

# LEI MAO'S LOG BOOK (HTTPS://LEIMAO.GITHUB.IO)

menu

## Fcitx Chinese Input Setup on Ubuntu for Gaming (<https://leimao.github.io/blog/Ubuntu-Gaming-Chinese-Input/>)

### Introduction

Inputting Chinese on the English Ubuntu system is not news. Ubuntu uses `ibus` keyboard input method system by default and there is a Chinese input method `ibus-pinyin` which could be easily installed via `sudo apt-get install ibus-pinyin`. However, when it comes to gaming, especially in the full-screen mode, `ibus-pinyin` will not show any word selection menu in the game, because it is in the `ibus` system and `ibus` system is not compatible with most of the gaming engines.

To support Chinese input in Ubuntu games, in this blog post, I will introduce how to install `fcitx` based input methods, which is compatible with games, on Ubuntu. It should also be noted that this method might also apply to the input methods from other languages.

### Protocols

#### Installing Components

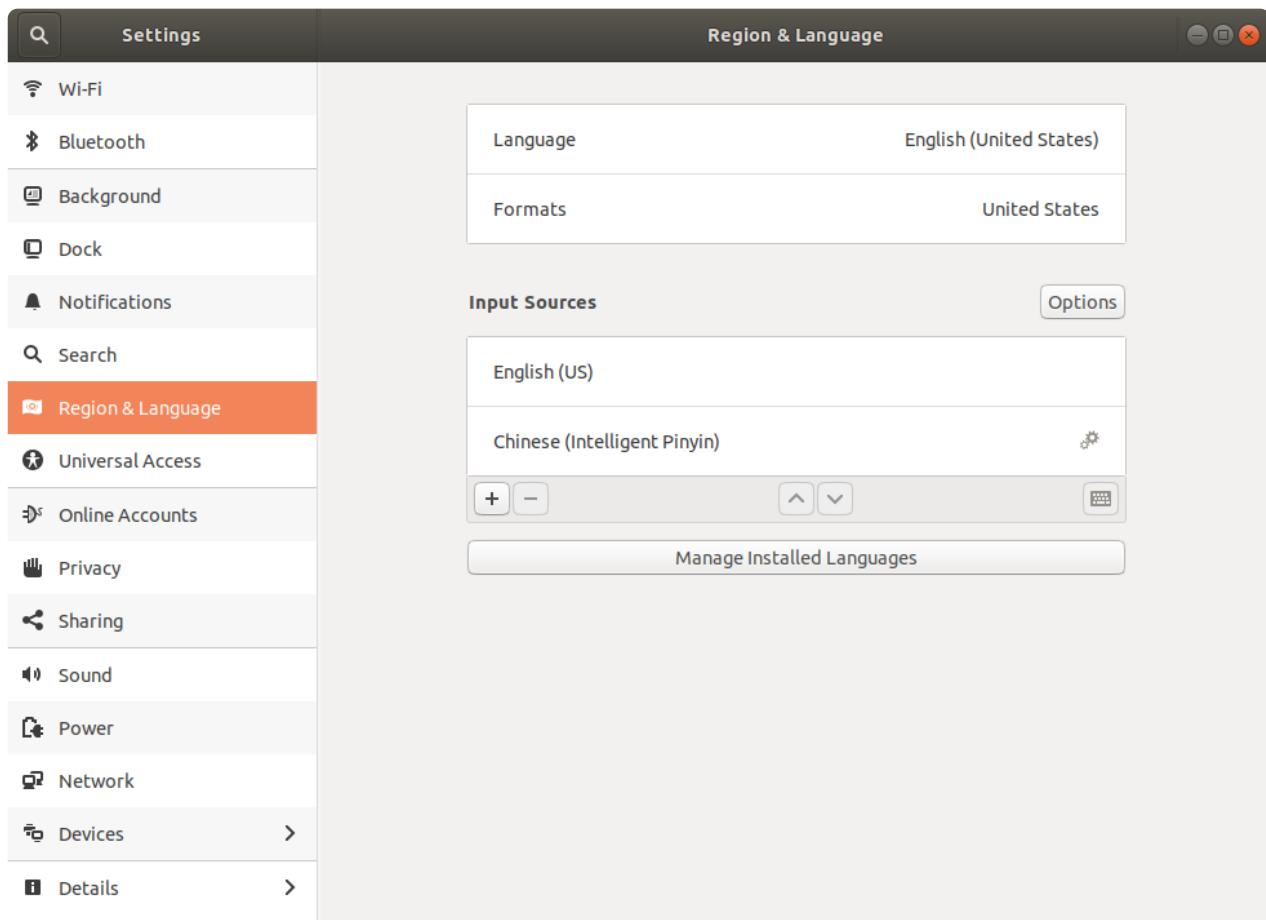
We would need to install `fcitx` and `fcitx-googlepinyin` first.

```
# Install fcitx input method system
$ sudo apt install fcitx-bin

# Install Google Pinyin Chinese input method
$ sudo apt install fcitx-googlepinyin
```

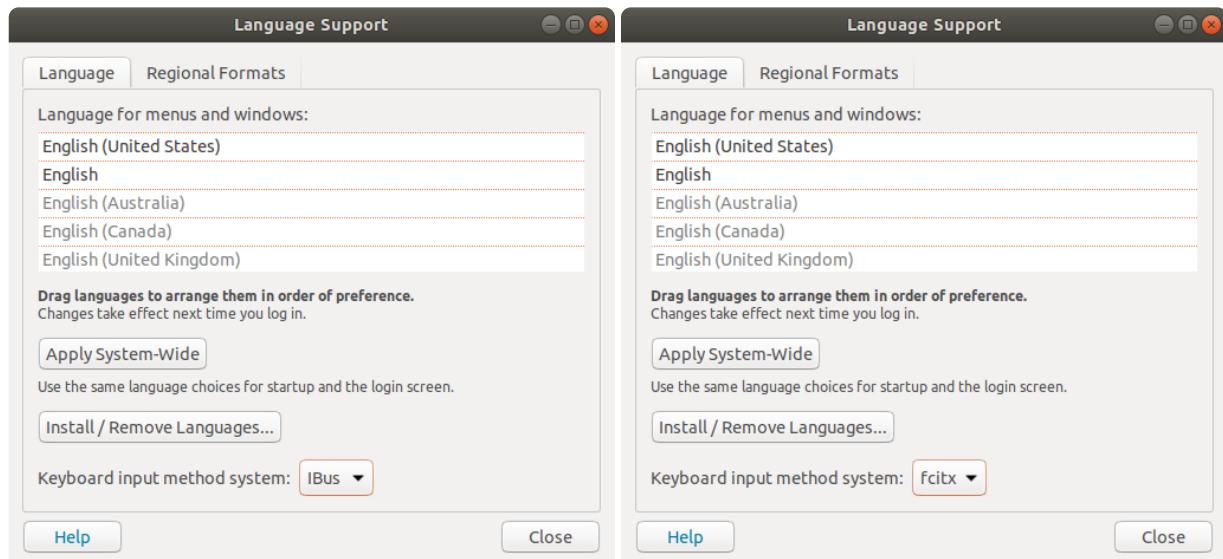
#### Ubuntu Setups

Change the input method system from `ibus` to `fcitx` in `Region & Language`.



## Region & Language on Ubuntu 18.04

Click `Manage Installed Languages`.



## IBus and fcitx

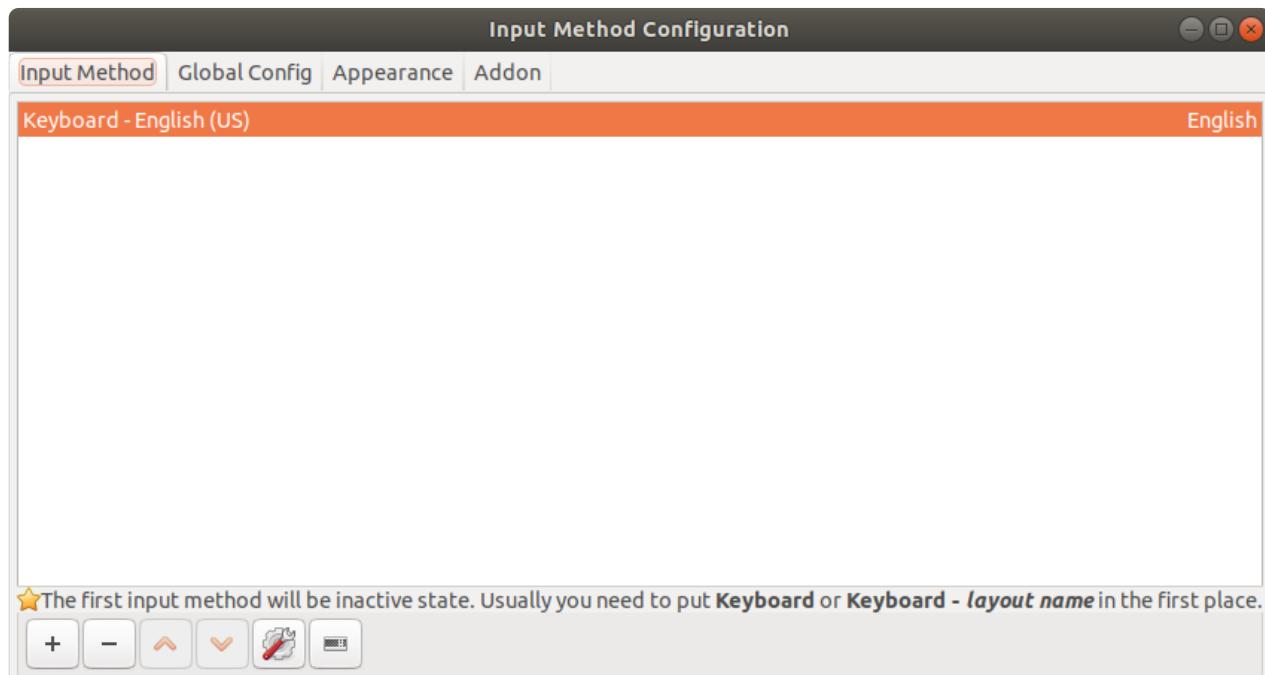
Click `Install/Remove Languages` to install `Chinese Simplified` and/or `Chinese Traditional` if necessary.

Remove all the input sources except `English (US)` under the `Input Sources` in `Region & Language`. Otherwise, there will be two input icons on your system.

Reboot the computer and we would see a new input icon at the top right corner of our desktop. We then add Google Pinyin to the `fcitx` method. We start the `fcitx-configtool` by running the following command in the terminal.

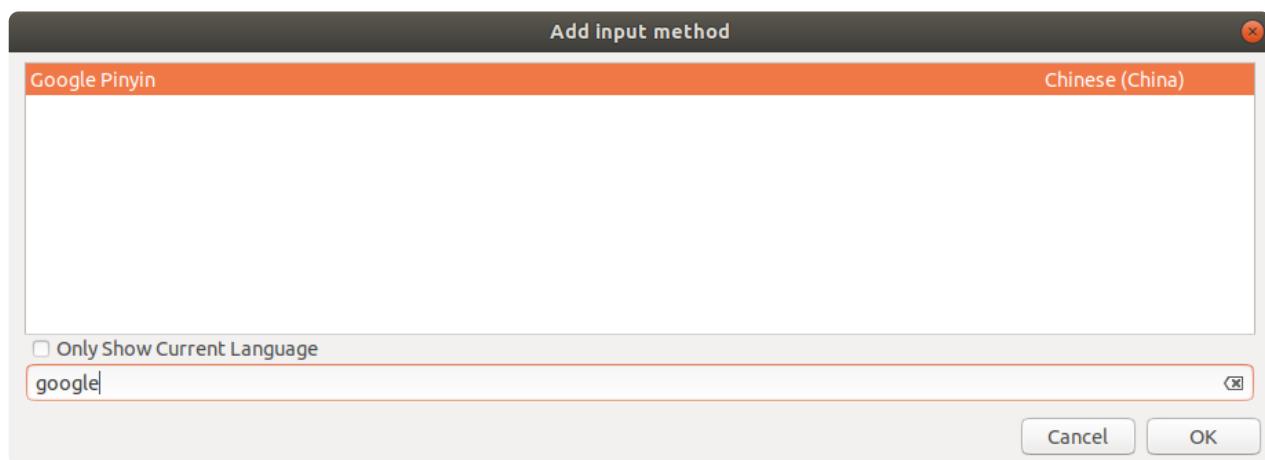
```
$ fcitx-configtool
```

Click `+` to add input methods.



fcitx Configuration

Uncheck `Only Show Current Language`, select `Google Pinyin`, and press `OK`.



Add Google Pinyin

Now you can start to use `Google Pinyin` by toggling using `ctrl` + `space` by default.

## Ugly Default Idle Icon

The default `fcitx` icon at idle is ugly. We would like to make it look better. We run the following commands in the terminal.

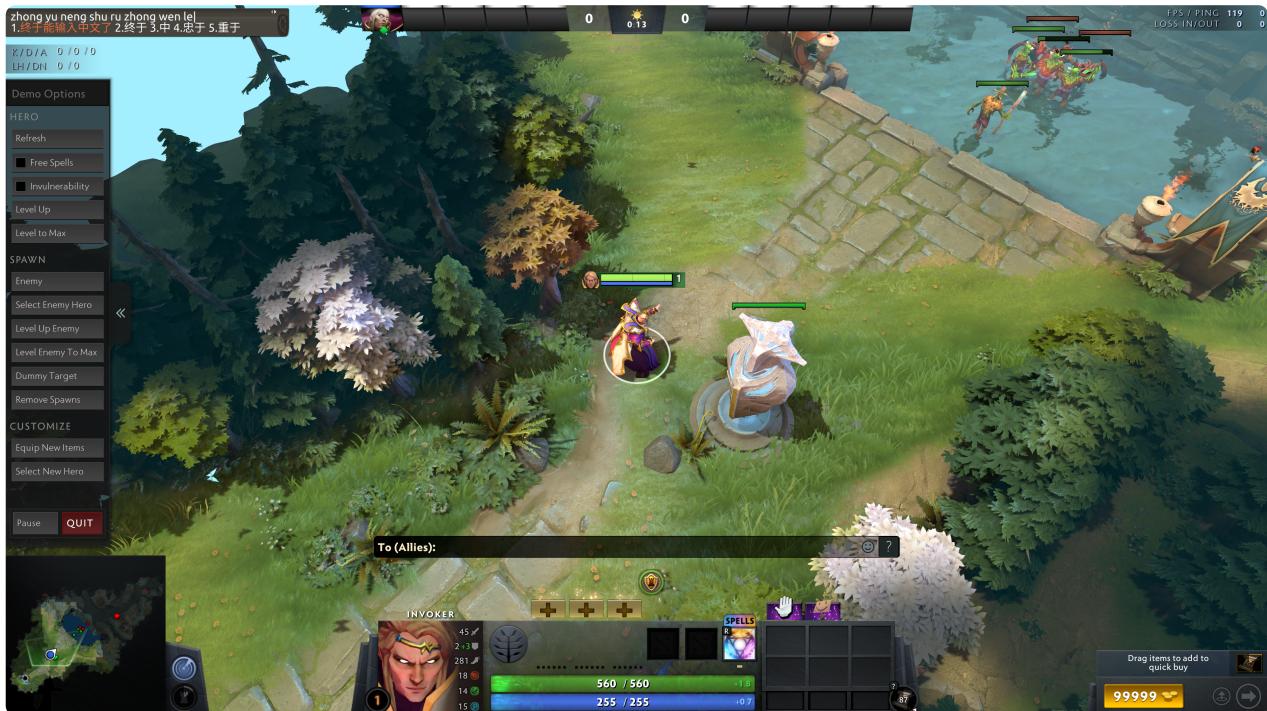
```
# Remove classic UI  
sudo apt remove fcitx-ui-classic  
# Install new UI  
sudo apt install fcitx-ui-qimpanel
```

Reboot the computer and we would see a new penguin input icon at the top right corner of our desktop. It will turn to a keyboard icon whenever the cursor is placed somewhere allows inputs.

## Demo

### Dota 2

In the game Dota 2, we press `ctrl` + `Space` to switch to `Google Pinyin` and start to input Chinese.



Dota 2 Chinese Input Using Google Pinyin

It was successful!