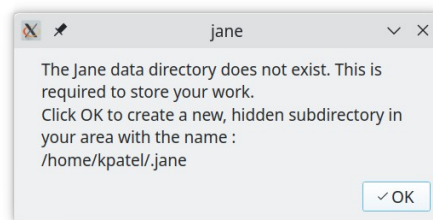


Jane 0.1

User's Guide

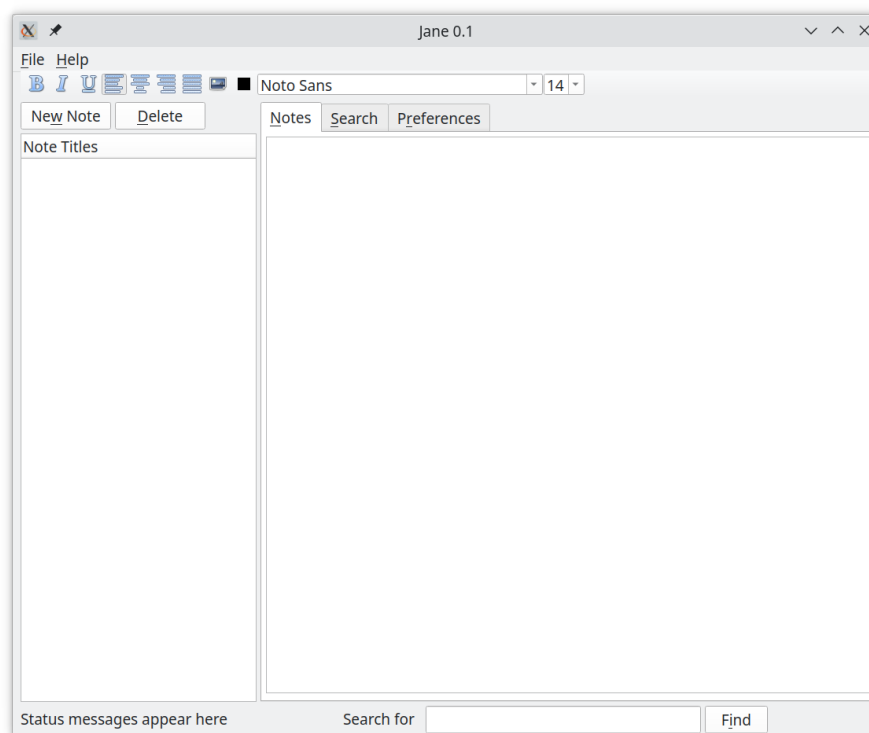
Jane is a small utility that stores your notes - or diary, or a journal - organized and accessible from within a simple interface.

When the program is executed, it always checks for a subdirectory where the data you create is stored. Obviously, when the program runs for the first time in your account, this subdirectory does not exist. The program informs you of this fact, waits for you to click the “OK” button, and creates the subdirectory.



The User Interface

Apart from the main menu and toolbar, the user interface window is mainly in two parts.



The left panel lists the titles of your notes in alphabetical order, except for new notes, which are always put at the bottom when created, and shifted to their proper place when the program runs the next time.

There are two buttons above the left panel. One creates a new, empty note with the title “New note” which is displayed, initially, at the bottom of the list of titles. The other button labelled “Delete” deletes a note, but only if it is empty, and contains no data.

The right panel contains three tabs, of which the first, labelled “Notes”, is a rich-text editor where you actually enter the note. The first line is treated as the title of the note and displayed in the left panel.

When typing the note in the right panel, as you would in any editor, the standard key bindings are available. You can change the font and other properties of the font for any part of the note using the toolbar. Images can be inserted as well. The inserted images are copied and stored in the data subdirectory along with the notes file.

Whenever the program restarts again, the note titles are sorted and listed in alphabetical order.

At the bottom of the window is the status bar, alongside which is a one-line window that is used to search for text in the currently displayed note. Enter the text you wish to find and click the “Find” button (or press Alt-i).

Search all notes

Over a period of time, the data you enter in Jane will become larger and larger, and you may find it difficult to remember where you recorded a particular item in which particular note.

The “Search” tab provides a facility to search for data within all the notes. Click the tab to bring it to the foreground.

The text to search for is entered in the box. After this click on the *Search* button. The window below will display the serial number and the titles of the notes in which the data was found.

Preferences

The third tab is “Preferences”. Only two at the moment.

By default the application uses “Noto Sans” as the font for the menus and other labels. A different font can be selected by clicking on the “Set application font” button. A font-selector dialog pops up, where you can choose the font and its size. Remember that this selection does not effect the font for notes, which can be set independently.

The second button is to create a backup of the notes file, which is named “Notes.jane.backup” and stored in the data subdirectory itself.

Preferences are automatically saved on exit, and reloaded the next time the program is used. The size of the window on exit is also restored.

Inserting images

In order to insert an image into the note that you are currently editing, click the “Insert image” icon on the toolbar. This is the one that looks like a picture frame, containing a view of the sun or something similar. Doing this will bring up a file selection dialog box, which will allow you to choose the image file to insert.

The image file is copied to the data subdirectory, and a reference to it as a hyper-link is included in the text.

The image is displayed full size, as it is, with no scaling or resizing. The image will be displayed so long as it exists in the data subdirectory. If it is moved or deleted it will not be displayed. Also, if you delete the image from your note by mistake, it is not deleted from the data subdirectory.

The Main Menu

There is a “File” option which contains an “Exit” item which you can select to terminate the program, as well as an option to export all the notes as a simple text file. This file is named “Notes.txt” and stored within the hidden subdirectory itself. This exported file will not contain the image data.

The other option on the main menu is “Help”, which reveals two items, “Help” (again!) and “About”, and “About Qt”

The “Help” option pops up a window with this file displayed, if it should be in the data subdirectory, otherwise it does nothing.

The “About” menu option pops up a window with information about the program, programmer, version, license, copyright, and also provides a long and unnecessarily tedious but necessarily required information about the GNU GPL under which this program is released.

The “About Qt” menu option pops up a window with information about the version of Qt used by the program, where to get it yourself, and the various types of licenses under which it is available.

Key Bindings

Some of the user-interface items in the program have keys bound to them, so that the action that is produced by clicking the left mouse button can be performed via the keyboard. Some or all of the following can be used on the various tabs.

Menus:

File menu:

Alt-f : Pops down the File menu

Alt-f-n: Export the notes as a text file called “*Notes.txt*” and store it in the data subdirectory.

Alt-f-x : File-Exit. Also *Alt-F4* will do the same. The program saves all data to file before exiting.

Help menu:

Alt-h: Pops down the help menu.

Alt-h-h : Displays the HTML help file.

Alt-h-a : Displays information about the author, copyright and the GPL license.

Alt-h-q : Displays information about the Qt toolkit.

Buttons:

Alt-w: Adds a new, empty note to the tree

Alt-d : Deletes the currently selected list *only if it contains no data*

Tabs:

Alt-n : Displays the Lists tab.

Alt-s : Displays the Search tab.

Alt-r : Displays the Preferences tab.

Ctrl-TAB : Moves to the next tab.

Search:

Alt-e :Search all notes for the text entered in the text box to the left of the button.

Alt-i :Search the displayed note for the text entered in the text box at the bottom of the window.

Preferences:

Alt-t : This displays a pop-up allowing you to select the desired font.

Alt-c : This creates a backup copy of the notes file and saves it in the same data subdirectory.

Editor shortcuts:

In any of the notes, contacts or list editors, the current font can be switched by the following keystrokes:

Ctrl-b: switch to bold

Ctrl-i : switch to italic

Ctrl-u : switch to underlined

If you wish to change the font color, click the colored square to the right of the Underline icon in the toolbar and select the desired color.

If you wish to change the font and its size, select the desired values from the drop down lists on the toolbar.

Storage and Data files

The program stores the data in a hidden sub-directory called “*.jane*” (note the dot at the beginning of the file name) which is created in your home directory on first running the binary. The program always checks for the presence of this directory when it starts.

The notes have no size limit, and can be as long as you need them to be, subject to the memory constraints of the machine.

Availability and Compilation

Jane is available as source code to compile on your own machine from Github.

Compiling the source

Untar and unzip the downloaded package with the command:

```
tar -zxvf jane-dist.tar.gz
```

This will create a subdirectory called “jane-dist”. If you are using QtCreator, the project file to load into QtCreator will be available in this location. QtCreator and the development libraries of Qt are available from www.qt-project.org. Get the latest version, and install it as per the instructions.

Open QtCreator, and load the project file jane.pro which is available in the source package. Select the version you want to build (debug version or release version) and hit Ctrl-B. If there are no problems, this should build the binary.

The program has been compiled and tested on versions 5.2 of Qt, on Kubuntu Linux 22.0.4. There are a couple of warnings, which can be ignored, I think, since it does compile a running binary. Ctrl-R executes the binary. The binary may be kept in directories separate from the source subdirectory, depending on how QtCreator is configured. This location will be available within QtCreator.

If you are not using QtCreator, then the Qt development libraries should be pre-installed on your system. Also required is the g++ compiler and development files, as well as the "make" utility. Inside the subdirectory "jane-dist" is a Makefile, and running the "make" command should build the executable.

When the program is executed, Jane searches for a hidden subdirectory called “*.jane*”. If this is absent (which will be the case when it is executed the first time) it issues a notification that it will be created.

Exit the program and copy the help and image files in the downloaded package to the hidden data subdirectory. Either use a file manager or open a terminal and do the following from within the jane-dist subdirectory:

```
cp janehelp.pdf ~/.jane
cp COPYING ~/.jane
```

Remember to put the dot (".") in the right place. This will make the on-line help available when the program is running.

The location of the locally compiled binary will be available from within QtCreator. From this location copy the binary to a place from where everyone working on the computer can run it.

In the subdirectory containing the binary issue the command:

```
sudo cp ./jane /usr/local/bin/jane
```

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Contacting the Author

Any feedback, bug reports, complaints, rants, abuses?

Please contact me at letapk@gmail.com

The latest version of this program is available from: <https://letapk.wordpress.com>

That covers it, more or less. Email me if there is anything left out, or if you face any problems while compiling or installation.

Enjoy!