



## Exercise 2, Part (a) – Build X window

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# Outline

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- ❑ X Window System
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  - Architecture
  - X11 implementation
  - The Window Manager
- ❑ Steps of Exercise
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  - Configuring X11
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- ❑ Appendix
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  - X11 Forwarding

# X Window System (1)

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## □ Introduction

- What is X Window System?
  - The X Windows System, also referred to as ‘X’ or “X11”, is the standard graphical engine for Unix and Linux.
  - It is largely OS and hardware independent, it is network-transparent, and it supports many different desktops.
- History
  - 1984: The X Window system was developed as part of Project Athena at MIT.
  - 1987: X Version 11 is released. X is now controlled and maintained by the Open Group.
  - 1993: X11R6
  - 2005/12: X11R7

## X Window System (2)

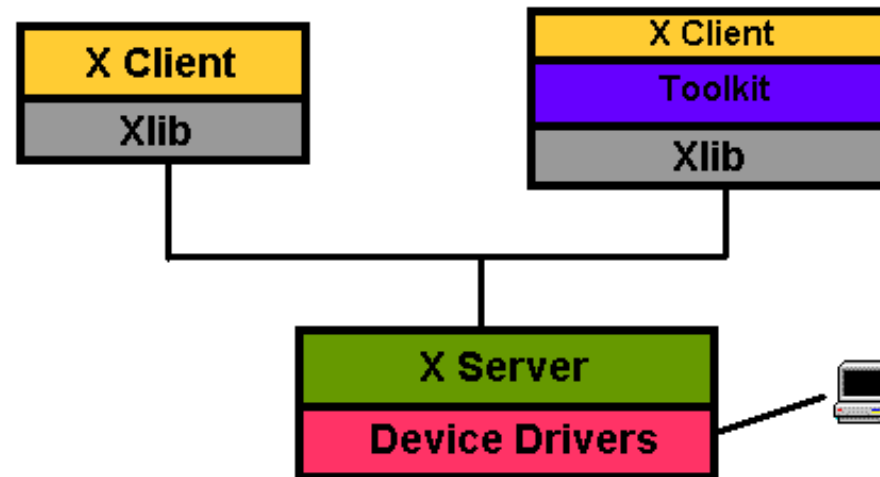
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- Naming
  - X Window System
  - X Version 11
  - X Window System, Version 11
  - X11
- Version
  - X11R6
    - X Window System Version 11 Release 6
  - X11R7
    - X Window System Version 11 Release 7
- Latest version
  - From X.Org
    - X11R6.9.0    Dec.21 2005
    - X11R7.1      May.22 2006

# X Window System (3)

## □ Architecture:

- A client-server architecture
  - The X client request display service
  - The X server provide display service
  - Communicate with X Protocol



# X Window System (4)

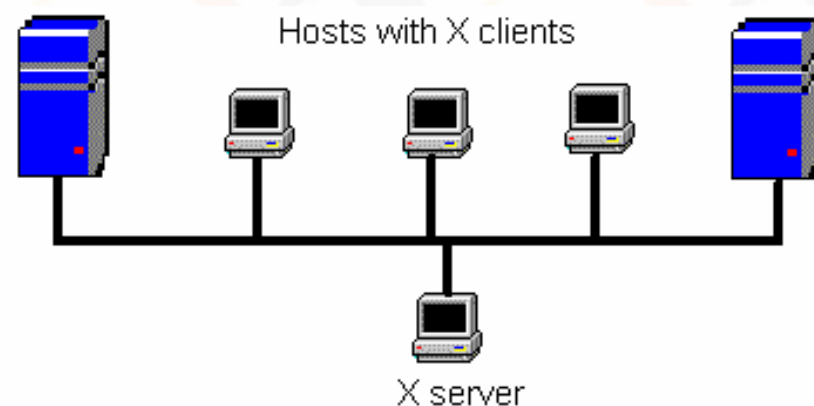
- Client-Server Design

- **Client**

- An application written using X libraries (e.g. Xlib)
    - Request service (like create window)
    - Receive events from X server (like mouse input)

- **Server**

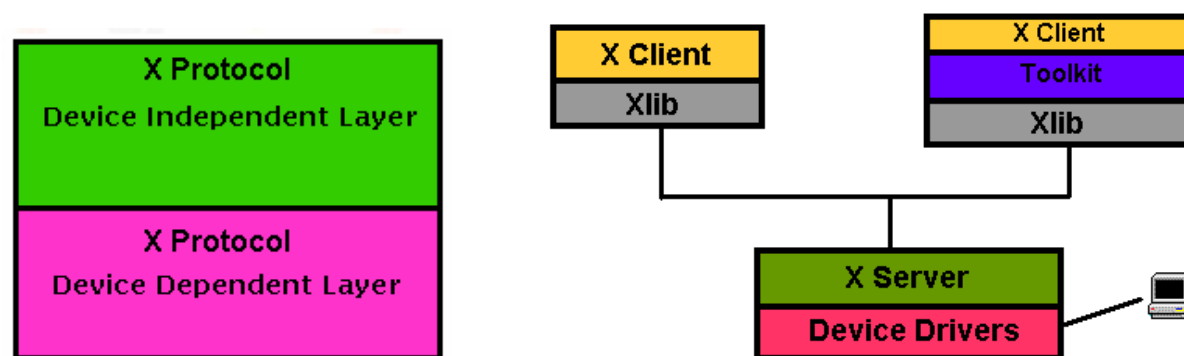
- Runs locally and accepts multiple X clients
    - Manage the keyboard, mouse and display device
    - Create, draw and destroy graphic objects on screen



The X server has seamless access to distributed applications.

# X Window System (5)

- X Protocol
  - The X Protocol is also divided into device dependent and device independent layers.
  - Advantages of X protocol
    - The X server is highly portable (various OS, Language)
    - The X Clients also have high portability
    - X support most oriented network protocol
    - Local and network based computing look and feel the same



# X11 implementation

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## ❑ Open-source implementations of X Window System

- XFree86 project
  - FreeBSD 4.10-Release, 5.2.1-Release
  - Latest Version: 4.6.0      Mar. 10, 2006
- Xorg foundation
  - X11 official flavor
  - Latest Version: 6.9.0      Dec. 21, 2005
  - Latest Version of R7: 7.1    May.22, 2006





# The Window Manager (1)

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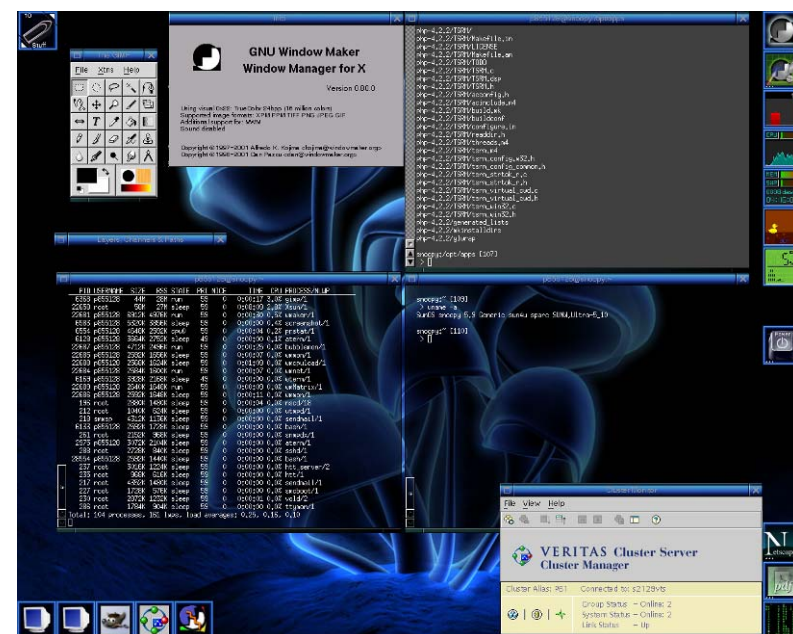
## ❑ Window Manager

- A special kind of “X Client” provides certain look-and-feel window in front of you.
  - Background, desktop, theme
  - Virtual desktop
  - Window attributes and operations
    - Size: resize, minimize, maximize
    - Position: Overlap, move

# The Window Manager (2)

## Examples:

- AfterStep
- Enlightenment
- Window Maker
- Gnome
- KDE
- ...



## Steps of this exercise

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1. Install X11
2. Configuring X11
3. Install Afterstep
4. Configuring Afterstep

# Installing X11 (1)

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## ❑ Use cvsup to update your ports

- `/usr/bin/csup -L 1 /usr/local/etc/cvsup-ports`

## ❑ Pre-steps:

- We use **Xorg** as our X Server
- Add the following line in `/etc/make.conf`
  - `X_WINDOW_SYSTEM=xorg`
- Do this line
  - `pkg_delete -f /var/db/pkg/imake-4* /var/db/pkg/XFree86-*`
- Your “PATH” environment variable
  - Edit `/etc/csh.cshrc`
  - `set path = (/bin /sbin /usr/bin /usr/sbin /usr/local/bin /usr/X11R6/bin )`

## Installing X11 (2)

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### ❑ We use Xorg as our X Server

- To build and install Xorg from the ports
  - % login as root
  - % cd /usr/ports/x11/xorg
  - % make install clean

### ❑ If you want to install XFree86

- % login as root
- % cd /usr/ports/x11/XFree86-4
- % make install clean

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It will run about 40 minutes

Athlon64 3500+    1GB Ram    100MB NIC

Install Xorg needs **4G free space**

# Configuring X11 (1)

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## ❑ Pre-step – know your hardware

- Monitor specifications
  - **Horizon Synchronization frequency**
    - Ex: 31 ~ 81 KHz
  - **Vertical Synchronization frequency**
    - Ex: 56 ~ 76 KHz
- Video adaptor chipset
  - Ex: ATi Radeon 9200SE
  - Ex: nVIDIA GeForce FX5200
  - Ex: ATI Mobility RADEON 7500 (16M) (IBMT30)
- Video Adapter Memory
  - Ex: 128MB

## Configuring X11 (2)

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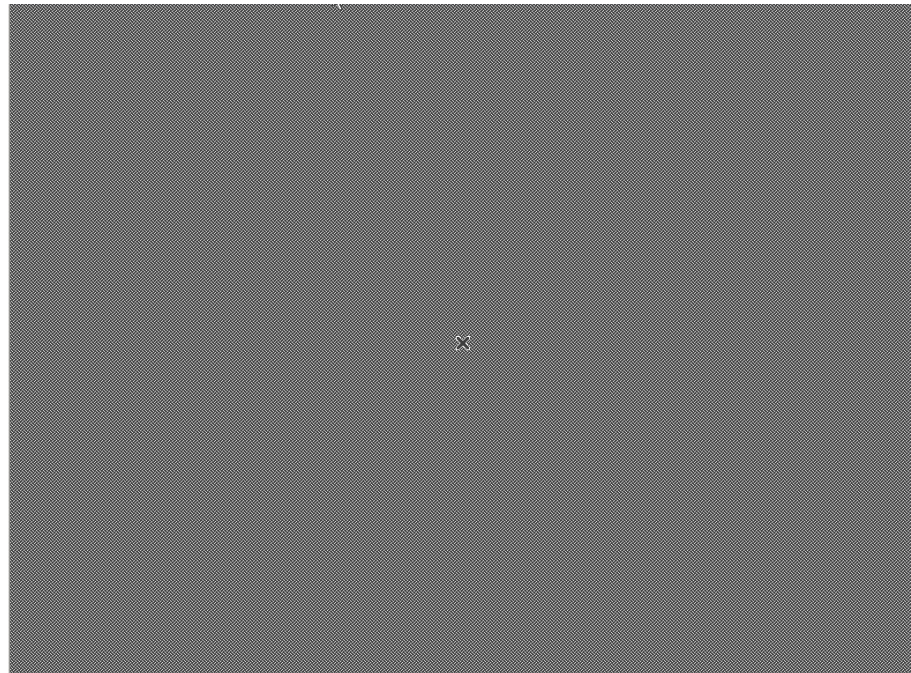
### ❑ Steps of X11 configuration

1. Generate an X11 configuration skeleton file
  - % Xorg –configure (Xorg)
    - The file will be put in /root/xorg.conf.new
  - % XFree86 –configure (XFree86)
    - The file will be put in /root/XF86Config.new

# Configuring X11 (3)

## 2. Test the existing configuration

- % Xorg -config /root/xorg.conf.new (Xorg)
- % XFree86 -xf86config /root/XF86Config.new (XFree86)
  - If a black and grey grid and an X mouse cursor appear, the configuration was successful
  - Press "**Ctrl+Alt+Backspace**" to leave the test





# Configuring X11 (4)

## 3. Tune Configuration file

- Edit /root/xorg.conf.new (Xorg)
- Edit /root/XF86Config.new (XFree86)
  - Section Monitor
  - Section Screen
  - Section InputDevice

```
Section "Screen"
    Identifier "Screen0"
    Device     "Card0"
    Monitor    "Monitor0"
    DefaultDepth 24
    SubSection "Display"
        Viewport   0 0
        Depth      24
        Modes       "1280x1024" "1024x768"
    EndSubSection
EndSection
```

```
Section "InputDevice"
    Identifier "Mouse0"
    Driver     "mouse"
    Option      "Protocol" "auto"
    Option      "Device"   "/dev/sysmouse"
    Option       "ZAxisMapping" "4 5"
EndSection
```

```
Section "Monitor"
    Identifier      "Monitor0"
    VendorName      "Monitor Vendor"
    ModelName       "Monitor Model"
    HorizSync        31.0 - 81.0
    VertRefresh      56.0 - 76.0
EndSection
```

# Configuring X11 (5)

## 4. Copy configuration file to real place

- % cp /root/xorg.conf.new /etc/X11/xorg.conf (Xorg)
- % cp /root/XF86Config.new /etc/X11/XF86Config (XFree86)

## 5. Startup X window

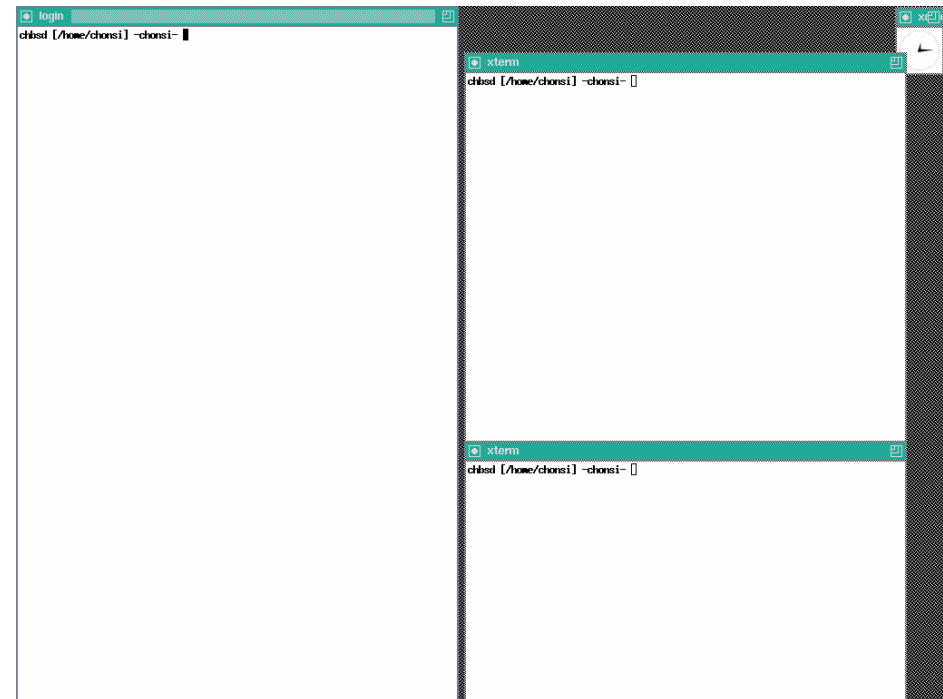
- % startx

### [Comment]

- Switch to Virtual Console
  - Press "**Ctrl+Alt+F1~F8**"
- View xinitrc
  - /usr/X11R6/lib/X11/xinit/xinitrc

```
# start some nice programs
```

```
twm &
xclock -geometry 50x50-1+1 &
xterm -geometry 80x50+494+51 &
xterm -geometry 80x20+494-0 &
exec xterm -geometry 80x66+0+0 -name login
```



# Install Afterstep (1)

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- ❑ Here we use afterstep as our WM
  - <http://www.afterstep.org/>
- ❑ Installation
  - % cd /usr/ports/x11-wm/afterstep-stable
  - % make -DWITH\_DIFFERENT\_LOOKNFEELS  
-DWITH\_SAVEWINDOWS install clean

# Install Afterstep (2)

## ❑ Configuring X11 to use afterstep

- Edit “xinitrc”
  - File Location:
    - System Default: `/usr/X11R6/lib/X11/xinit/xinitrc`
    - Personal: `~/.xinitrc`
  - Format: just like a shell script!

### System Default

```
# start some nice programs

twm &
xclock -geometry 50x50-1+1 &
xterm -geometry 80x50+494+51 &
xterm -geometry 80x20+494-0 &
exec xterm -geometry 80x66+0+0 -name login
```

### To execute afterstep

```
# start some nice programs
exec afterstep
```

# Install Afterstep (3)

- ❑ Run Your X-Window
  - % startx
- ❑ Usage
  - Ctrl + Alt + Backspace  
➔ force to quit X
  - Left button: copy
  - Right button: paste

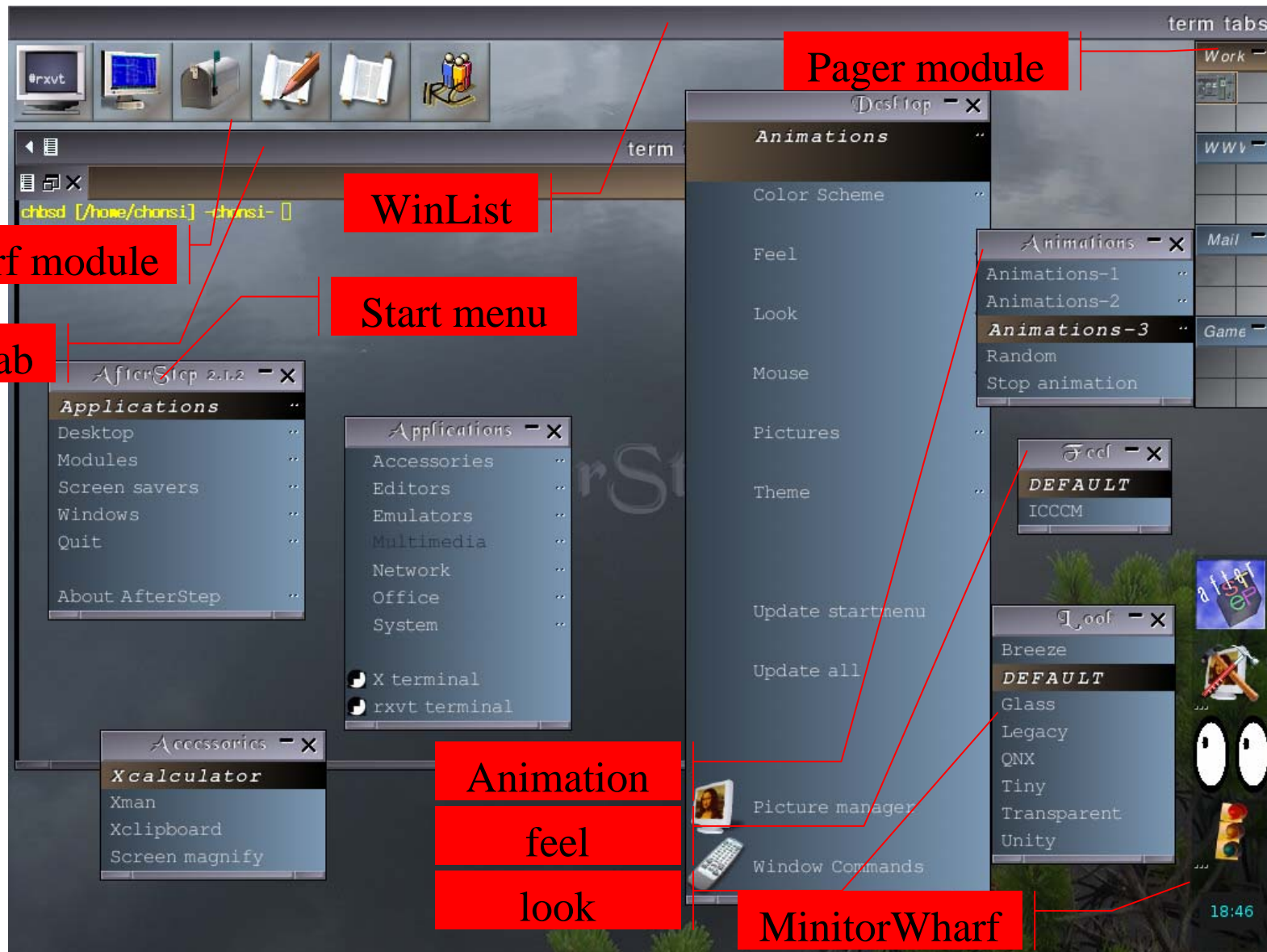


# AfterStep Configuration (1)

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- ❑ Location of configuration file
  - Global configuration file directory
    - /usr/X11R6/share/afterstep/
  - Personal configuration file directory
    - ~/.afterstep/
- ❑ When AfterStep starts
  - Personal configuration first
    - It first tries to read personal configuration files, and then read global configuration files for those not found.
    - Follow “.include” configuration
  - Global configuration if missing personal configuration
- ❑ To make personal configuration
  - Copy what you want to change from global to personal and modify it. And
  - Add “.include” to include other global you need.

# AfterStep Configuration (2)



## AfterStep Configuration (3)

❑ Under `/usr/X11R6/share/afterstep/`

Name	Purpose
base	Afterstep configuration file
autoexec	Define what is run when AfterStep starts and restarts
animate	Animate Module configuration file
pager	Pager module configuration file
wharf	Wharf/MonitorWharf module configuration file
winlist	WinList module configuration file
start/	Start menu when you click left button
feels/	Define how AfterStep feels
looks/	Define how AfterStep looks



# AfterStep Configuration (4)

- ❑ Steps to add something to start menu
  - install your favorite applications first
  - Add entry under directory
  - Edit the entry file
  - Update menu



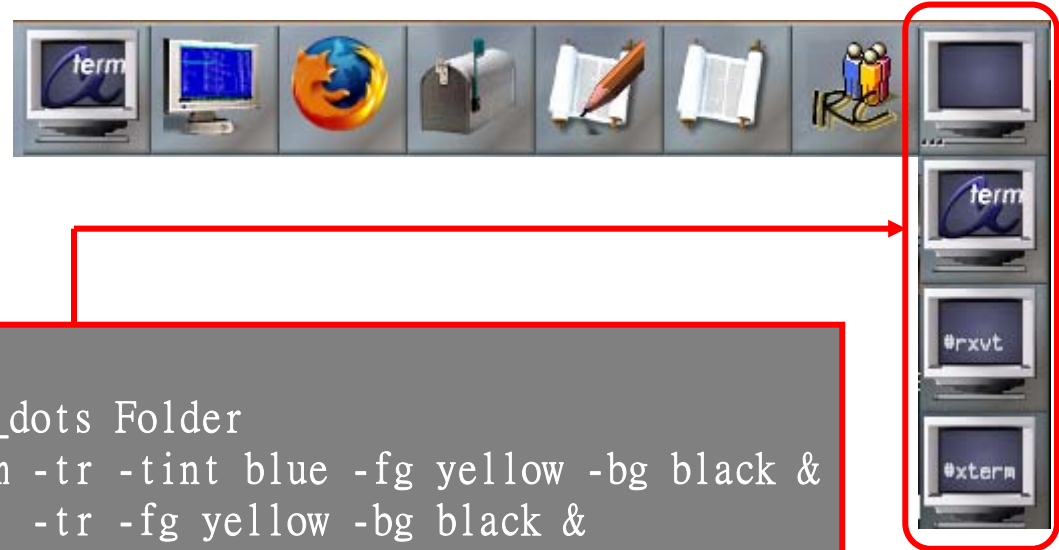
```
% ls
0_Applications  3_Screen_savers  6_nop
1_Desktop      4_Windows        7_About_AfterStep
2_Modules      5_Quit
```

```
% ls
0_Applications  3_Screen_savers  6_nop
1_Desktop      4_Windows        7_About_AfterStep
2_Modules      5_Quit           f_firefox
```

Exec "Firefox" exec firefox &  
MiniPixmap "mini-app.xpm"

## AfterStep Configuration (5)

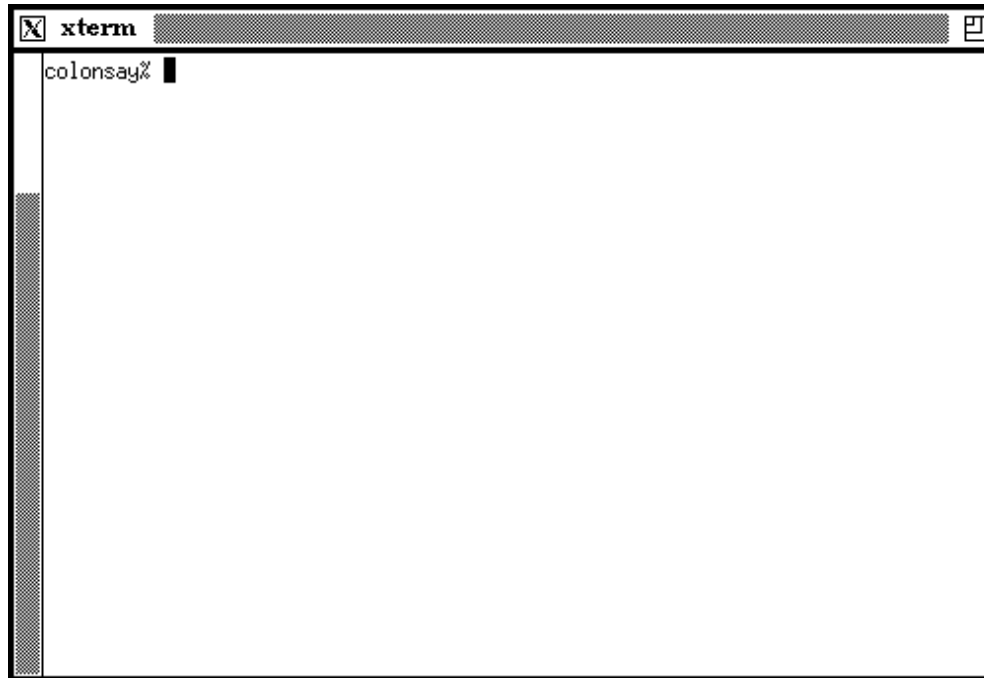
- ❑ Add something to wharf module
  - Edit wharf configuration file (ex. add Term Folder)



```
...
*Wharf Terms large/Monitor1,dots/3_dots Folder
*Wharf  aterm aterm Exec "-" aterm -tr -tint blue -fg yellow -bg black &
*Wharf  rxvt  rxvt  Exec "-" rxvt -tr -fg yellow -bg black &
*Wharf  eterm eterm Exec "-" Eterm -O --tint blue -fg yellow -bg black &
*Wharf  xterm xterm Exec "-" xterm -fg yellow -bg blue &
*Wharf ~Folder
...
```

## Appendix A: classic x apps (1)

☐ xterm

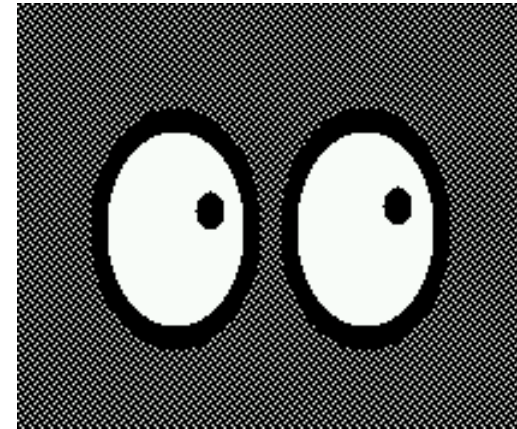
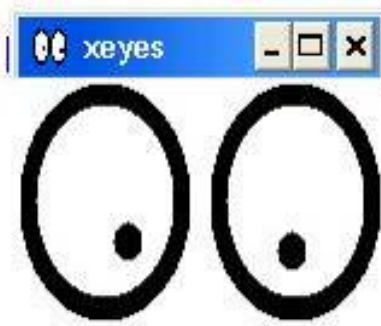


☐ xclock

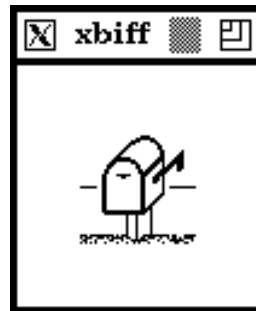


## Appendix A: classic x apps (2)

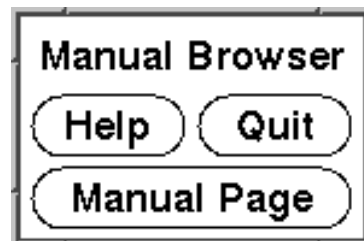
❑ xeyes



❑ xbiff



❑ xman



Not this



## Appendix B: X Startup (1)

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### ❑ xinit - X Window System initializer

xinit [ [ client ] options ] [ -- [ server ] [ display ] options ]

- Files

- Default client script:

- ~/.xinitrc

- /usr/X11R6/lib/X11/xinit/xinitrc

- (run xterm if .xinitrc does not exist)

- Default server script:

- ~/.xserverrc

- /usr/X11R6/lib/X11/xinit/xserverrc

- (run X if .xserverrc does not exist)

- startx:

- script to initiate an X session

## Appendix B: X Startup (2)

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### ❑ xdm - X Display Manager

- Xdm provides services similar to those provided by `init`, `getty` and `login` on character terminals
- Files:

➤ `/etc/ttys`

```
ttv8  "/usr/X11R6/bin/xdm -nodaemon"  xterm  on secure
```

➤ Default script

– `~/.xsession`

## Appendix C: remote x-client

❑ To launch an X client from a remote host for display on the local X server, you need to do following steps:

- Start X Server with tcp connection support
  - `%startx -listen_tcp`
- Permit for the remote host to display X clients on the local machine.
  - `%xhost +remotehost`
- set DISPLAY for remote X clients
  - `%setenv DISPLAY=server:display`

`[hostname]:displaynumber[.screennumber]`

not needed if localhost

“0” in most cases

defaults to “0”

## Appendix D: X11 forwarding

### ❑ To forward X11 connection

- Connection to X11 DISPLAY can be forward by ssh, any X11 programs started will go through the encrypted channel.
- Server:
  - Enables X11 forwarding: `ssh -X`
  - Enables trusted X11 forwarding: `ssh -Y` (may be dangerous)
- Client:
  - Execute any X clients you want

### ⌘Note:

X11 forwarding can represent a security hazard.

**X11 forwarding should be enabled with caution. Users with the ability to bypass file permissions on the remote host (for the user's X authorization database) can access the local X11 display through the forwarded connection. An attacker may then be able to perform activities such as keystroke monitoring.**