HELP

MX RPi Openbox Remix

Default User**: mxob**

Default Password: **mxob**

This **unofficial** MX-23 OpenBox Respin unites the MX-23 Official Raspberry Pi Respin based on Debian 12 (Bookworm) with Openbox instead of Xfce.

This OS requires Xorg as display server (=default).

It will not work under Wayland.

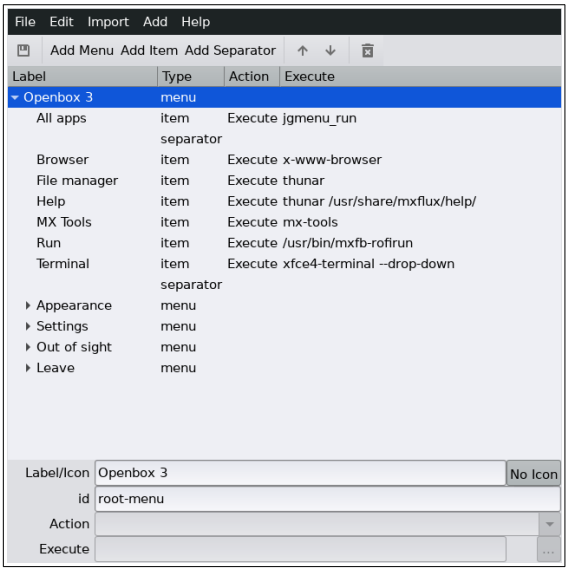
Default desktop

- Left center: dock (*tint2*)
- Right top: desktop system information (*conky*)
- Bottom center: notification area, with a systray (*stalonetray)* and clock (*tdc*)

TO START: right-click anywhere on the desktop to access the root menu (hereafter: "**Menu**").

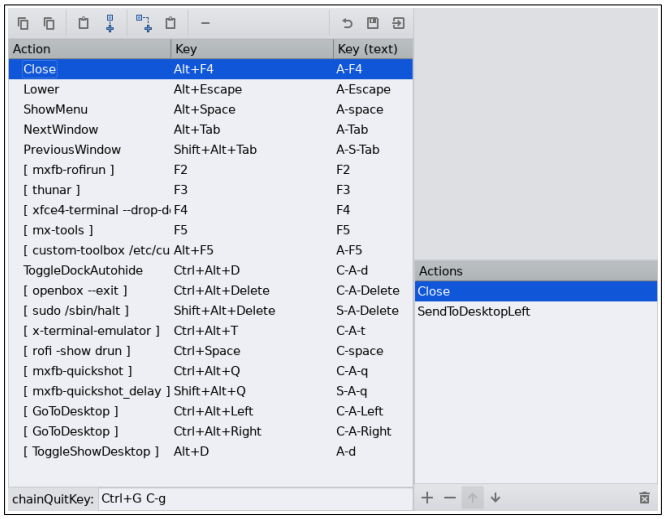
Basic openbox configuration (*~/.config/openbox/*)

- **autostart:** programs to be started at the beginning of a session are listed in this flat file that is easily understood and directly edited by clicking **Menu > Settings > Autostart**.
- **menu.xml:** this static or fixed menu of user-selected applications is conveniently managed with **Menu > Settings > Menus** > **Desktop Menu** (*obmenu2*). See below for other menus.



The menu editor with menu.xml open

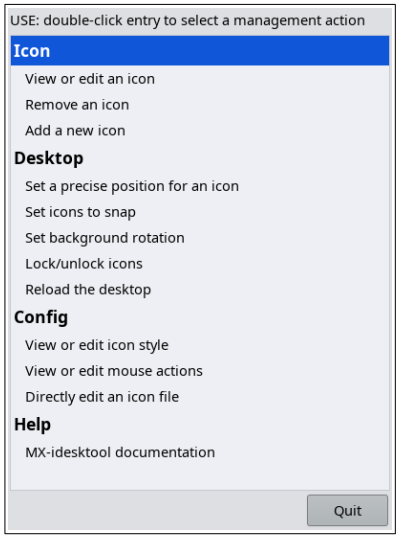
- **rc.xml:** this is the main configuration file for Openbox settings and behavior. It includes keys (AKA shortcuts, keybindings), that may be easily managed with **Menu > Settings > Keys** (*obkey*).



The keys management tool ready to use

Desktop icons

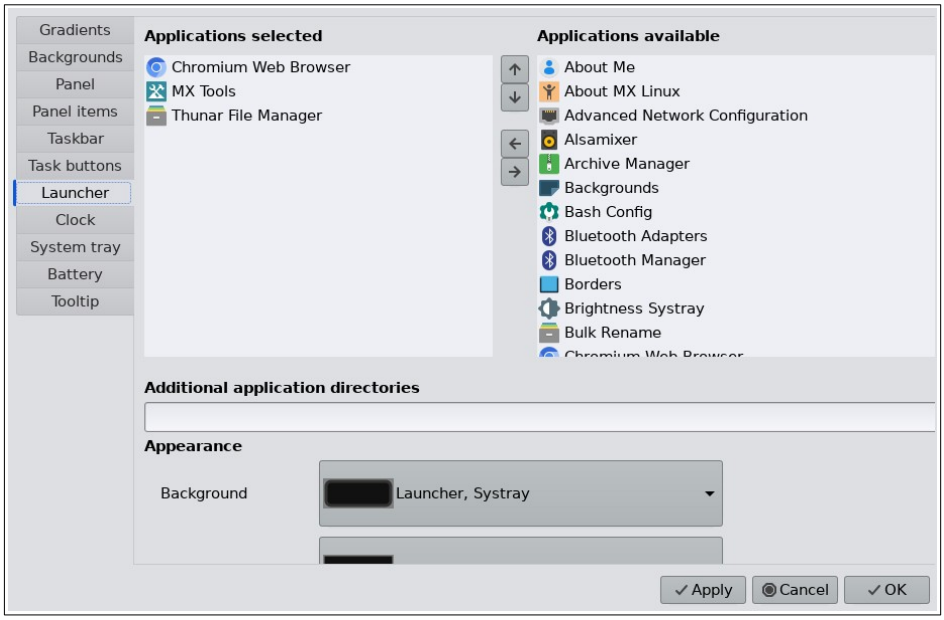
Desktop icons can be set up and managed by **iDesktool**, a tool adapted and modernized from an earlier app by MX Linux Devs and users: **Menu > Appearance > Desktop icons**. This tool greatly facilitates the use of desktop icons on window managers such as Openbox. It is very straightforward, should raise few questions and is supported by a detailed Help file.



Main screen of iDesktool

Dock

The default dock is provided by tint2. Settings: **Menu** > **Settings** > **Dock**. Select *basic-dock-tint2rc* in the list of themes, then click on “Launcher” in the left column (shown below). Use the arrows in the middle column to add, remove and reposition selected applications.

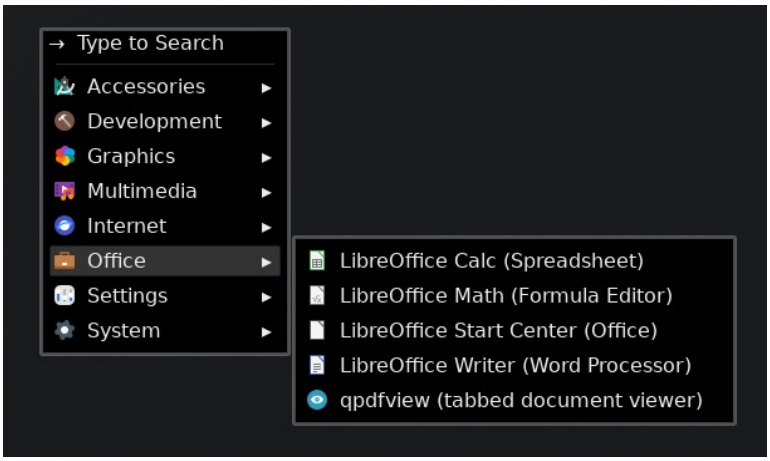


Dock manager, showing app options

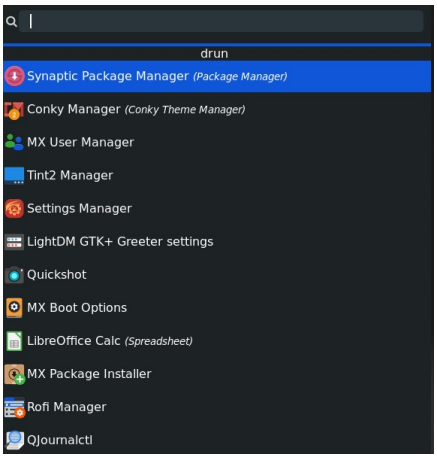
Menus

In addition to the static menu, two other menus are included to allow for differing user preferences:

- **All apps** (*jgmenu*), the top entry on the static root menu, provides easy access to installed applications organized by categories. To find an app directly, click the top search box (the word "Search" remains visible) and type in a name o descriptive term. Settings: **Menu** > **Settings** > **Menus > All apps** (*jgmenu_run*). Details in the jgmenu overview.
- **Rofi** is conveniently accessed with the key: *Ctrl + Space*. It is used here primarily as an app launcher, though it has other functions as well. It is structured alphabetically but brings frequently used apps to the top of the list. Settings: **Menu** > **Settings** > **Menus** > **Rofi** (*mx-rofi-manager*). Details in the MX Wiki.



The All Apps menu, showing a subcategory



The Rofi menu (dmenu)

Localization

- **Static menu.** The default static menu will be delivered in translation generated by DeepL if an appropriate one for the user's locale exists in /usr/share/mxob/menu-translations.
- **All apps and Rofi menus.** Localization of Name and Comment depends on the individual desktop files in /usr/share/applications.

Notification area

Two separate stand-alone and very simple apps are used to create the Notification area: *stalonetray* and *tdc*. They can be separately hidden: **Menu > Out of sight > Notification area**. The settings for these apps can be adjusted by clicking **Menu** > **Settings** > **Notification area.**

The decoration of the Notification Area is determined by the theme selected in obconf-qt. An alternative is available with tint2: launch *dock-basic-tint2rc* in **Autostart** and adjust menu entries accordingly.

Configuration

First things first

Basic setup can be modified by using Raspberry Pi's convenient app: **Menu > Settings > Raspberry Pi > Basic setup** (*rc_gui*).

- Change the user password**.** For advanced changes use **MX User Manager**.
- Set correct time format. For advanced changes use **MX Date & Time.**
- Set desktop localization. For advanced changes use **MX System keyboard** or **MX Locales**.

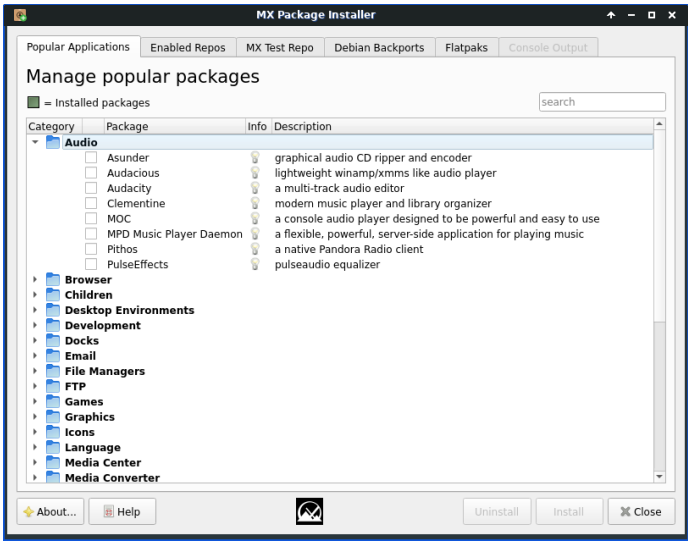
Log out and back in when done.

Software

This Respin ships with basic apps installed but leaves to the user the decision to add other software such as email client, music app, video player, office suite, etc. The convenient **MX Package Installer** > "Popular Applications" tab is highly recommended for this task with its speed, functionality and safety. More detailed package operations are available using Synaptic.

NOTE: be very careful about adding software from outside the default repositories to avoid package failure or even system instability.

Available package upgrades will be signaled by the wire box in the systray turning from clear to green along with visual notification on the desktop. Right-click the box to view or change preferences and options, left-click the box to start the upgrade process.



Package Installer with an audio device selected

Internet

MX Linux comes preconfigured (Network Manager) to auto-detect a Wifi or LAN connection and in most cases you will simply need to click the icon in the systray and select the access point you want.

Troubleshooting:

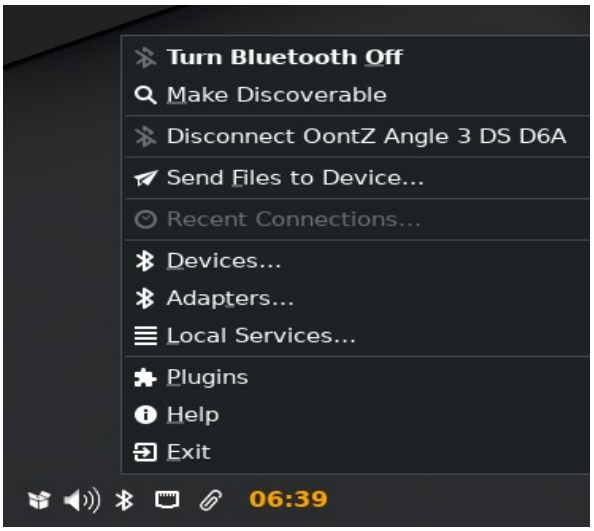
- **MX Network Assistant** allows you to identify connection problems, from network card to web issues.
- **Advanced Network Configuration** provides access to many connection details.

Bluetooth

To enable Bluetooth (if an internal or external bluetooth adapter is present):

- Make your device discoverable, if necessary.
- Left-click the icon in the systray to launch Bluetooth Manager.
- Click the "Search" button to find your device.
- Right-click the icon of your device > **Pair**, or use the button bar.
- Right-click again > **Trust**, or use the button bar.
- If it immediately disconnects, left-click the icon to reconnect, use the Bluetooth Manager or simply log out and back in. If that doesn't work, right-click your device's icon in Bluetooth Manager > **Connect**.
- When you next log in your device should be automatically connected as soon as it is turned on. If not, right-click the systray icon to enable a recent connection.

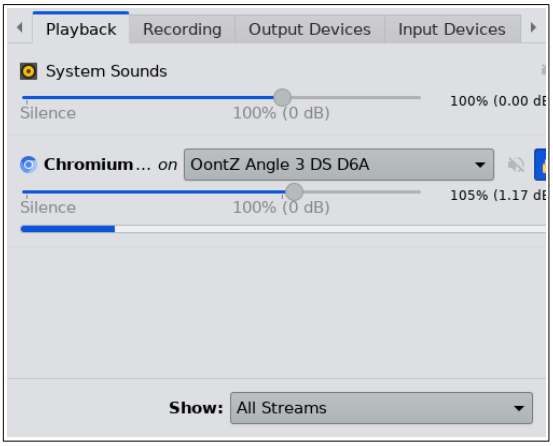
A device has been found, paired and trusted



The right-click menu of the systray icon

Sound

- Confirm that the speaker (or headphones) is powered on and enabled.
- Left-click the speaker icon in the systray and use the pull-down menu to change speakers.
- Test by playing a streaming site, an installed music app such as audacious or another source
- Adjust volume by scrolling up or down while holding the cursor over the speaker icon.
- You may also have to right-click the speaker icon > Open mixer (*pavucontrol*), then click on the Playback tab and use the pull-down menu to change the output (when using Chromium, for instance).
- There is an option to select headphones or speaker: **Settings** > **Raspberry Pi** > **Detailed config.**



Changing the playback in the mixer

Screen

Settings. Use **Menu** > **Settings** > **Display** (*raindrop*). For details, consult the Raspberry Pi documentation.

Blanking. Setting up blanking with Raspberry Pi Config did not work in our testing, so we make use of xset.. To change the number of seconds of inactivity before the screen blanks (default: 600), click **Menu > Settings > Autostart** and find the entry that begins with "*xset -dpms…*"

For instant screen blanking, press **F12**; any keyboard action restores the screen.

Theme and wallpaper

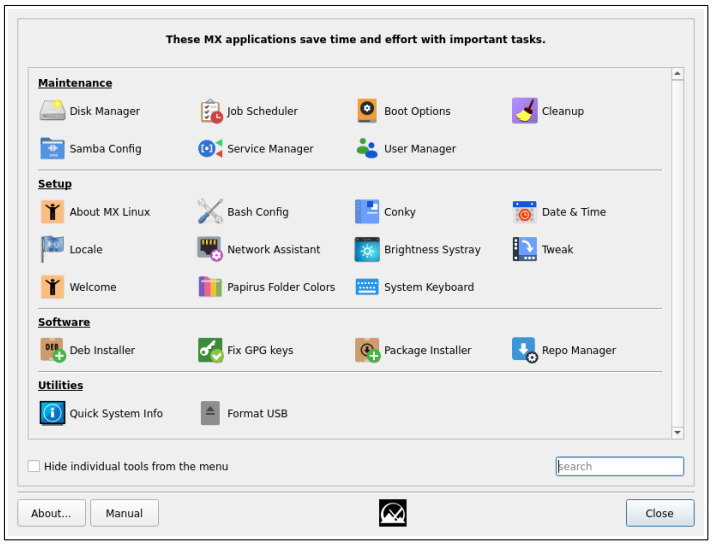
A certain number of Openbox themes have been provided for system-wide use in */usr/share/themes*. There are many others online that you can download, extract and add to your own resource: *~/.themes*. Management with **Menu** > **Appearance** > **Theme**.

Wallpapers are selected with **Menu** > **Appearance** > **Wallpaper**, and managed with **feh-setbg**, whose settings (where to search, etc) are located in *~/.config/feh/feh-setbg.conf*.

MX Tools

This signature collection of tools developed by MX Linux is easily accessed from **Menu** > **MX Tools** or with the key F5. For description and details of the tool collection, click **Menu** > **Help** > **Users Manual** (or Shift + F1) and go to Section 3.2.

Users are advised to become familiar with these unique and helpful apps.



The MX Tools dashboard

Miscellaneous

- A running system can be copied with the app **SD Card Copier.** To create an *.img file instead, a handy set of tools has been developed by RPi Forum member RonR.
- Swap size can affect performance, especially on the Pi 3B and others with small memory. It is set by default at 2x RAM but can be adjusted on the Raspberry Pi following these clear instructions.
- Resources
  - MX Openbox version: Use the MX Forum and consult the Users Manual (Shift + F1) for questions about MX programs.
  - Original Openbox version (3.7): Consult the much deprecated but still valuable Openbox home page. Be aware that many links are broken and some of the apps listed there (e.g., *obamenu*) may no longer exist or be installable.

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