How to change default "sort by" to "type" in nautilus

<u>Ask Question</u>

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How to change the `sort by` for folders to `type` , because I want folders to be shown first and then files by name. When I sort by type, I get the result I want, but I need to change this for all my folders.

How can I change the `default preference` to `sort by: type` , so every folder will by default be sorted by type? I tried with `dconf-editor` , then `org > gnome > nautilus > preferences` and tried to choose `type` in `default-sort-order` , but I can only select `modification_date` , not by `type` .

<u>nautilus</u>

asked Feb 8 '13 at 15:06
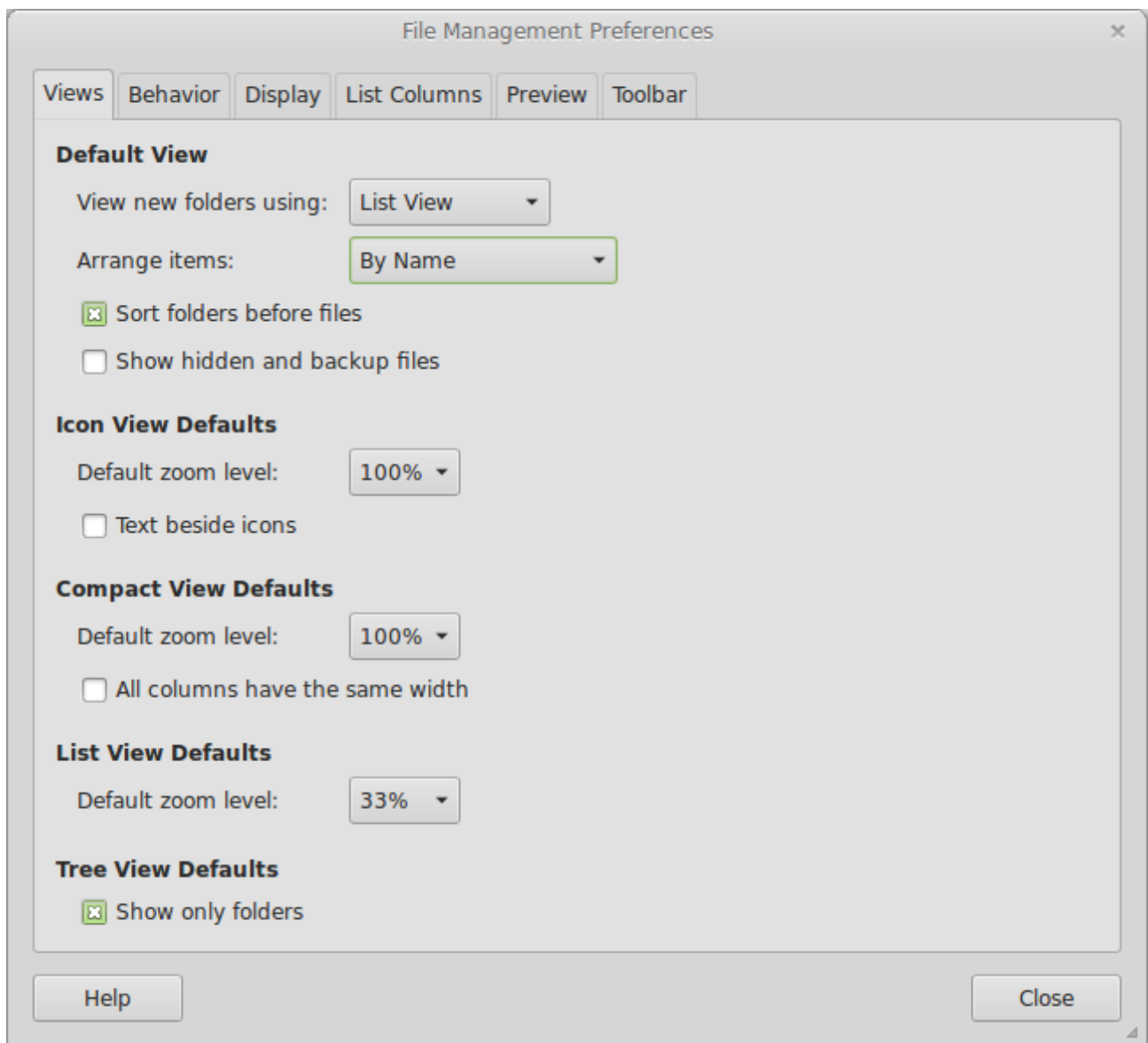
<u>bosniamaj</u>

2431210

5 Answers

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✔

On Nemo (a recent fork of nautilus), I have the following in the menu :

1. `Edit > Preferences`
2. then on the `Views` tab
   - I got a section called `Default View`
   - with a line **Arrange items**, there is a select where I can choose the default sort order

Screenshot

File Management Preferences ✕

Views | Behavior | Display | List Columns | Preview | Toolbar

Default View

View new folders using: List View ▾

Arrange items: By Name ▾

☒ Sort folders before files

☐ Show hidden and backup files

Icon View Defaults

Default zoom level: 100% ▾

☐ Text beside icons

Compact View Defaults

Default zoom level: 100% ▾

☐ All columns have the same width

List View Defaults

Default zoom level: 33% ▾

Tree View Defaults

☒ Show only folders

Help   Close

answered Feb 8 '13 at 15:24

Édouard Lopez
3,48842236

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update February 2017:

nautilus now has a configuration option to sort directories first (I think since 3.14 or so) so I recommend using that instead of changing the default sort order. It is literally the first item in GUI preferences.

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initial post from May 2014

I see the same problems on Fedora 18 (using the same versions).

The first attempt using dconf directly via the command line does not work for me:

```
$ dconf write /org/gnome/nautilus/preferences/default-sort-order type
error: 0-4:unknown keyword
```

Now gsettings to the rescue:

```
$ gsettings set org.gnome.nautilus.preferences default-sort-order type
```

I'm not sure why dconf does not accept 'type' as a valid value even though dconf-editor explicitely lists it in the help text but gsettings works for me just fine.

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Determine the current default value of Nautilus sort order using `gsettings`

```
gsettings get org.gnome.nautilus.preferences default-sort-order
```

Then change/set it to 'type'

```
gsettings set org.gnome.nautilus.preferences default-sort-order 'type'
```

The change happens instantly

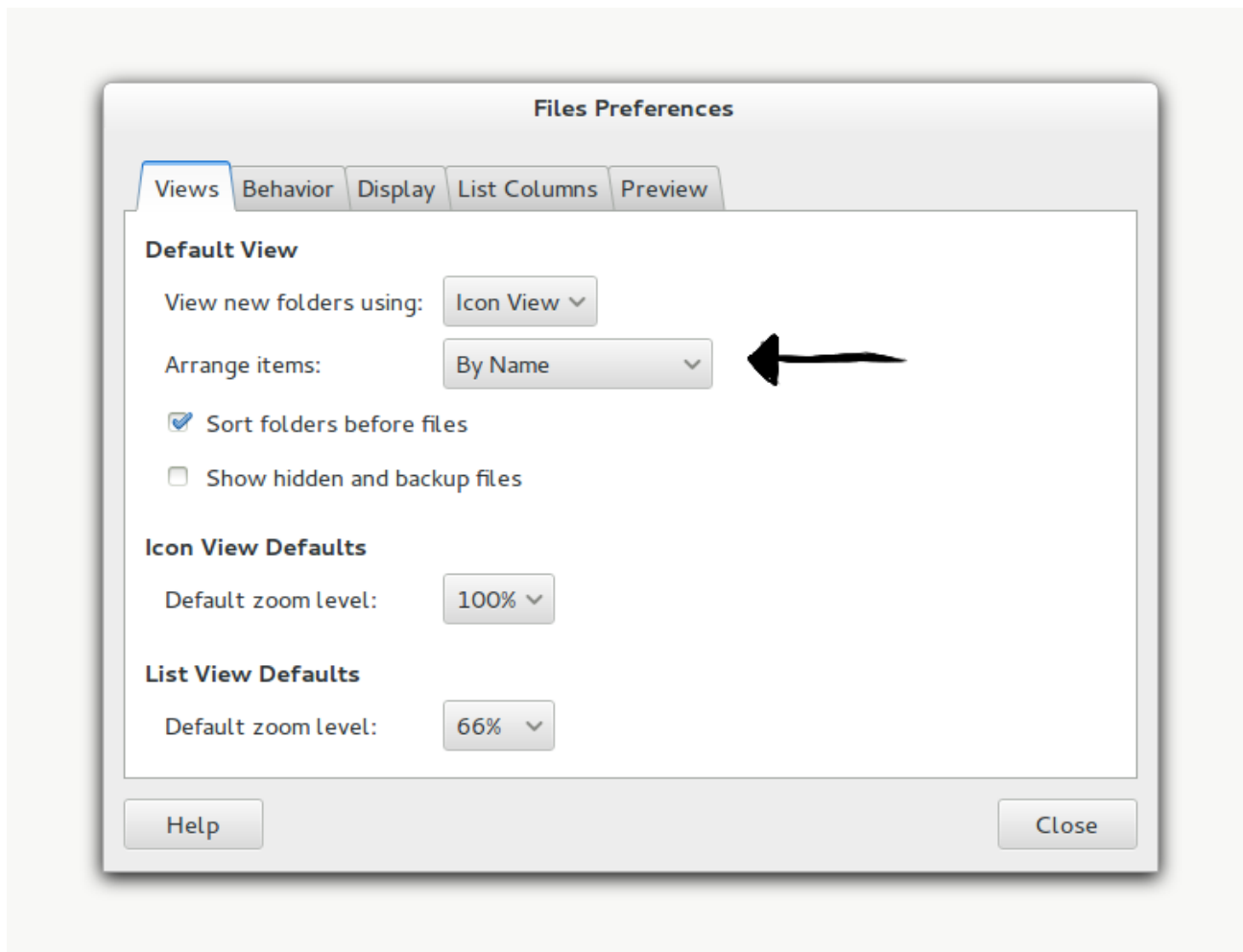answered Mar 20 '16 at 18:49

Anonymous
6111

1

In preferences -> Views -> **Arrange Items**

It has got 'By Type' in the drop down list.

If you can't see preferences in gnome-shell, click on the nautilus icon in the top panel

answered Sep 7 '13 at 18:53

Omar A. Shaban
23126

1

Change the reverse sort order settings for files(nautilus)/nemo on Ubuntu 14.04:

```
gsettings list-recursively | grep reverse
```

...

```
gsettings set org.nemo.preferences default-sort-in-reverse-order true
gsettings set org.gnome.nautilus.preferences default-sort-in-reverse-order true
```

answered Jan 21 '15 at 16:59

amas
111

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