Twister UI

Presented by Pi Labs

INTRODUCTION

Twister UI is a user interface add-on for Linux Mint and Xubuntu. It includes themes, applications, and configurations to match the user experience found in Twister OS on the Raspberry Pi and other SBCs.

Requirements:

- An installed 64-bit (amd64) or 32-bit (i386) version of either the Linux Mint Xfce or Xubuntu operating system
- Approximately 5 GB of additional disk space on your OS partition

The theme elements are composed from various theme and other projects on GitHub. Some of these elements have been modified to varying degrees, and some have been created from scratch.

FIRST STEPS

1. Download and install the 64 or 32-bit version of either Linux Mint Xfce (https://linuxmint.com/download.php) or Xubuntu (https://xubuntu.org/download).
2. Download and run the Twister UI installer from https://twisteros.com.
3. When using Linux Mint Xfce, you will need to make changes to the following settings after the Twister UI installation has been completed:
   a. In "**Application Menu -> Settings -> Desktop**," under the "**Icons**" tab, uncheck "**Use custom font size**"
   b. In "**Application Menu -> Settings -> Window Manager Tweaks**," under the "**Compositor**" tab, uncheck "**Show shadows under dock windows**"

THEMETWISTER

This is what gives "Twister OS" its name!

- The "ThemeTwister" app allows you to quickly and easily change between Twister OS, Twister 95, Twister XP, Twister 7, Twister 10, iTwister, and iTwister Sur desktop theme styles.
- Change the look and feel of your operating system as often as you like, and customize it to your taste!
- And if your tweaking gets out of hand, don't worry, you can always restore the original theme settings via the "Restore Twister Theme Config" app, found in the Settings menu.
- The GUI for ThemeTwister was developed by kreal. More information on kreal's projects can be found on his GitHub page: https://github.com/krishenriksen

LIGHTPAD

LightPad (formerly slingscold) is the main application launcher used in the iTwister themes. It can be launched by clicking on the "rocket" icon in the dock.

This application was developed for Twister OS/Twister UI by Juan Lozano. Please support Juan's continued work by visiting his GitHub site: https://github.com/libredeb

WINE

Wine is added during the installation of Twister UI for running Windows applications in Linux.

Upon launching a Windows app through Wine for the first time, you may be prompted to install additional Mono and Gecko components. Please go ahead and do so if this occurs.

Some great older Windows games to try can be found at: https://archive.org and https://www.myabandonware.com.

DISCORD APP

The Discord app is also installed with Twister UI. You can use Discord to get support for Twister UI from its creators and channel members via Pi Labs' Discord channel, found here: https://discord.gg/Y7WFeC5

Twister UI 32-bit note: The Discord app included with the 32-bit version of Twister UI is not the official Discord app (which is presently incompatible with 32-bit systems), but rather, an Electron-based web app for Linux, which was developed by SpacingBat3 for Twister OS/Twister UI.

SpacingBat's GitHub Electron Discord Web App page can be found here: https://github.com/SpacingBat3/electron-discord-webapp

STEAM AND LUTRIS

Steam and Lutris are gaming platforms for Linux, and are included with Twister UI to provide an easy way to play and organize your game libraries, as well as simplify the installation and configuration of games in Linux.

More information on Lutris can be found at: https://lutris.net

Twister UI 32-bit note: The first time you launch Steam in the 32-bit version of Twister UI, you will receive an error message stating that "this computer's CPU is too old to run Steam." The second and subsequent times you launch it, however, it will load properly. After logging in, you will only be able to view your library in "small" or compact view. This is due to the fact that the Steam Browser is 64-bit only.

ANDROID MIRRORING

In order to use Android Mirroring (My Android), you need to enable USB/ADB debugging on your phone and connect it to one of the USB 3.0 ports of your PC. Then launch the "My Android" shortcut.

If your phone doesn't present a window prompting you to allow access, try another USB 3.0 port and relaunch "My Android."

You can visit the scrcpy GitHub page for more information, but it should run. You can also check if the device is connected by typing `adb devices`.

You can play around with options and learn the shortcuts that scrcpy has by opening a terminal and entering `scrcpy --help`.

Twister UI 32-bit note: Android Mirroring is not presently available in the 32-bit version of Twister UI.

GLOBAL MENU

A "global menu" feature has been included in the iTwister and iTwister Sur themes. This causes application menus to appear in the top panel, rather than in the application window. This can be disabled if you don't like it.

PHOTOGIMP

PhotoGIMP is essentially a "patch" for GIMP that changes its interface layout to resemble the interface found in Adobe Photoshop. Additionally, PhotoGIMP includes the following features:

- Adds hundreds of new fonts
- Installs new Python filters such as "heal selection"
- Adds a new splash screen
- Adds new default settings to maximize space on the canvas
- Adds keyboard shortcuts similar to Adobe Photoshop

If you find that you prefer the traditional GIMP interface and layout, you can remove the PhotoGIMP patch by entering the following command in a terminal window:

```
rm -r ~/.config/GIMP && rm ~/.local/share/applications/gimp.desktop
```

After running this command, GIMP will restore its default configuration the next time you launch it.

Further information about PhotoGIMP can be found at: https://github.com/Diolinux/PhotoGIMP

DYNAMIC WALLPAPER

Dynamic Wallpaper is an application developed by Jack477 that allows you to choose from three different wallpaper scene packs that will change based on the time of day. Give it a try to spruce up your desktop!

You can find more information about Jack477's projects here: https://github.com/Jack477

NOTIFICATION CENTER AND SPOTLIGHT

The Notification Center and Spotlight apps were developed by kreal for Twister OS/Twister UI. Notification Center and Spotlight provide an enhanced user experience in the iTwister and iTwister Sur themes. These apps can be accessed by clicking on the notification and magnifying glass icons in the upper-right corner of the panel in the iTwister-style themes.

More information on kreal's projects can be found on his GitHub page: https://github.com/krishenriksen

TWISTER UI NEOFETCH THEME

A custom Neofetch theme is included in Twister UI, and was created by Natsurii. If you prefer the original-styled theme, you can simply type:
```
mv -f ~/.config/neofetch/config.conf.bak ~/.config/neofetch/config.conf
```
in a terminal window. More information on Natsurii's projects can be found here:
https://gitlab.com/Natsurii/twisteros-neofetch

TWISTER UI PATCHER

Twister UI Patcher provides an easy way to keep your Twister UI installation up-to-date. You can check for Twister UI updates at any time by clicking on the "Twister UI Patcher" shortcut, found in the "System" menu. Twister UI Patcher was originally developed by Botspot, and adapted for all of Pi Labs' "Twister" offerings by phoenixbyrd.

More information on this project can be found at: https://github.com/Botspot/TwistUP and
https://github.com/phoenixbyrd/TwistUP-UI

UNINSTALLATION

You can uninstall Twister UI by entering the following command into a terminal window:
```
/usr/share/ThemeSwitcher/uninstall.sh
```
After uninstalling Twister UI, remaining 3rd-party applications that were installed as part of the Twister UI installation process can be uninstalled through your software manager application, if you so desire.

FINAL WORDS

This project was made in response to numerous requests to provide the Twister OS user experience outside of the Raspberry Pi, as well as out of our admiration for desktop Linux in general.
The skins/themes are provided for aesthetic value only, and do not significantly impact the performance or usability of your PC. If you don't like them, you don't have to use them.
This project is not exclusively our work, as many of the theme elements and included software are based upon tons of other peoples' work on GitHub.

With open source love, the Pi Labs team.

https://twisteros.com