

Thread: Disable touchpad while typing

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February 26th, 2011

TuxIsAwesome

5 Cups of Ubuntu

#1

Join Date: Oct 2010

Beans: 41

Disable touchpad while typing

This is really starting to annoy me, which is sad because I love Xubuntu/XFCE4.

How do I disable the freaking touchpad while I type, every time I even lightly hover my palm over it, it jumps the cursor all over the place.

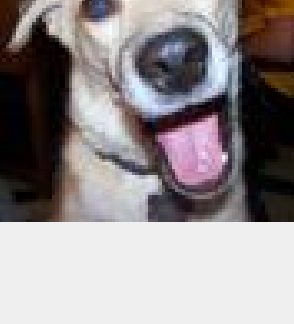
Can someone help me with this?

OpenBox+Xfce4+LXDE User

Xubuntu 10.04.2 Lucid Lynx AMD64 + Xubuntu 11.04 Natty Narwhal Alpha 2 i386+PAE (Used for maintaining my Grub2 EFI bootloader), Arch Linux AMD64.

Adv Reply

February 26th, 2011



rcayea

Skinny Soy Caramel Ubuntu

#2

Join Date: Mar 2009

Location: Washington DC

Beans: 610

Distro: Ubuntu 12.10 Quantal Quetzal

Re: Disable the freaking touchpad while typing.

I found this in another post. Maybe it will help:

One problem: There's no option to disable tap-to-click. This is a huge problem with a small keyboard and touchpad because my palm keep accidentally clicking when I type.

I tried adding an xorg.conf with a Synaptics entry with MaxTapTime 0 in both /etc/xorg.conf and /etc/X11/xorg.conf -- did nothing.

I can do it, curiously, with synclient MaxTapTime = 0 from the command line but I don't know how to make it permanent. I have to do it again every time I log in.

=====

To autostart, make a small script out of it (don't forget to set it executable!). Then go to Applications --> Settings -> XFCE 4 Settings Manager. Select Session and Startup. Select Application Autostart. Select Add... and I think you can probably figure it out from there.

Code:
#!/bin/bash

fix touchpad - turn off tap to click
/usr/bin/synclient MaxTapTime=0

"- Courage! It couldn't come at a worse time." | Favorite Hockey Player: #8 Cam Neely! |
Read my Poetry at
www.poemscribe.com |

Adv Reply

February 26th, 2011

TuxIsAwesome

5 Cups of Ubuntu

#3

Join Date: Oct 2010

Beans: 41

Re: Disable the freaking touchpad while typing.

Well that isn't necessarily the solution I was looking for, I like having tap to click. I just want the touchpad to be disabled while I'm typing.

Its a start though and I will test it when I get home from work today

OpenBox+Xfce4+LXDE User

Xubuntu 10.04.2 Lucid Lynx AMD64 + Xubuntu 11.04 Natty Narwhal Alpha 2 i386+PAE (Used for maintaining my Grub2 EFI bootloader), Arch Linux AMD64.

Adv Reply

February 26th, 2011

patchwork

Dipped in Ubuntu

#4

Join Date: Dec 2009

Beans: 540

Distro: Ubuntu 10.04 Lucid Lynx

Re: Disable the freaking touchpad while typing.

You can view the synclient parameters using synclient -l

I believe the synclient variable for touchpad use/disable during typing is TouchpadOff
(I have been toggling it on my system to confirm)

Thus
Code:
synclient TouchpadOff=1

would be the command to use in rcayea's script to disable the touchpad while typing.

EDIT: You can try adding the line above to your ~/.profile so it is executed each time you log in. Just scroll to the bottom of the file, add the command in and save

Last edited by patchwork; February 26th, 2011 at 08:42 PM.

Adv Reply

February 26th, 2011

TuxIsAwesome

5 Cups of Ubuntu

#5

Join Date: Oct 2010

Beans: 41

Re: Disable the freaking touchpad while typing.

I will try all this when I get home. I assume that synclient will work with a macbook touchpad as I use one

OpenBox+Xfce4+LXDE User

Xubuntu 10.04.2 Lucid Lynx AMD64 + Xubuntu 11.04 Natty Narwhal Alpha 2 i386+PAE (Used for maintaining my Grub2 EFI bootloader), Arch Linux AMD64.

Adv Reply

February 26th, 2011

gsgleason

Prothy Coffee!

#6

Join Date: Feb 2007

Beans: 185

Re: Disable the freaking touchpad while typing.

Install package tpconfig.

Then go to System -> Preferences -> Mouse and then there should be a touchpad tab with options to disable tap mouse clicks and to disable touchpad while typing.

Adv Reply

February 27th, 2011

TuxIsAwesome

5 Cups of Ubuntu

#7

Join Date: Oct 2010

Beans: 41

Re: Disable the freaking touchpad while typing.

ggleason, those instructions would be great. Except I am using Xubuntu, and I have no intention of installing gnome just to access a feature such as that.

I can't use the command line either, it keeps saying it can't open the PS/2 port, which is weird because my Macbook certainly doesn't have one of them.

OpenBox+Xfce4+LXDE User

Xubuntu 10.04.2 Lucid Lynx AMD64 + Xubuntu 11.04 Natty Narwhal Alpha 2 i386+PAE (Used for maintaining my Grub2 EFI bootloader), Arch Linux AMD64.

Adv Reply

February 27th, 2011

PhilGil

Cookies and cream

#8

Join Date: Jun 2009

Location: Oregon

Beans: 400

Re: Disable the freaking touchpad while typing.

When I was running Ubuntu, I used the following How To from the Arch Wiki: http://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php/Touchpad_Synaptics

1. Open the following file as root (this is where the file is located in Ubuntu, you'll have to poke around to find it in Xubuntu):
Code:
sudo gedit /etc/X11/xsession/Lubuntu/autostart

2. Enter the following line at the end:
Code:
syndaemon -t -k -i 2 -d

Here is a description of the parameters (feel free to modify them with your personal preferences):

-i 2
sets the idle time to 2 seconds. The idle time specifies how many seconds to wait after the last key-press before enabling the touchpad again.

-t
tells the daemon not to disable mouse movement when typing and only disable tapping and scrolling.

-k
tells the daemon to ignore modifier keys when monitoring keyboard activity (ie: allows ctrl+left click).

-d
starts as a daemon, in the background.

Phil
<http://pgilston.smugmug.com/>

Adv Reply

February 27th, 2011

patchwork

Dipped in Ubuntu

#9

Join Date: Dec 2009

Beans: 540

Distro: Ubuntu 10.04 Lucid Lynx

Re: Disable the freaking touchpad while typing.

Wow, I wasn't paying attention and promptly repeated the above advice. My apologies.

Last edited by patchwork; February 27th, 2011 at 06:14 AM. Reason: Operator headspace error

Adv Reply

February 27th, 2011

poodoopealeoaph

A Carafe of Ubuntu

burnt beans

#10

Join Date: Sep 2010

Beans: 126

Distro: Ubuntu Studio 10.10 Maverick Meerkat

Re: Disable the freaking touchpad while typing.

I have found that a lot of laptops have a designated hot key for shutting off the touch pad. So, try to look over all of your buttons and see what your hot key may be.

Adv Reply

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