**

- **xdm** should be at **default**

- **ntpd** should be at **default**

- **udev** should be at **sysinit**

2.7.22   LXQT

For the moment, to achieve uniform look of qt and gtk applications I use LXQT environment. Some hints on qt gtk uniform look. Despite my efforts to search for which variables are needed and etc. I did not manage to achieve qt5 applications to use the gtk themes from lxappearance. Thus for the moment I give up.

```
CHroot # emerge -av lxqt-base/lxqt-meta
```

Now lets make sure we will have **gtk** option in *qtconfig* with including **gtkstyle** in make.conf. Lets edit the **GUI** var in */etc/portage/make.conf* and include only it and check

```
CHroot # emerge --info | grep gtkstyle
USE="...gtkstyle..."
```

For **qt5** uniform look at the moment we need *qtstyleplugins* which is in an overlay. They recommend for newer versions to include use flags **sync-plugin-portage git**.

```
CHroot # USE="sync-plugin-portage git" emerge layman
CHroot # # Check if /etc/layman/layman.cfg has "conf_type : repos.conf"
CHroot # cat /etc/layman/layman.cfg | grep "conf_type : repos.conf"
conf_type : repos.conf
CHroot # mkdir -p /etc/portage/repos.conf
CHroot # layman-updater -R
```

Now the desired **x11-themes**/**qtstyleplugins** is at *abendbrot*.

```
CHroot # layman -a abendbrot && layman -S
CHroot # emerge -va x11-themes/qtstyleplugins
```

Finaly, since I prefer dark themes sites look awful. A quick way firefox to not respect it is to compile the package without the *gtk* use flag

```
CHroot # USE="-gtk2" emerge -va firefox
```

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3 Specific configs

3.1 Openbox

Important, work was done on making the uniform look and nice fonts, but for the moment I do not have time to add them. Basically

- Looks like I wont be using LXQT since thanks to here and as far as I can remember, qt5ct was not available when I started working, so more info after I make the edits.

- Fonts look rather better and uniform. A lot of editing the **/etc/fonts/local.conf** file and twiching the **eselect fontconfig**, but basic idea is to make the configs in the previus file(where you can find notes), and disable the stuff below. Now it looks like this:

```
root #  eselect fontconfig list
Available fontconfig .conf files (* is enabled):
[1]    09-texlive.conf *
[2]    10-autohint.conf
[3]    10-hinting-full.conf
[4]    10-hinting-medium.conf
[5]    10-hinting-none.conf
[6]    10-hinting-slight.conf
[7]    10-no-sub-pixel.conf
[8]    10-scale-bitmap-fonts.conf
[9]    10-sub-pixel-bgr.conf
[10]   10-sub-pixel-rgb.conf
[11]   10-sub-pixel-vbgr.conf
[12]   10-sub-pixel-vrgb.conf
[13]   10-unhinted.conf
[14]   11-lcdfilter-default.conf
[15]   11-lcdfilter-legacy.conf
[16]   11-lcdfilter-light.conf
[17]   20-unhint-small-dejavu-sans-mono.conf
[18]   20-unhint-small-dejavu-sans.conf
[19]   20-unhint-small-dejavu-serif.conf
[20]   20-unhint-small-vera.conf
[21]   25-unhint-nonlatin.conf
[22]   30-metric-aliases.conf *
[23]   30-urw-aliases.conf *
[24]   40-nonlatin.conf *
[25]   42-luxi-mono.conf
[26]   45-latin.conf *
[27]   49-sansserif.conf *
[28]   50-user.conf
[29]   51-local.conf *
[30]   52-infinality.conf
[31]   57-dejavu-sans-mono.conf *
[32]   57-dejavu-sans.conf *
[33]   57-dejavu-serif.conf *
[34]   59-google-droid-sans-mono.conf *
[35]   59-google-droid-sans.conf *
[36]   59-google-droid-serif.conf *
```

```
[37]   60-latin.conf *
[38]   60-liberation.conf *
[39]   61-stix.conf *
[40]   62-croscore-arimo.conf *
[41]   62-croscore-cousine.conf *
[42]   62-croscore-symbolneu.conf *
[43]   62-croscore-tinos.conf *
[44]   65-fonts-persian.conf *
[45]   65-khmer.conf *
[46]   65-nonlatin.conf *
[47]   69-unifont.conf *
[48]   70-no-bitmaps.conf *
[49]   70-yes-bitmaps.conf
[50]   80-delicious.conf *
[51]   90-synthetic.conf *
[52]   99pdftoopvp.conf *
```