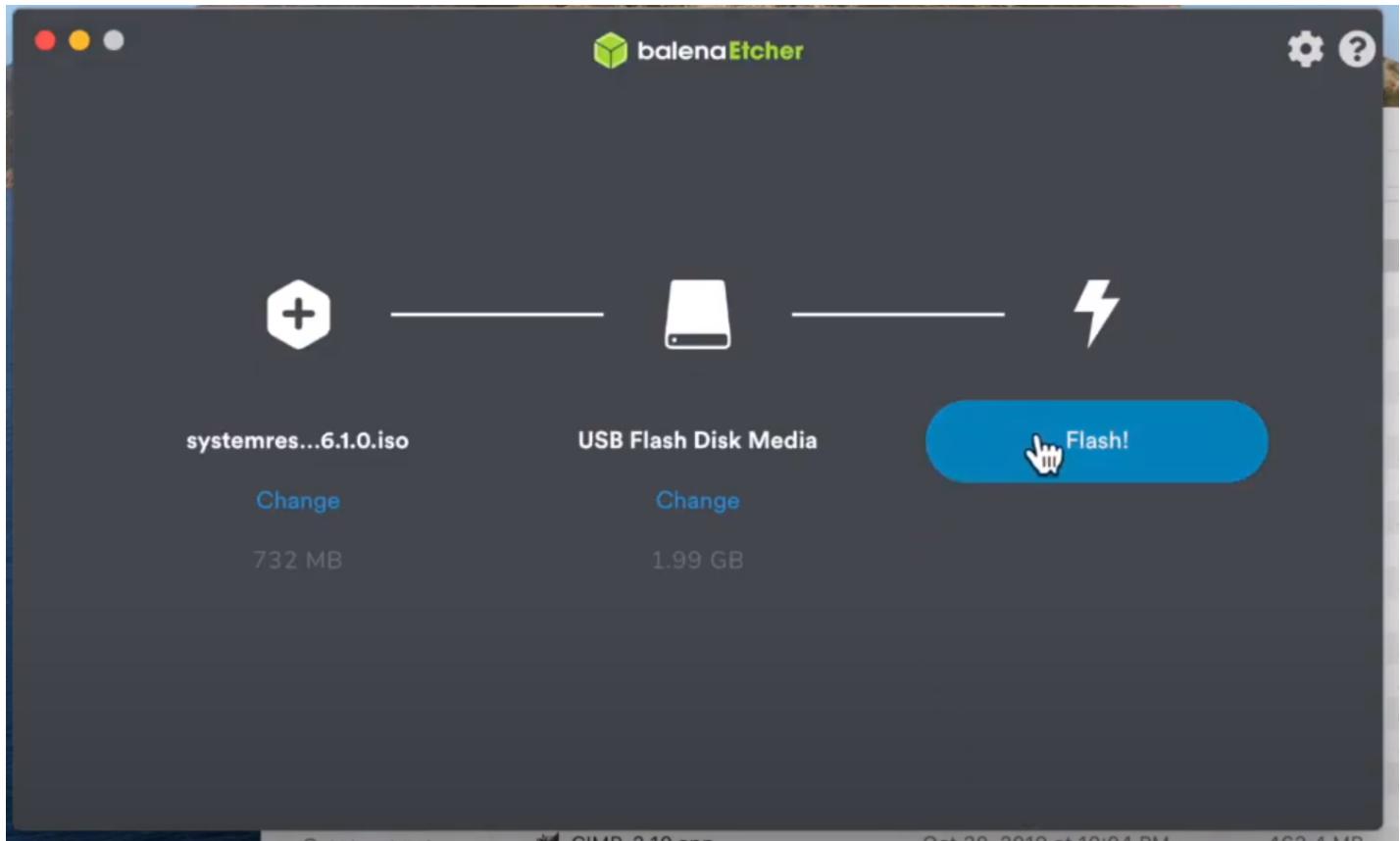


Prepare your live ISO USB

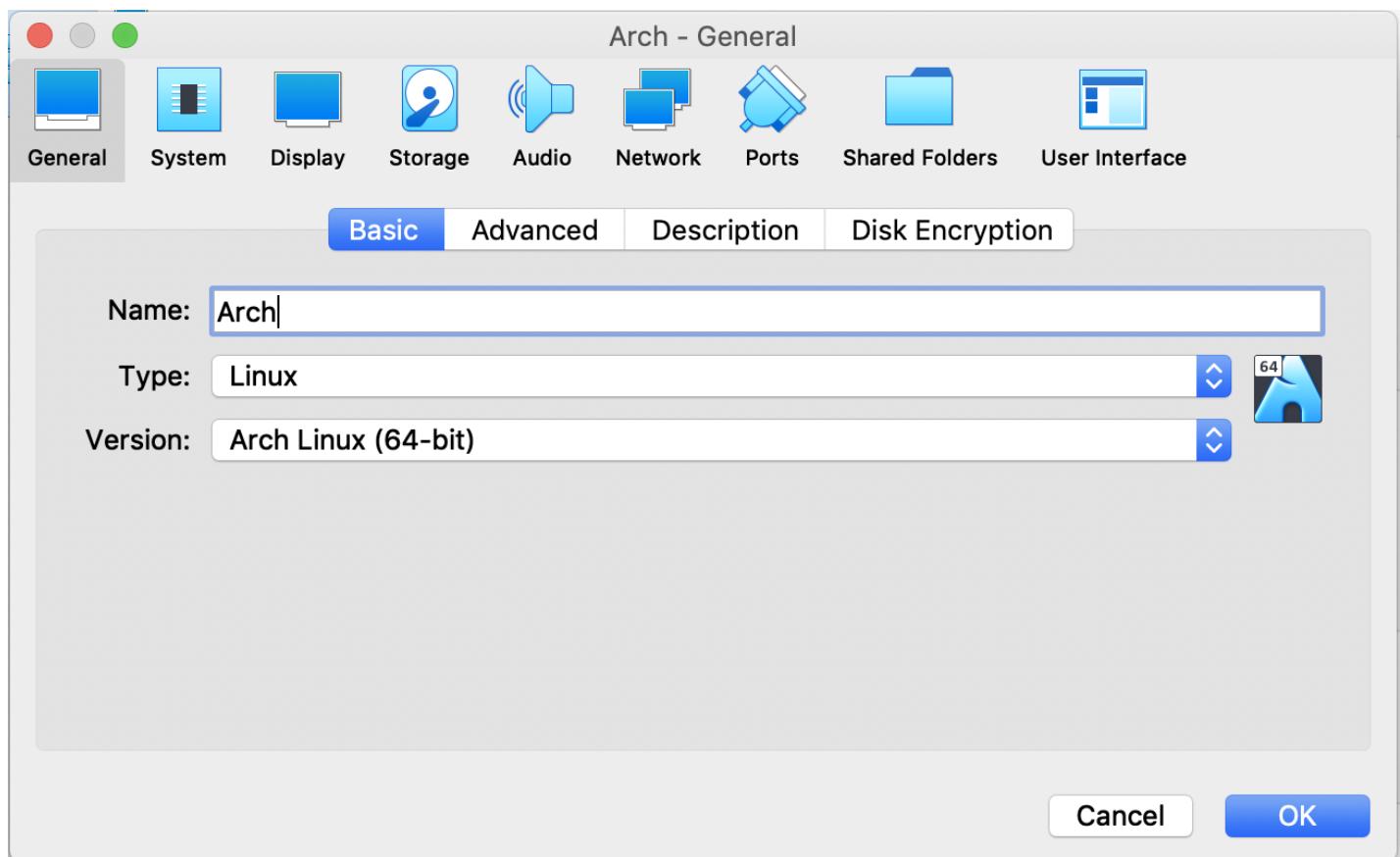
Go to [here](#) and pick your closest mirror to download the ISO, then burn into a USB. Plug your USB into computer and boot the live ISO, it will automatic login to install Arch, then follow the steps below to install your own [Arch Linux](#).



After that, reboot into your live ISO USB to continue the installation.

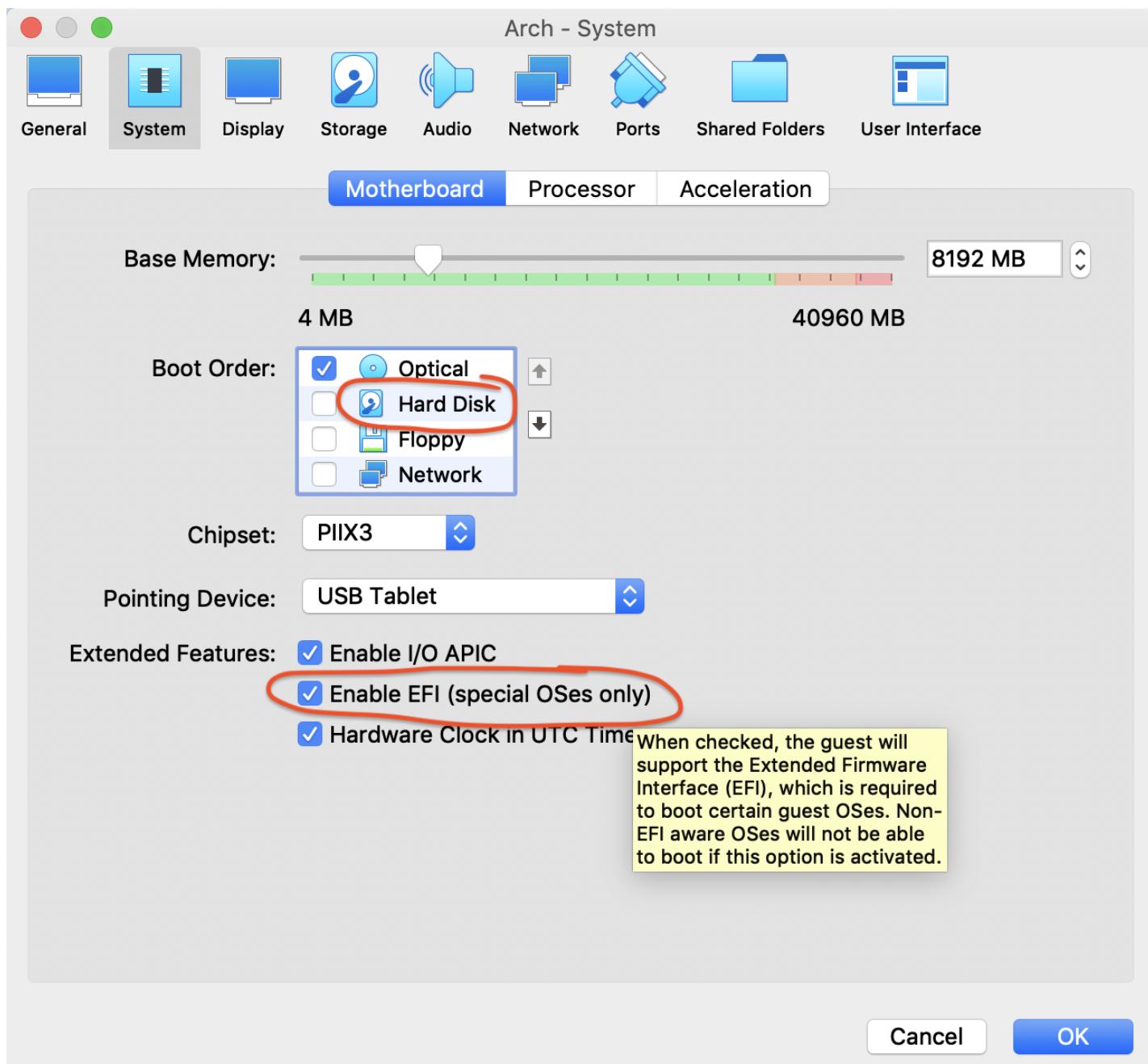
Use VirtualBox to boot live ISO

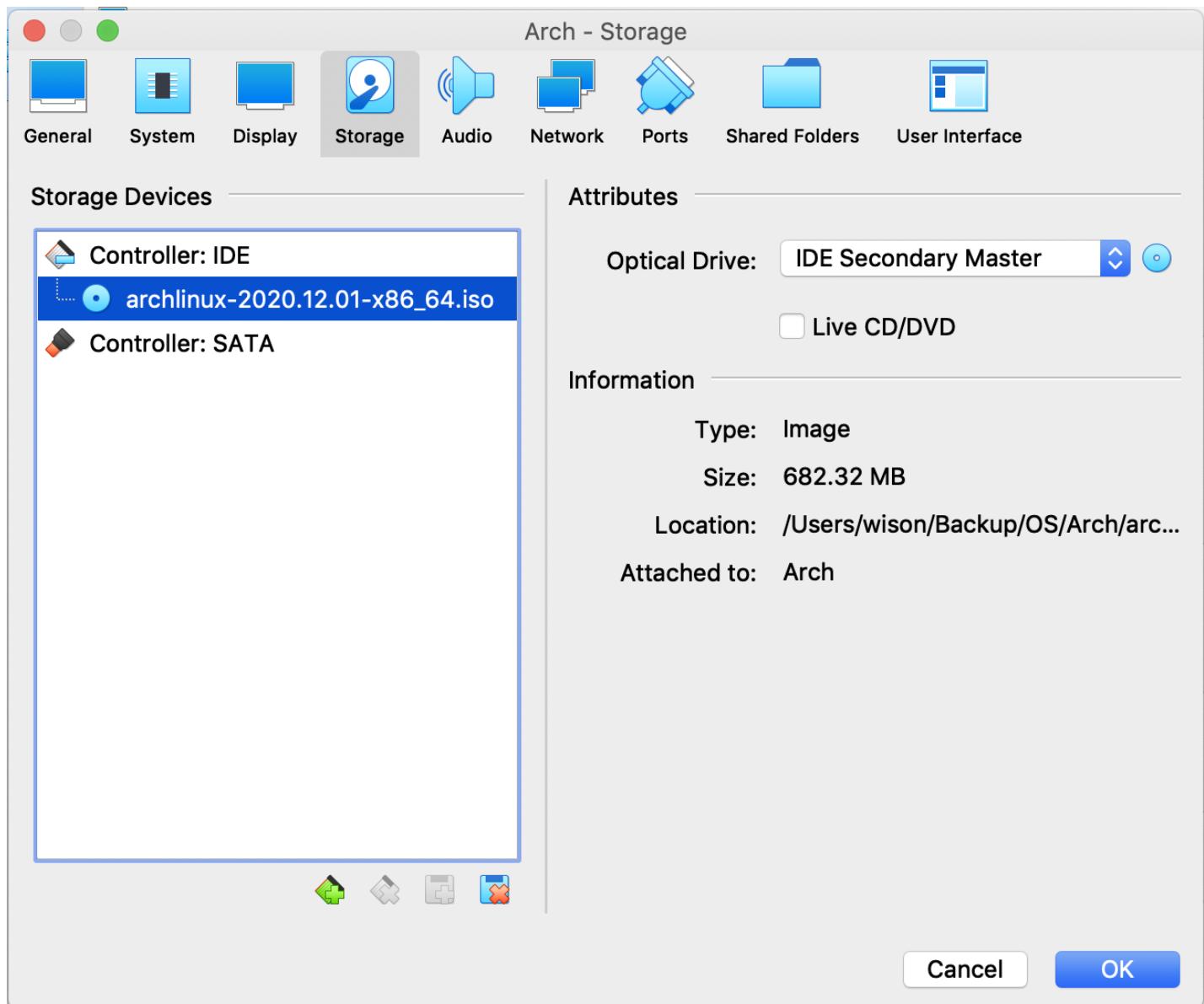
Actually, you can run the installation process inside [VirtualBox](#). Here is the step-by-step walk through:

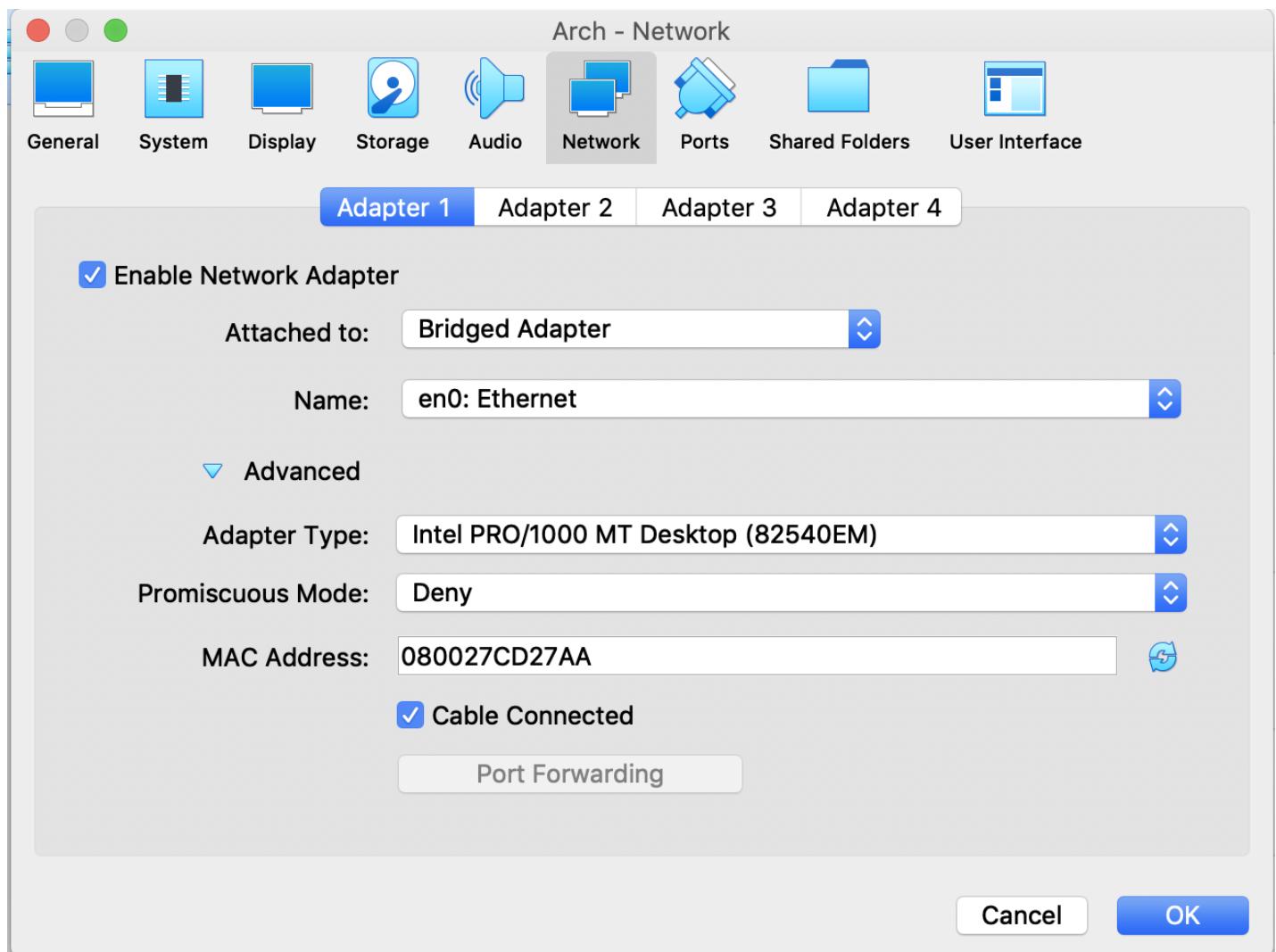


As you boot from the live ISO, so you don't any harddrive at all.

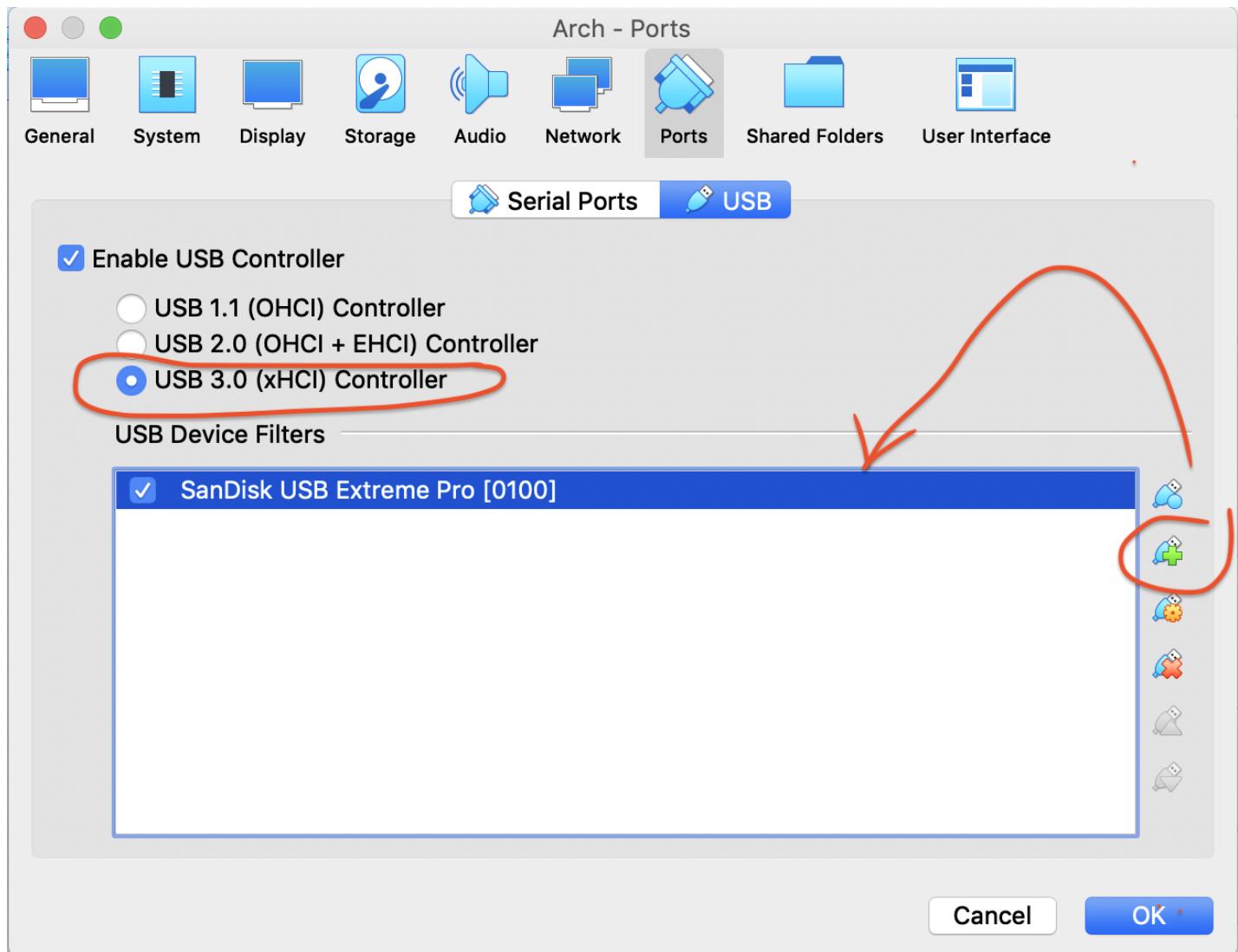
And make sure check the `Enable EFI !!!`



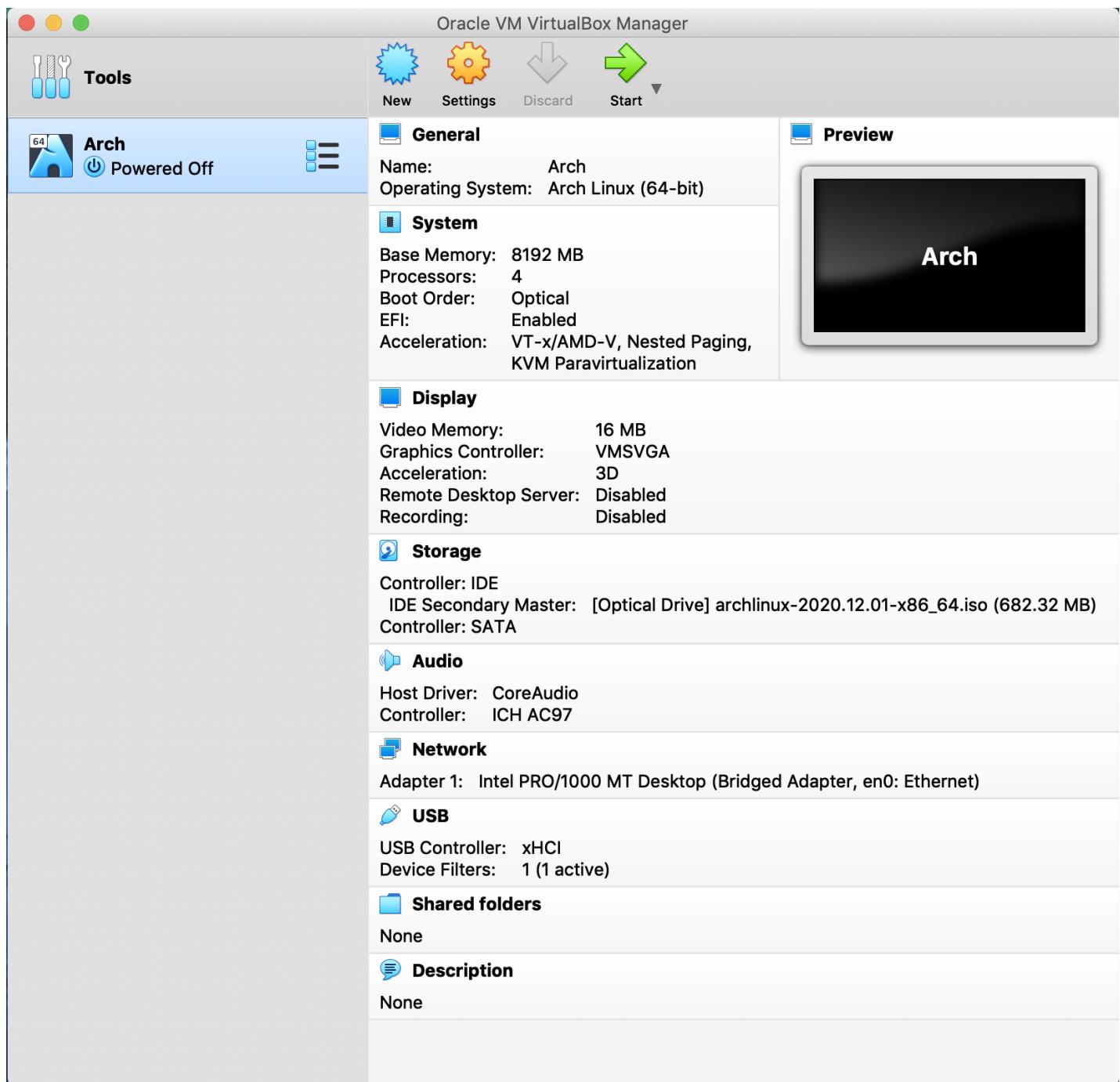




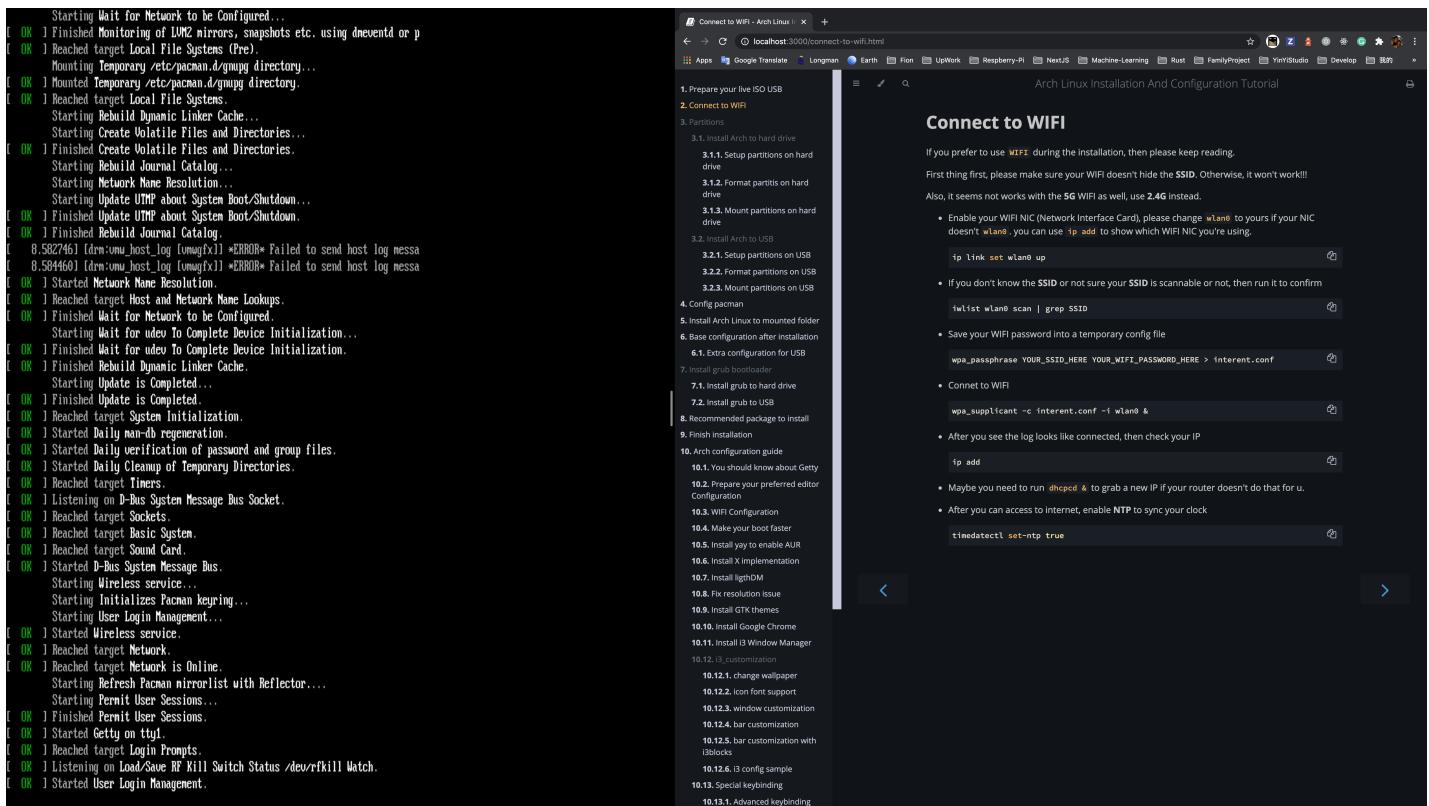
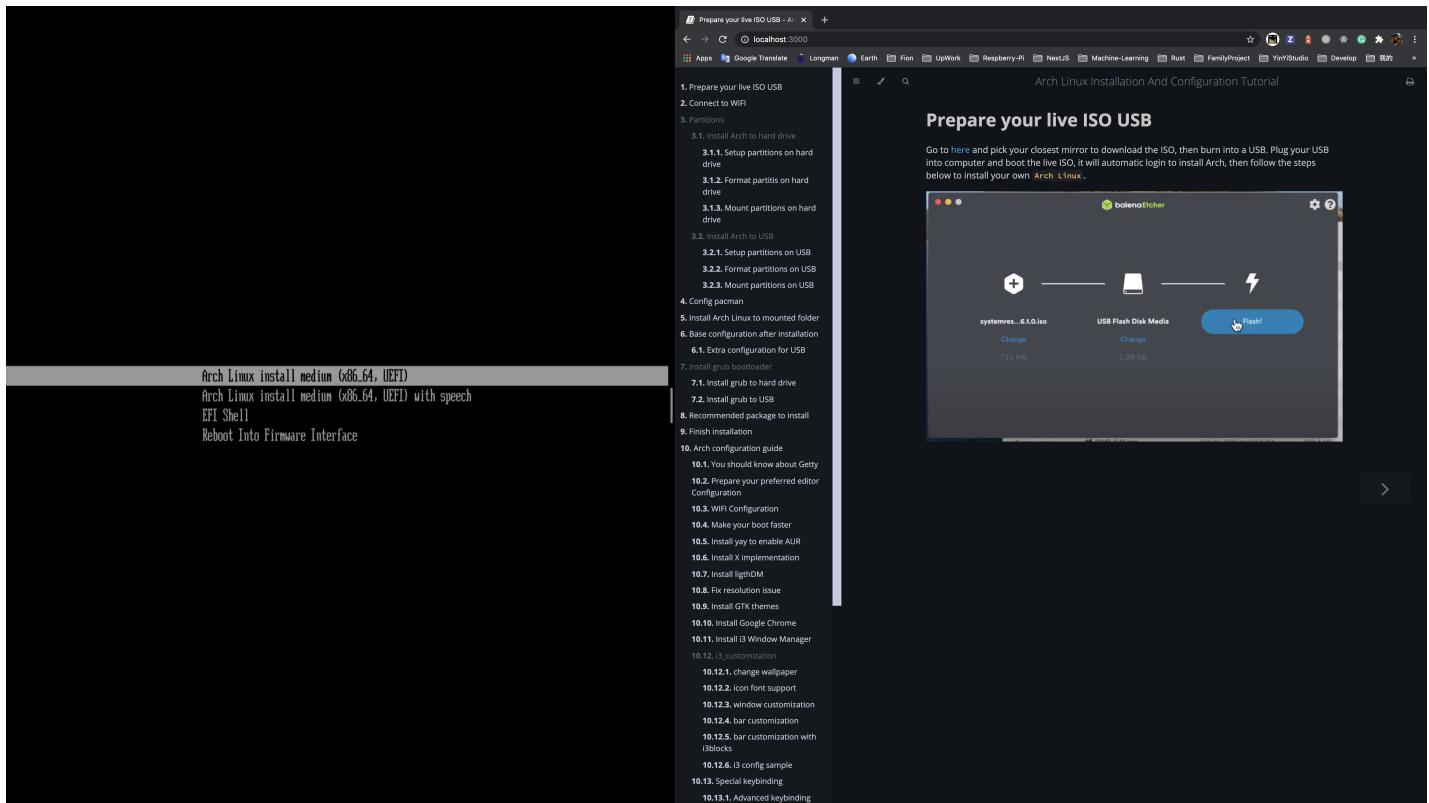
If you want to install to USB, add your USB here:

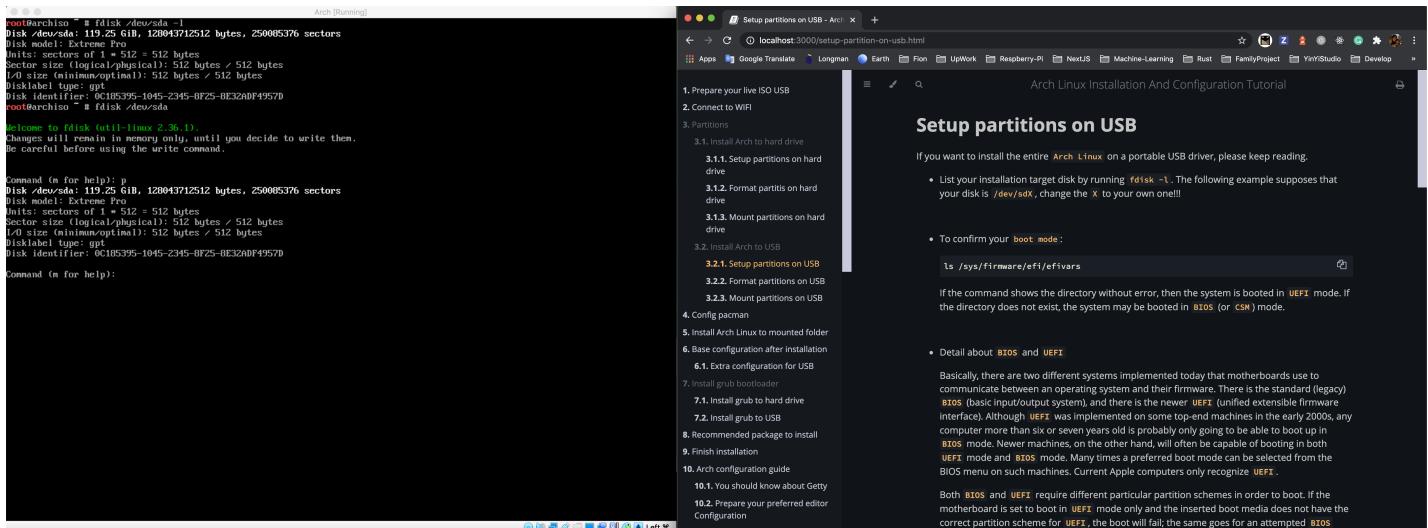


Now, you can run the virtual machine:



Of course, you can open this book side-by-side which is more easy to walk through step-by-step





Connect to WIFI

If you prefer to use `WIFI` during the installation, then please keep reading.

First thing first, please make sure your `WIFI` doesn't hide the `SSID`. Otherwise, it won't work!!!

Also, the steps below seems not works with the `5G` `WIFI` if you use encrypted password, use `2.4G` instead.

For the `5G` network and hidden SSID, it works after you install `netctl`, plz read the details in `WIFI Configuration` chapter.

- Enable your `WIFI` NIC (Network Interface Card), please change `wlan0` to yours if your NIC doesn't `wlan0`. you can use `ip add` to show which `WIFI` NIC you're using.

```
ip link set wlan0 up
```

- If you don't know the `SSID` or not sure your `SSID` is scannable or not, then run it to confirm

```
iwlist wlan0 scan | grep SSID
```

- Save your WIFI password into a temporary config file

```
wpa_passphrase YOUR_SSID_HERE YOUR_WIFI_PASSWORD_HERE > interent.conf
```

- Connect to WIFI

```
wpa_supplicant -c interent.conf -i wlan0 &
```

- After you see the log looks like connected, then check your IP

```
ip add
```

- Maybe you need to run `dhcpcd &` to grab a new IP if your router doesn't do that for u.
- After you can access to internet, enable **NTP** to sync your clock

```
timedatectl set-ntp true
```

Setup partitions on hard drive

If you want to install the entire `Arch Linux` on any computer hard drive, please keep reading.

- List your installation target disk by running `fdisk -l`. The following example supposes that your disk is `/dev/sdX`, change the `X` to your own one!!!
- To confirm your `boot mode`:

```
ls /sys/firmware/efi/efivars
```

If the command shows the directory without error, then the system is booted in **UEFI** mode. If the directory does not exist, the system may be booted in **BIOS**

(or `CSM`) mode.

- Detail about `BIOS` and `UEFI`

Basically, there are two different systems implemented today that motherboards use to communicate between an operating system and their firmware. There is the standard (legacy) `BIOS` (basic input/output system), and there is the newer `UEFI` (unified extensible firmware interface). Although `UEFI` was implemented on some top-end machines in the early 2000s, any computer more than six or seven years old is probably only going to be able to boot up in `BIOS` mode. Newer machines, on the other hand, will often be capable of booting in both `UEFI` mode and `BIOS` mode. Many times a preferred boot mode can be selected from the BIOS menu on such machines. Current Apple computers only recognize `UEFI`.

Both `BIOS` and `UEFI` require different particular partition schemes in order to boot. If the motherboard is set to boot in `UEFI` mode only and the inserted boot media does not have the correct partition scheme for `UEFI`, the boot will fail; the same goes for an attempted `BIOS` boot. This is one place I believe some of the USB installation guides out there fail: they often only describe how to create a USB boot device that uses only one mode. It is possible, however, to setup a USB drive that will have a partition scheme allowing it to boot in both modes and still use the same persistent installation of Linux. This guide will setup such a scheme in the partitioning and formatting sections below.

On most newer machines, you will be presented with the option to boot in either `BIOS` or `UEFI` mode from your bootable USB. This means the machine recognizes the `UEFI` boot media, but it does not always mean the machine is actually set to boot in `UEFI` mode, and selecting the `UEFI` boot option may fail. Selecting a mode that the motherboard is not set to boot in will not damage anything or touch any of the other drives on the machine, the boot will simply fail and one can reboot in the other mode. The USB stick created with this guide has been able to boot on every (about a dozen) desktop and laptop, new and old, `BIOS` and `UEFI`, machine that I have tried it on.

- Follow the steps below to setup your Arch Linux partition:

- Run `fdisk /dev/sdX`

- Delete all existing partitions

```
# First, make sure you use `d` to delete all existing
partitions!!!
# First, make sure you use `d` to delete all existing
partitions!!!
# First, make sure you use `d` to delete all existing
partitions!!!
`d` // Untill all partitions are be deleted!
```

- Create new partition table

```
# As I confirmed my boot mode is **`UEFI`**, then I should use
`GPT` partition.
# Press `g` to create a new empty `GPT` partition table, it will
remove all your exists partitions.
# After pressing `g`, you should be able to see something like
below:
#
# "Created a new GPT dislabel (GUID: xxxxxxxx)."
`g`
```

- Create `512MB` ESP (EFI System Partition) which will be mounted to `/boot` and hold the bootloader

```
`n`
`1` or just `Enter` to use partition no `1`
`Enter` to use the default start sector
`+512M` to set this partition size to `512MB`
# If success, you should see `Created a new partition 1 of type
`Linux filesystem` and of size 512 MiB.
```

- Create SWAP partition:

```
`n`  
`3`, set this partition no to `3` rather than `2`, then when you  
print the partition table, it shows as the last partition which  
is more easy to read.  
'Enter' to use the default start sector  
'+8G' to use 8GB as SWAP, usually, should set to equal to your  
RAM amount or 1.5 time of your RAM amount.  
# If success, you should see 'Created a new partition 3 of type  
'Linux filesystem' and of size 8 MiB.
```

- Finally, create the Linux root partition which will be mount to /root

```
`n`  
'Enter' to use partition no '2'  
'Enter' to use the default start sector  
'Enter' to use all the left spaces  
# If success, you should see 'Created a new partition 2 of type  
'Linux filesystem' and of size XXXX MiB.
```

- Then you can print the partition table by pressing p to have a look if you want
- The last step is press w to write all changes into the disk!!!

```
w
```

Format partitions on hard drive

```
# The boot partition has to be `FAT` format
mkfs.fat -F32 /dev/sdX1

# The root partition, we use `EXT4` format
mkfs.ext4 /dev/sdX2

# Swap partition
mkswap /dev/sdX3

# Enable SWAP partition
swapon /dev/sdX3
```

Mount partitions on hard drive

Before installing Arch Liunx to the hard drive, you need to mount the Arch Linux root partition and Arch Linux boot partition, then you can use pacmanc to install the newer Linux filesystem to the mounted folder.

You can run `fdisk -l /dev/sdX` to print the partition table again if you forgot.

```
mount /dev/sdX2 /mnt
mkdir /mnt/boot
mount /dev/sdX1 /mnt/boot

# You can `ls` to confirm
ls -lht /mnt/boot
ls -lht /mnt

# You can run `df -Th` to confirm both partitions are using the correct
format before you do the real installation.
df -Th | grep \/mnt
/dev/sdX2 ext4 /mnt
/dev/sdX1 vfat /mnt/boot
```

Setup partitions on USB

If you want to install the entire Arch Linux on a portable USB driver, please keep reading.

- List your installation target disk by running `fdisk -l`. The following example supposes that your disk is `/dev/sdX`, change the `X` to your own one!!!

- To confirm your `boot mode`:

```
ls /sys/firmware/efi/efivars
```

If the command shows the directory without error, then the system is booted in `UEFI` mode. If the directory does not exist, the system may be booted in `BIOS` (or `CSM`) mode.

- Detail about `BIOS` and `UEFI`

Basically, there are two different systems implemented today that motherboards use to communicate between an operating system and their firmware. There is the standard (legacy) `BIOS` (basic input/output system), and there is the newer `UEFI` (unified extensible firmware interface). Although `UEFI` was implemented on some top-end machines in the early 2000s, any computer more than six or seven years old is probably only going to be able to boot up in `BIOS` mode. Newer machines, on the other hand, will often be capable of booting in both `UEFI` mode and `BIOS` mode. Many times a preferred boot mode can be selected from the BIOS menu on such machines. Current Apple computers only recognize `UEFI`.

Both `BIOS` and `UEFI` require different particular partition schemes in order to boot. If the motherboard is set to boot in `UEFI` mode only and the inserted boot media does not have the correct partition scheme for `UEFI`, the boot will fail; the same goes for an attempted `BIOS` boot. This is one place I believe some of the USB installation guides out there fail: they often only describe how to create a USB boot device that uses only one mode. It is possible, however, to setup a USB drive that will have a partition scheme allowing it to boot in both modes and still use the same persistent installation of Linux. This guide will setup such a scheme in the partitioning and formatting sections below.

On most newer machines, you will be presented with the option to boot in either `BIOS` or `UEFI` mode from your bootable USB. This means the machine recognizes the `UEFI` boot media, but it does not always mean the machine is

actually set to boot in **UEFI** mode, and selecting the **UEFI** boot option may fail. Selecting a mode that the motherboard is not set to boot in will not damage anything or touch any of the other drives on the machine, the boot will simply fail and one can reboot in the other mode. The USB stick created with this guide has been able to boot on every (about a dozen) desktop and laptop, new and old, **BIOS** and **UEFI**, machine that I have tried it on.

- Follow the steps below to setup your Arch Linux partition:

We will setup a USB which compatible with both **BIOS** and **UEFI** !!!

- Run `fdisk /dev/sdX`
- Delete all existing partitions

```
# First, make sure you use `d` to delete all existing
partitions!!!
# First, make sure you use `d` to delete all existing
partitions!!!
# First, make sure you use `d` to delete all existing
partitions!!!
`d` // Untill all partitions are be deleted!
```

- Create new partition table

```
# As I confirmed my boot mode is **`UEFI`**, then I should use
`GPT` partition.
# Press `g` to create a new empty `GPT` partition table, it will
remove all
# your exists partitions.
# After pressing `g`, you should be able to see something like
below:
#
# "Created a new GPT dislabel (GUID: xxxxxxxxx)."
`g`
```

```
root@archiso ~ # fdisk /dev/sda

Welcome to fdisk (util-linux 2.36.1).
Changes will remain in memory only, until you decide to write them.
Be careful before using the write command.

Command (m for help): d
Partition number (1-3, default 3):

Partition 3 has been deleted.

Command (m for help): d
Partition number (1,2, default 2):

Partition 2 has been deleted.

Command (m for help): d
Selected partition 1
Partition 1 has been deleted.

Command (m for help): p
Disk /dev/sda: 119.25 GiB, 128043712512 bytes, 250085376 sectors
Disk model: Extreme Pro
Units: sectors of 1 * 512 = 512 bytes
Sector size (logical/physical): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
I/O size (minimum/optimal): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
Disklabel type: gpt
Disk identifier: 0C185395-1045-2345-8F25-8E32ADF4957D

Command (m for help): g
Created a new GPT disklabel (GUID: 177BAE3B-6B1B-B34B-A4D1-CE2175AF9B69).

Command (m for help): p
Disk /dev/sda: 119.25 GiB, 128043712512 bytes, 250085376 sectors
Disk model: Extreme Pro
Units: sectors of 1 * 512 = 512 bytes
Sector size (logical/physical): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
I/O size (minimum/optimal): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
Disklabel type: gpt
Disk identifier: 177BAE3B-6B1B-B34B-A4D1-CE2175AF9B69

Command (m for help):
```

- Create 10MB MBR partition

```
`n`  
`1` or just `Enter` to use partition no `1`  
`Enter` to use the default start sector  
`+10M` to set this partition size to `10M`  
#  
# If success, you should see `Created a new partition 1 of type  
# `Linux filesystem` and of size 10 MiB.  
  
# If it asks you "Partition #X contains a YYYY signature, Do you  
want to  
# remove the signature", then press 'Y' to remove the previous  
partition  
# signature.  
#  
# We need to change the partition type from `Linux filesystem` to  
`BIOS BOOT`.  
# Before that you can press `l` to list all supported partition  
types:  
't'  
'4',  
  
# Finally, press `p` to confirm the result, it should look like  
this  
#  
# /dev/sdX1    (ignore the sector numbers there) 10M BIOS boot
```

```
Command (m for help): n
Partition number (1-128, default 1):
First sector (2048-250085342, default 2048):
Last sector, +/-sectors or +/-size{K,M,G,T,P} (2048-250085342, default 250085342): +10M

Created a new partition 1 of type 'Linux filesystem' and of size 10 MiB.
Partition #1 contains a fat signature.

Do you want to remove the signature? [Y]es/[N]o: y

The signature will be removed by a write command.

Command (m for help): t
Selected partition 1
Partition type or alias (type L to list all): 4
Changed type of partition 'Linux filesystem' to 'BIOS boot'.

Command (m for help): p
Disk /dev/sda: 119.25 GiB, 128043712512 bytes, 250085376 sectors
Disk model: Extreme Pro
Units: sectors of 1 * 512 = 512 bytes
Sector size (logical/physical): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
I/O size (minimum/optimal): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
Disklabel type: gpt
Disk identifier: 177BAE3B-6B1B-B34B-A4D1-CE2175AF9B69

Device      Start    End Sectors Size Type
/dev/sda1    2048   22527   20480  10M BIOS boot

Filesystem/RAID signature on partition 1 will be wiped.

Command (m for help):
```

- Create 512MB ESP (EFI System Partition) which will be mounted to /boot and hold the bootloader

```
`n`  
`2` or just `Enter` to use partition no `2`  
`Enter` to use the default start sector  
`+512M` to set this partition size to `512MB`  
#  
# If success, you should see `Created a new partition 2 of type  
# `Linux filesystem` and of size 512 MiB.  
  
# We need to change the partition type from `Linux filesystem` to  
# `EFI System`. Before that you can press `l` to list all  
supported  
# partition types:  
't'  
`2` to make sure select the 512MB partition  
`1` which means `EFI System`  
  
# Finally, press `p` to confirm the result, it should look like  
this  
#  
# /dev/sdX1      (ignore the sector numbers there) 10M  BIOS boot  
# /dev/sdX2      (ignore the sector numbers there) 512M EFI System
```

```

Command (m for help): n
Partition number (2-128, default 2):
First sector (22528-250085342, default 22528):
Last sector, +/-sectors or +/-size{K,M,G,T,P} (22528-250085342, default 250085342): +512M

Created a new partition 2 of type 'Linux filesystem' and of size 512 MiB.

Command (m for help): t
Partition number (1,Z, default 2): 2
Partition type or alias (type L to list all): 1

Changed type of partition 'Linux filesystem' to 'EFI System'.

Command (m for help): p
Disk /dev/sda: 119.25 GiB, 128043712512 bytes, 250085376 sectors
Disk model: Extreme Pro
Units: sectors of 1 * 512 = 512 bytes
Sector size (logical/physical): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
I/O size (minimum/optimal): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
Disklabel type: gpt
Disk identifier: 177BAE3B-6B1B-B34B-A4D1-CE2175AF9B69

Device      Start    End Sectors  Size Type
/dev/sda1    2048   22527   20480   10M BIOS boot
/dev/sda2   22528 1071103 1048576 512M EFI System

Filesystem/RAID signature on partition 1 will be wiped.

```

- Finally, create the linux root partition which will be mounted to `/` and hold the entire Linux system

```

`n`
`3` or just `Enter` to use partition no `3`
`Enter` to use the default start sector
`Enter` to use all the left spaces
# If success, you should see `Created a new partition 3 of type
# `Linux filesystem` and of size XXXX GiB.

# Finally, press `p` to confirm the result, it should look like
this
#
# /dev/sdX1  (ignore the sector numbers there) 10M  BIOS boot
# /dev/sdX2  (ignore the sector numbers there) 512M  EFI System
# /dev/sdX3  (ignore the sector numbers there) XXXG  Linux
filesystem

```

```

Command (m for help): n
Partition number (3-128, default 3):
First sector (1071104-250085342, default 1071104):
Last sector, +/-sectors or +/-size{K,M,G,T,P} (1071104-250085342, default 250085342):

Created a new partition 3 of type 'Linux filesystem' and of size 118.7 GiB.

Command (m for help): p
Disk /dev/sda: 119.25 GiB, 128043712512 bytes, 250085376 sectors
Disk model: Extreme Pro
Units: sectors of 1 * 512 = 512 bytes
Sector size (logical/physical): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
I/O size (minimum/optimal): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
Disklabel type: gpt
Disk identifier: 177BAE3B-6B1B-B34B-A4D1-CE2175AF9B69

Device      Start      End    Sectors   Size Type
/dev/sda1     2048    22527    20480   10M BIOS boot
/dev/sda2    22528   1071103   1048576   512M EFI System
/dev/sda3   1071104  250085342  249014239 118.7G Linux filesystem

Filesystem/RAID signature on partition 1 will be wiped.

Command (m for help): w
The partition table has been altered.
Calling ioctl() to re-read partition table.
Syncing disks.

root@archiso ~ # 

```

- The last step is press `w` to write all changes into the disk!!!

`'w'`

Format partitions on USB

Do not format the `/dev/sdX1` partition. This is the `BIOS/MBR` partition!!!

Do not format the `/dev/sdX1` partition. This is the `BIOS/MBR` partition!!!

Do not format the `/dev/sdX1` partition. This is the `BIOS/MBR` partition!!!

```
# List block device, can help you to type correctly.
lsblk

# The `EFI` boot partition has to be `FAT` format
mkfs.fat -F32 /dev/sdX2

# The root partition, we use `EXT4` format
mkfs.ext4 /dev/sdX3
```

```
root@archiso ~ # fdisk /dev/sda -l
Disk /dev/sda: 119.25 GiB, 128043712512 bytes, 250085376 sectors
Disk model: Extreme Pro
Units: sectors of 1 * 512 = 512 bytes
Sector size (logical/physical): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
I/O size (minimum/optimal): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
Disklabel type: gpt
Disk identifier: 177BAE3B-6B1B-B34B-A4D1-CE2175AF9B69

Device      Start     End   Sectors   Size Type
/dev/sda1    2048    22527    20480    10M BIOS boot
/dev/sda2    22528  1071103   1048576   512M EFI System
/dev/sda3  1071104 250085342 249014239 118.7G Linux filesystem
root@archiso ~ # lsblk
NAME  MAJ:MIN RM  SIZE RO TYPE MOUNTPOINT
loop0  7:0      0 559.5M  1 loop /run/archiso/sfs/airootfs
sda    8:0      1 119.3G  0 disk
└─sda1  8:1      1   10M  0 part
└─sda2  8:2      1   512M  0 part
└─sda3  8:3      1 118.7G  0 part
sr0    11:0     1 682.3M  0 rom  /run/archiso/bootmnt
root@archiso ~ # mkfs.fat -F32 /dev/sda2
mkfs.fat 4.1 (2017-01-24)
root@archiso ~ #
root@archiso ~ # mkfs.ext4 /dev/sda3
mke2fs 1.45.6 (20-Mar-2020)
Creating filesystem with 31126779 4k blocks and 7782400 inodes
Filesystem UUID: 5533cb44-1bfc-4302-9c1a-7f37e6e38397
Superblock backups stored on blocks:
            32768, 98304, 163840, 229376, 294912, 819200, 884736, 1605632, 2654208,
            4096000, 7962624, 11239424, 20480000, 23887872

Allocating group tables: done
Writing inode tables: done
Creating journal (131072 blocks): done
Writing superblocks and filesystem accounting information: done

root@archiso ~ #
```

Mount partitions on USB

Before installing Arch Liunx to the USB, you need to mount the Arch Linux root partition and Arch Linux boot partition, then you can use pacmanc to install the newer Linux filesystem to the mounted folder.

You can run `fdisk -l /dev/sdX` to print the partition table again if you forgot.

```
mount /dev/sdX3 /mnt
mkdir /mnt/boot
mount /dev/sdX2 /mnt/boot

# You can `ls` to confirm
ls -lht /mnt/boot
ls -lht /mnt

# You can run `df -Th` to confirm both partitions are using the correct
format before you do the real installation.
df -Th | grep \/mnt
/dev/sdX3 ext4    /mnt
/dev/sdX2 vfat    /mnt/boot
```

```
root@archiso ~ # mount /dev/sda3 /mnt
root@archiso ~ # mkdir /mnt/boot
root@archiso ~ # mount /dev/sda2 /mnt/boot
root@archiso ~ # ll /mnt/boot
total 0
root@archiso ~ # ll /mnt
total 20
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Jan  1 1970 boot
drwx----- 2 root root 16384 Dec 22 01:21 lost+found
root@archiso ~ #
root@archiso ~ # df -Th | grep \/mnt
/dev/sda3      ext4      117G   61M   111G   1% /mnt
/dev/sda2      vfat     511M   4.0K   511M   1% /mnt/boot
root@archiso ~ # _
```

Config pacman

- Enable the `Color` output

```
vim /etc/pacman.conf

# Search and enable `Color` line, save and exit
```

- Setup mirror

Open [mirror list](#) to search your native country and click on it, you should be able to see the **Mirror URL**. In this tutorial, I just pick **New Zealand** as an example.

It looks like this:

```
# Make sure to copy your country mirror URL here
http://mirror.fsmg.org.nz/archlinux/
https://mirror.fsmg.org.nz/archlinux/
http://mirror.smith.geek.nz/archlinux/
https://mirror.smith.geek.nz/archlinux/
```

Then `vim /etc/pacman.d/mirrorlist` and replace all contents with the below settings:

```
# Make sure change to your country mirror URL!!!
# The syntax looks like below:
#
# Server = YOUR_MIRROR_URL/$repo/os/$arch

# New Zealand
Server = http://mirror.fsmg.org.nz/archlinux/$repo/os/$arch
Server = https://mirror.fsmg.org.nz/archlinux/$repo/os/$arch
Server = http://mirror.smith.geek.nz/archlinux/$repo/os/$arch
Server = https://mirror.smith.geek.nz/archlinux/$repo/os/$arch
```

Install Arch Linux to mounted folder

Keep in mind that:

The current `Arch Linux` you've already login is boot from the `Live ISO`, it just a `tool` for you to install another brand new `Arch Linux` to your hard drive or USB which located at `/mnt` and `/mnt/boot`.

That means there will be an entirely brand new `Arch Linux` in your `/mnt` folder!!!

Now, use the `pacstrap(8)` script to install the base package, Linux kernel and firmware for common hardware:

```
# `/mnt` is where all packages will be installed to!!!
pacstrap /mnt base linux linux-firmware
```

```
Not setting net/ipv4/conf/all/rp_filter (explicit setting exists).
Not setting net/ipv4/conf/default/rp_filter (explicit setting exists).
Not setting net/ipv4/conf/all/accept_source_route (explicit setting exists).
Not setting net/ipv4/conf/default/accept_source_route (explicit setting exists).
Not setting net/ipv4/conf/all/promote_secondaries (explicit setting exists).
Not setting net/ipv4/conf/default/promote_secondaries (explicit setting exists).
( 6/12) Creating temporary files...
( 7/12) Reloading device manager configuration...
Running in chroot, ignoring request.
( 8/12) Arming ConditionNeedsUpdate...
( 9/12) Rebuilding certificate stores...
(10/12) Updating module dependencies...
(11/12) Updating linux initcpios...
==> Building image from preset: /etc/mkinitcpio.d/linux.preset: 'default'
 -> -k /boot/vmlinuz-linux -c /etc/mkinitcpio.conf -g /boot/initramfs-linux.img
==> Starting build: 5.9.14-arch1-1
 -> Running build hook: [base]
 -> Running build hook: [udev]
 -> Running build hook: [autodetect]
 -> Running build hook: [modconf]
 -> Running build hook: [block]
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: xhci_pci
 -> Running build hook: [filesystems]
 -> Running build hook: [keyboard]
 -> Running build hook: [fsck]
==> Generating module dependencies
==> Creating gzip-compressed initcpio image: /boot/initramfs-linux.img
==> Image generation successful
==> Building image from preset: /etc/mkinitcpio.d/linux.preset: 'fallback'
 -> -k /boot/vmlinuz-linux -c /etc/mkinitcpio.conf -g /boot/initramfs-linux-fallback.img -S autodetect
==> Starting build: 5.9.14-arch1-1
 -> Running build hook: [base]
 -> Running build hook: [udev]
 -> Running build hook: [modconf]
 -> Running build hook: [block]
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: aic94xx
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: wd719x
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: xhci_pci
 -> Running build hook: [filesystems]
 -> Running build hook: [keyboard]
 -> Running build hook: [fsck]
==> Generating module dependencies
==> Creating gzip-compressed initcpio image: /boot/initramfs-linux-fallback.img
==> Image generation successful
(12/12) Reloading system bus configuration...
Running in chroot, ignoring command 'try-reload-or-restart'
pacstrap /mnt base linux linux-firmware 22.29s user 7.74s system 35% cpu 1:23.92 total
root@archiso ~ #
```

```
root@archiso ~ # ll /mnt
total 72
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root    7 Sep  2 22:30 bin -> usr/bin
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Jan  1 1970 boot
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:30 dev
drwxr-xr-x 34 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:31 etc
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Sep  2 22:30 home
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root    7 Sep  2 22:30 lib -> usr/lib
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root    7 Sep  2 22:30 lib64 -> usr/lib
drwx----- 2 root root 16384 Dec 22 01:21 lost+found
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Sep  2 22:30 mnt
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Sep  2 22:30 opt
dr-xr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:30 proc
drwxr-x--- 3 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:31 root
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:30 run
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root    7 Sep  2 22:30 sbin -> usr/bin
drwxr-xr-x 4 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:31 srv
dr-xr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:30 sys
drwxrwxrwt 2 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:30 tmp
drwxr-xr-x 8 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:31 usr
drwxr-xr-x 12 root root 4096 Dec 22 01:31 var
root@archiso ~ #
```

After that, generate the `fstab` file, the `-U` flag means use **UUID** to identify the device.

As if you're installing to the USB, then the USB will be plugged into a different machine which causes different `/dev/XXX` labels.

```
genfstab -U /mnt >> /mnt/etc/fstab
```

```
root@archiso ~ # genfstab -U /mnt >> /mnt/etc/fstab
root@archiso ~ #
root@archiso ~ # cat /mnt/etc/fstab
# Static information about the filesystems.
# See fstab(5) for details.

# <file system> <dir> <type> <options> <dump> <pass>
# /dev/sda3
UUID=5533cb44-1bfc-4302-9c1a-7f37e6e38397      /          ext4        rw,relatime   0 1

# /dev/sda2
UUID=9F6B-FA2D          /boot       ufat        rw,relatime,fmask=0022,dmask=0022,codepage=437,iocharset=iso8859-1,short
name=mixed,utf8,errors=remount-ro
```

Base configuration after installation

Keep in mind that:

The current `Arch Linux` you've already login is boot from the `Live ISO`, it just a `tool` for you to install another brand new `Arch Linux` to your hard drive or USB which located at `/mnt` and `/mnt/boot`.

Right now, you need to config the newer `Arch Linux` you just installed, that's why you need to use `arch-chroot` to change linux root environment into the `/mnt` folder!!!

After running `arch-chroot` command, you will be inside the newly installed `Arch Linux`.

- Change root into the new `Arch Linux`

```
arch-chroot /mnt
```

- Choose timezone

```
# ln -sf /usr/share/zoneinfo/YOUR_REGION/YOUR_CITY /etc/localtime  
  
# For example:  
ln -sf /usr/share/zoneinfo/Pacific/Auckland /etc/localtime
```

- Generate `/etc/adjtime`

```
hwclock --systohc
```

- Sync `pacman` and install `vim`

Before we continue, we need to install `vim` for the newer installed `Arch Linux`, then we can edit any configuration file.

In the newer installed `Arch Linux`, the `/etc/pacman.d/mirrorlist` should be copied from the `Live Arch`, we can confirm that by running:

```
cat /etc/pacman.d/mirrorlist
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# cat /etc/pacman.d/mirrorlist
#####
##### Arch Linux mirrorlist generated by Reflector #####
#####

# With:      reflector @/etc/xdg/reflector/reflector.conf
# When:     2020-12-22 00:58:21 UTC
# From:      https://www.archlinux.org/mirrors/status/json/
# Retrieved: 2020-12-22 00:57:46 UTC
# Last Check: 2020-12-22 00:23:49 UTC

# New Zealand
Server = http://mirror.fsmg.org.nz/archlinux/$repo/os/$arch
Server = https://mirror.fsmg.org.nz/archlinux/$repo/os/$arch
Server = http://mirror.smith.geek.nz/archlinux/$repo/os/$arch
Server = https://mirror.smith.geek.nz/archlinux/$repo/os/$arch
[root@archiso ~]#
```

Then sync the `pacman` database and make sure it's up-to-date:

```
[root@archiso ~]# pacman -Syu
:: Synchronizing package databases...
core is up to date
extra is up to date
community is up to date
:: Starting full system upgrade...
there is nothing to do
[root@archiso ~]#
```

Then, let's do `pacman -S vim`:

```
[root@archiso /]# pacman -S vim
resolving dependencies...
looking for conflicting packages...

Packages (3) gpm-1.20.7.r38.ge82d1a6-3  vim-runtime-8.2.1989-3  vim-8.2.1989-3

Total Download Size:  8.22 MiB
Total Installed Size: 34.03 MiB

:: Proceed with installation? [Y/n]
:: Retrieving packages...
gpm-1.20.7.r38.ge82d1a6-3-x86_64          140.5 KiB  4.58 MiB/s 00:00 [#####
vim-runtime-8.2.1989-3-x86_64              6.4 MiB   51.7 MiB/s 00:00 [#####
vim-8.2.1989-3-x86_64                     1766.2 KiB  57.5 MiB/s 00:00 [#####
(3/3) checking keys in keyring               [#####
(3/3) checking package integrity             [#####
(3/3) loading package files                 [#####
(3/3) checking for file conflicts           [#####
(3/3) checking available disk space         [#####
:: Processing package changes...
(1/3) installing vim-runtime                [#####
Optional dependencies for vim-runtime
    sh: support for some tools and macros [installed]
    python: demoserver example tool
    gawk: nroff tools upport [installed]
(2/3) installing gpm                         [#####
(3/3) installing vim                         [#####
Optional dependencies for vim
    python2: Python 2 language support
    python: Python 3 language support
    ruby: Ruby language support
    lua: Lua language support
    perl: Perl language support
    tcl: Tcl language support
:: Running post-transaction hooks...
(1/2) Reloading system manager configuration...
Running in chroot, ignoring command 'daemon-reload'
(2/2) Arming ConditionNeedsUpdate...
[root@archiso /]# _
```

Enable the `color`:

```
vim /etc/pacman.conf
```

```
# Search and enable `Color` line, save and exit
```

- Localization

`vim /etc/locale.gen` and uncomment `en_US.UTF-8 UTF-8` line and other needed locales.

```
#en_SG ISO-8859-1  
en_US.UTF-8 UTF-8  
#en_US ISO-8859-1
```

Then, generate the locale settings:

```
locale-gen
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# locale-gen  
Generating locales...  
    en_US.UTF-8... done  
Generation complete.  
[root@archiso ~]# _
```

```
echo "LANG=en_US.UTF-8" > /etc/locale.conf:
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# echo "LANG=en_US.UTF-8" > /etc/locale.conf  
[root@archiso ~]# cat /etc/locale.conf  
LANG=en_US.UTF-8  
[root@archiso ~]# _
```

```
vim /etc/vconsole.conf and add your custom keybinding (if needed):
```

```
# Add my custom settings below ('Caps_Lock` works like `Escape`) to  
# `/etc/vconsole.conf`.  
# Save and exit.  
  
KEYMAP=us  
keycode 9 = Escape  
keycode 66 = Escape
```

Change to `KEYMAP=colemak` if you use `colemak` keyboard layout!!!

- Hostname and host settings
 - `vim /etc/hostname`, set to your hostname.
 - `vim /etc/hosts` with the base settings like below:

```
127.0.0.1      localhost
::1            localhost
127.0.1.1      YOUR_HOSTNAME_HERE.localdomain
YOUR_HOSTNAME_HERE
```

- Set root password

```
passwd
```

Extra configuration for USB

- RAM disk image

In order to boot the Linux Kernel persistently off of a USB device, some adjustments may be necessary to the initial RAM disk image. We need to ensure that block device support is properly loaded before any attempt at loading the filesystem. This is not always the way a RAM disk image is configured in a generic Linux installation, and I suspect this may one of the failure points in other Linux USB installations out there.

So we need to make some changes to `/etc/mkinitcpio.conf`:

```
# Editr the config
vim /etc/mkinitcpio.conf

# And ensure the `block` hook comes before the `filesystems` hook
# and directly after the `udev` hook like the following:
HOOKS=(base udev block filesystems keyboard fsck)

# Save it and exit.
```

```
## NOTE: If you have /usr on a separate partition, you MUST include the
##       usr, fsck and shutdown hooks.
HOOKS=(base udev block filesystems keyboard fsck)
```

Now, regenerate the initial RAM disk image with the changes made:

```
mkinitcpio -p linux
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# mkinitcpio -p linux
==> Building image from preset: /etc/mkinitcpio.d/linux.preset: 'default'
    -> -k /boot/vmlinuz-linux -c /etc/mkinitcpio.conf -g /boot/initramfs-linux.img
==> Starting build: 5.9.14-arch1-1
    -> Running build hook: [base]
    -> Running build hook: [udev]
    -> Running build hook: [block]
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: aic94xx
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: wd719x
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: xhci_pci
    -> Running build hook: [filesystems]
    -> Running build hook: [keyboard]
    -> Running build hook: [fsck]
==> Generating module dependencies
==> Creating gzip-compressed initcpio image: /boot/initramfs-linux.img
==> Image generation successful
==> Building image from preset: /etc/mkinitcpio.d/linux.preset: 'fallback'
    -> -k /boot/vmlinuz-linux -c /etc/mkinitcpio.conf -g /boot/initramfs-linux-fallback.img -S autodetect
==> Starting build: 5.9.14-arch1-1
    -> Running build hook: [base]
    -> Running build hook: [udev]
    -> Running build hook: [block]
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: aic94xx
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: wd719x
==> WARNING: Possibly missing firmware for module: xhci_pci
    -> Running build hook: [filesystems]
    -> Running build hook: [keyboard]
    -> Running build hook: [fsck]
==> Generating module dependencies
==> Creating gzip-compressed initcpio image: /boot/initramfs-linux-fallback.img
==> Image generation successful
[root@archiso ~]# _
```

- Network interface names

Arch Linux's basic service manager, `systemd`, assigns network interfaces predictable names based on the actual device hardware. This is great for just about any other type of install, but can pose some problems for the portable USB installation we're going for.

To ensure that the ethernet and wifi interfaces will always be respectively named `eth0` and `wlan0`, revert the Arch Linux USB back to traditional device naming:

```
ln -s /dev/null /etc/udev/rules.d/80-net-setup-link.rules
```

- Journal configuration

A default installation of Arch Linux is setup with `systemd` to continuously journal various information about current processes and write that data to storage on disk. For a persistent bootable installation on a flash memory device, however, we can change some options in `journald.conf` to enable journal keeping entirely in RAM (thus reducing writes to the flash device). To control where journal data is stored.

```
# Editr the config
vim /etc/systemd/journald.conf

# To switch journal data storage to RAM, set the storage variable to
# `volatile` by ensuring the following line is uncommented:
Storage=volatile

# As an additional precaution, to ensure the operating system doesn't
# overfill RAM with journal data, set the max-use variable like
below:
SystemMaxUse=16M

# Save it and exit
```

```
## See journald.conf(5) for details.

[Journal]
Storage=volatile
#Compress=yes
#Seal=yes
#SplitMode=uid
#SyncIntervalSec=5m
#RateLimitIntervalSec=30s
#RateLimitBurst=10000
SystemMaxUse=16M
#SystemKeepFree=
```

- Mount options

Modern filesystems are able to record various metadata (last accessed, last modified, user rights, etc.) about their files. A default filesystem mount generally keeps track of as much as this information as possible. For a persistent bootable operating system on a flash memory device, however, we should limit some of this record keeping in order to reduce writes to the flash device.

Using the **noatime** mount option in `fstab` will disable the record keeping of file access times: **no writes will occur when a file is read, only when it is modified.**

To disable record keeping of file access times for the bootable USB:

vim /etc/fstab

```
# Replace all mount options from `relatime` to `noatime`.
# Save it and exit
```

```
# Static information about the filesystems.
# See fstab(5) for details.

# <file system> <dir> <type> <options> <dump> <pass>
# /dev/sda3
UUID=5533cb44-1bfc-4302-9c1a-7f37e6e38397          /           ext4      rw,noatime     0 1

# /dev/sda2
UUID=9F6B-FA2D        /boot       vfat      rw,noatime,fmask=0022,dmask=0022,codepage=437,iocharset=iso8859-1,shortname=mixed,utf8,errors=remount-ro  0 2

::s/relatime/noatime/g
9,1
All
```

Install grub to hard drive

Make sure you're in the `New Arch Linux` root environment. If not, please run `arch-chroot /mnt` to go inside it.

```
# `intel-ucode` is for the bootloader to know Intel CPU architecture,
# you need to change to your CPU one.
#
# Optionally, you can install `os-prober` if you want `grub` to detect
exists OS.
# For example, you want `grub` to handle multi OS boot situation.
pacman -S grub efibootmgr intel-ucode

# Generate then grub config
mkdir /boot/grub
grub-mkconfig > /boot/grub/grub.cfg

# Install CPU specified `grub`, you can run `uname -m` to confirm your
CPU architecture.
# For example, to install `x86_64` architecture and `EFI`.
grub-install --target=x86_64-efi --efi-directory=/boot

# After that, it will generate `/boot/EFI/arch/grubx64.efi`!!!
```

Install grub to USB

Make sure you're in the `New Arch Linux` root environment. If not, please run `arch-chroot /mnt` to go inside it.

To enable booting the USB in both modes (`BIOS`, `UEFI`), two bootloaders will need to be installed.

- Install the following packages:

```
# `intel-ucode` and `amd-ucode` is for the bootloader to know Intel
CPU
# architecture, you need to change to your CPU one.
#
# As we install to USB, then we needs to have `microcode` for both
# manufacturer processors
#
# Optionally, you can install `os-prober` if you want `grub` to
detect exists OS.
# For example, you want `grub` to handle multi OS boot situation.
pacman -S grub efibootmgr intel-ucode amd-ucode
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# pacman -S grub efibootmgr intel-ucode amd-ucode
resolving dependencies...
looking for conflicting packages...

Packages (5) efivar-37-4  amd-ucode-20201218.646f159-1  efibootmgr-17-2  grub-2:2.04-8  intel-ucode-20201118-1

Total Download Size:  9.57 MiB
Total Installed Size: 36.84 MiB

:: Proceed with installation? [Y/n]
:: Retrieving packages...
grub-2:2.04-8-x86_64          6.7 MiB 31.7 MiB/s 00:00 [########################################] 100%
efivar-37-4-x86_64           110.5 KiB 0.00 B/s 00:00 [########################################] 100%
efibootmgr-17-2-x86_64       27.4 KiB 0.00 B/s 00:00 [########################################] 100%
amd-ucode-20201218.646f159-1-any 24.0 KiB 0.00 B/s 00:00 [########################################] 100%
intel-ucode-20201118-1-any    2.7 MiB 33.3 MiB/s 00:00 [########################################] 100%
(5/5) checking keys in keyring
(5/5) checking package integrity
(5/5) loading package files
(5/5) checking for file conflicts
(5/5) checking available disk space
:: Processing package changes...
(1/5) installing grub
Generate your bootloader configuration with:
  grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg
Optional dependencies for grub
  freetype2: For grub-mkfont usage
  fuse2: For grub-mount usage
  dosfstools: For grub-mkrescue FAT FS and EFI support
  efibootmgr: For grub-install EFI support [pending]
  libisoburn: Provides xorriso for generating grub rescue iso using grub-mkrescue
  os-prober: To detect other OSes when generating grub.cfg in BIOS systems
  mtools: For grub-mkrescue FAT FS support
(2/5) installing efivar
(3/5) installing efibootmgr
(4/5) installing intel-ucode
(5/5) installing amd-ucode
:: Running post-transaction hooks...
(1/1) Arming ConditionNeedsUpdate...
[root@archiso ~]# _
```

- Setup **bootloader**:

- View the current block devices to determine the target USB device:

```
lsblk
```

Make sure that `/dev/sdX` block device is the USB you're installing to !!!

All the command below, the `/dev/sdX` below means the USB driver itself, not to any partition. So please DO NOT add any number at the end!!!

```
# `/dev/sdX` is correct
# `/dev/sdXn` is NOT correct
```

- Setup **GRUB** for **MBR/BIOS** booting mode (replace the `X` to your real device letter)

```
grub-install --target=i386-pc --boot-directory /boot /dev/sdX
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# lsblk
NAME   MAJ:MIN RM   SIZE RO TYPE MOUNTPOINT
loop0    7:0     0 559.5M  1 loop
sda      8:0     1 119.3G  0 disk
└─sda1   8:1     1   10M  0 part
└─sda2   8:2     1   512M  0 part /boot
└─sda3   8:3     1 118.7G  0 part /
sr0      11:0    1 682.3M  0 rom
[root@archiso ~]# grub-install --target=i386-pc --boot-directory /boot /dev/sda
Installing for i386-pc platform.
Installation finished. No error reported.
```

- Setup GRUB for UEFI booting mode

```
# Install CPU specified `grub`, you can run `uname -m` to confirm
your CPU architecture.

# Install `x86_64` architecture and `EFI`.

grub-install --target=x86_64-efi --efi-directory /boot --boot-
directory /boot --removable
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# grub-install --target=x86_64-efi --efi-directory /boot --boot-directory /boot --removable
Installing for x86_64-efi platform.
Installation finished. No error reported.
[root@archiso ~]# _
```

- Generate a GRUB configuration:

```
grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg
```

```
# After that, it will generate something important below:
# /boot/EFI/BOOT/BOOTX64.EFI
# /boot/grub/x86_64-efi/
# /boot/grub/i386-pc/
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg
Generating grub configuration file ...
Found linux image: /boot/vmlinuz-linux
Found initrd image: /boot/intel-ucode.img /boot/amd-ucode.img /boot/initramfs-linux.img
Found fallback initrd image(s) in /boot: initramfs-linux-fallback.img
done
[root@archiso ~]#
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# ls -lht /boot/EFI/BOOT/
total 128K
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 128K Dec 22 15:50 BOOTX64.EFI
[root@archiso ~]# _
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# ls -lht /boot/grub
total 64K
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 5.1K Dec 22 15:51 grub.cfg
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 20K Dec 22 15:50 x86_64-efi
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4.0K Dec 22 15:50 locale
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4.0K Dec 22 15:47 fonts
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 1.0K Dec 22 15:47 grubenv
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 20K Dec 22 15:47 i386-pc
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root 4.0K Dec 22 15:47 themes
[root@archiso ~]#
```

Recommended package to install

All the packages below are optional but recommended which can make your life a bit easier before you install any DE ([Desktop Environment](#)) or WM ([Window Manager](#)).

Make sure you're in the [New Arch Linux](#) root environment. If not, please run `arch-chroot /mnt` to go inside it.

- Networking
 - `netctl` - A CLI and profile-based network manager.
 - `ifplugd` - a daemon which will automatically configure your Ethernet device when a cable is plugged in and automatically unconfigure it if the cable is pulled.
 - And the based WIFI support CLI.

```
pacman -S netctl ifplugd iw wpa_supplicant dhcpcd
```

Copy the example ethernet profile to `/etc/netctl/`:

```
cp /etc/netctl/examples/ethernet-dhcp /etc/netctl/eth0-dhcp
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# cp /etc/netctl/examples/ethernet-dhcp /etc/netctl/eth0-dhcp
[root@archiso ~]# cat /etc/netctl/eth0-dhcp
Description='A basic dhcp ethernet connection'
Interface=eth0
Connection=ethernt
IP=dhcp
#DHCPClient=dhcpcd
#DHCPReleaseOnStop=no
## for DHCPv6
#IP6=dhcp
#DHCP6Client=dhclient
## for IPv6 autoconfiguration
#IP6=stateless
[root@archiso ~]#
```

Enable `ifplugd` to automatically connect to any available wired network:

```
systemctl enable netctl-ifplugd@eth0.service
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# systemctl enable netctl-ifplugd@eth0.service
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/sys-subsystem-net-devices-eth0.device.wants/netctl-ifplugd@eth0.service → /usr/lib/systemd/system/netctl-ifplugd@.service.
[root@archiso ~]#
```

Enable network time synchronization:

```
systemctl enable systemd-timesyncd.service
```

```
# You can check your time setting by command `timedatectl`
timedatectl
# Local time: Wed 2014-09-24 21:19:26 CST
# Universal time: Wed 2014-09-24 13:19:26 UTC
# RTC time: Wed 2014-09-24 13:19:26
# Timezone: Asia/Shanghai (CST, +0800) // time zone you setted
# NTP enabled: yes // if you enable systemd-timesyncd successfully
here will be yes, otherwise you need use `systemctl status systemd-
timesyncd.service` to check it
#NTP synchronized: yes
# RTC in local TZ: no
# DST active: n/a
```

For the `WIFI` configuration, please go to `Configuration` chapter.

- Video drivers

To support most common **GPUs**, install all five basic open source video drivers:

```
pacman -S xf86-video-amdgpu xf86-video-ati xf86-video-intel xf86-video-nouveau xf86-video-vesa
```

```
[root@archiso ~]# pacman -S xf86-video-amdgpu xf86-video-ati xf86-video-intel xf86-video-nouveau xf86-video-vesa
resolving dependencies...
looking for conflicting packages...
warning: dependency cycle detected:
warning: libglu will be installed before its mesa dependency

Packages (33) db-5.3.28-5 gdbm-1.18.1-3 libdrm-2.4.103-2 libedit-20191231_3.1-2 libglu-1.3.2-1 libomxil-bellagio-0.9.3-3
          libpciaccess-0.16-2 libunwind-1.3.1-2 libx11-1.7.0-2 libxau-1.0.9-3 libxcb-1.14-1 libxdamage-1.1.5-3
          libxdmcp-1.1.3-3 libxext-1.3.4-3 libxfixes-5.0.3-4 libxshmfence-1.3-2 libxvmc-1.0.12-3 libxxfb6vm-1.1.4-4
          llm-libs-11.0.0-4 lm_sensors-3.6.0-2 mesa-20.3.1-1 perl-5.32.0-3 pixman-0.40.0-1
          vulkan-icd-loader-1.2.162-1 wayland-1.18.0-2 xcbproto-1.14.1-3 xcb-util-0.4.0-3 xorgproto-2020.1-1
          xf86-video-amdgpu-19.1.0-2 xf86-video-ati-1:19.1.0-2 xf86-video-intel-1:2.99.917+913+g9236c582-1
          xf86-video-nouveau-1.0.16-2 xf86-video-vesa-2.5.0-1

Total Download Size:   62.41 MiB
Total Installed Size: 270.98 MiB

:: Proceed with installation? [Y/n]
```

- Touchpad support

Install support for standard notebook touchpads:

```
pacman -S xf86-input-synaptics
```

- Battery support

Install support for checking battery charge and state:

```
pacman -S acpi tlp
```

Enable the service

```
systemctl enable tlp.service
```

- Build tools if you needed

```
pacman -S base-devel man
```

- Basic editor and shell if you needed

```
pacman -S vim fish
```

- Basic ssh tool if you needed

```
pacman -S openssh
```

- `bat` is a enhancement for `cat` written in `Rust`.

It adds some default features below:

- Line number
- Color
- Git integration, can show git status
- Works like `less` you can do `vim` searching
- Automatic paging

```
pacman --sync --refresh bat
```

usage:

```
bat FILE_NAME

# Pipe case
curl -s https://sh.rustup.rs | bat
```

- `procs` is a replacement for `ps` written in `Rust`.

```
pacman --sync --refresh procs
```

Optionally, you can add `alias ps="procs"` (for `bash`) or `abbr ps "pros"` (for `fish``) to your shell configuration file.

Some use cases:

```
# Query `vim` related process
```

```
procs vim
```

```
# Query `vim` or `alacritty` related process
```

```
procs --or vim alacritty
```

```
# Query `vim` or `alacritty` and ascending sort by PID
```

```
procs --or --sorta PID vim alacritty
```

```
# Query `vim` or `alacritty` and descending sort by memory
```

```
procs --or --sortd VmRss vim alacritty
```

```
# Query `vim` or `alacritty` related process in watch mode (1s  
refresh rate)
```

```
procs --or --watch vim alacritty
```

Also, you can custom the config to control which informat you want to show:

```
vim ~/.config/procs/config.toml with the following settings:
```

```
# For more detail setting information, plz visit
https://github.com/dalance/procs

[[columns]]
# The column kind to show
kind = "Pid"
# Use which color to show
style = "BrightYellow|Yellow"
# This column can be search for as numeric parameter passed
# to `procs` command?
numeric_search = true
# This column can be search for as non-numeric parameter passed
# to `procs` command?
nonnumeric_search = false
# Alignment, "Left, Center, Right". "Left" by default.j
# align = "Right"

[[columns]]
kind = "User"
style = "BrightMagenta|Magenta"
numeric_search = false
nonnumeric_search = true
align = "Right"

[[columns]]
kind = "Separator"
style = "BrightWhite|White"
color_075 = "BrightWhiteee"
numeric_search = false
nonnumeric_search = false
align = "Center"

[[columns]]
kind = "Tty"
style = "BrightWhite|White"
numeric_search = false
nonnumeric_search = false
```

```
align = "Center"

[[columns]]
kind = "Threads"
style = "BrightWhite|White"
numeric_search = false
nonnumeric_search = false
align = "Center"

[[columns]]
kind = "TcpPort"
style = "BrightCyan|Cyan"
numeric_search = true
nonnumeric_search = false
align = "Right"

[[columns]]
kind = "VmRss"
style = "BrightGreen|Green"
numeric_search = false
nonnumeric_search = false
align = "Right"

# [[columns]]
# kind = "UsageCpu"
# style = "BrightGreen|Green"
# numeric_search = false
# nonnumeric_search = false
# align = "Center"

#
# [[columns]]
# kind = "UsageMem"
# style = "BrightGreen|Green"
# numeric_search = false
# nonnumeric_search = false
# align = "Center"
```

```
[[columns]]
kind = "Separator"
style = "BrightWhite|White"
numeric_search = false
nonnumeric_search = false
align = "Center"

[[columns]]
kind = "Command"
style = "BrightWhite|White"
numeric_search = false
nonnumeric_search = true
align = "Left"

[search]
numeric_search = "Exact"
nonnumeric_search = "Partial"
logic = "And"

[display]
show_self = false
show_thread = false
show_thread_in_tree = true
cut_to_terminal = true
cut_to_pager = false
cut_to_pipe = false
color_mode = "Always"

[sort]
column = 0
order = "Ascending"
# order = "Descending"

[docker]
path = "unix:///var/run/docker.sock"
```

```
[pager]
mode = "Auto"
```

The custom config above shows the following columns:

```
PID, User, TTY, Threads, TCP, VmRSS, Command
```

Here is the running example:

- Search by TCP port:

N wison /home/wison ↗ procs --or 8000						
PID:▲	User	TTY	Threads	TCP	VmRSS [bytes]	Command
22232	wison	pts/3	5	[8000]	4.754M	simple-http-server --index

- Or search by name and sort (desc) by memory usage:

I wison /home/wison ↗ procs --or vim node --sortd VmRSS						
PID	User	TTY	Threads	TCP	VmRSS:▼ [bytes]	Command
18847	wison		11	[]	73.953M	/usr/bin/node --no-warnings
21241	wison		11	[]	72.945M	/usr/bin/node --no-warnings
21845	wison		11	[]	65.812M	node --no-warnings /home/wis
21844	wison	pts/4	1	[]	30.871M	/usr/bin/vim /home/wison/.vi
18845	wison	pts/0	2	[]	21.164M	nvim
18859	wison		1	[]	17.586M	/usr/bin/python3 -c import s
21253	wison		1	[]	17.379M	/usr/bin/python3 -c import s
21239	wison	pts/2	2	[]	16.613M	nvim config.toml

<++>

Finish installation

Below are the final steps to finish the Arch Linux installation.

Make sure you're in the New Arch Linux root environment. If not, please run arch-chroot /mnt to go inside it.

- Add a new user and assign it to the sudo group

```
# Add new user  
useradd -m -G wheel YOUR_USER_NAME  
  
# Set password  
passwd YOUR_USER_NAME  
  
# Install `sudo`  
pacman -S sudo  
  
# Enable `wheel` group for `sudo` command  
visudo  
  
# Enable the below line:  
# %wheel ALL=(ALL) ALL  
#  
# Save and exit.
```

```
## Uncomment to allow members of group wheel to execute any command  
%wheel ALL=(ALL) ALL
```

- Exit and shutdown

```
# Exit current Arch root.  
exit  
  
# Unmount all mounted folders and sync  
umount /mnt/boot /mnt && sync  
  
# Shutdown, all done:)  
shutdown -h now
```

Arch configuration guide

Before starting, recommended that login with your new user (not the `root` user) to finish all the steps below.

You should know about Getty

What is `Getty`?

After reboot, you will see a default terminal login prompt which prints with `tty1`, that's the `getty`.

In Arch Linux, `agetty` is the default `getty`, it prompts for a login name and invokes the `/bin/login` command.

You can press `Ctrl+Alt+F1 ~ F6` to switch between **tty1 ~ tty6**.

The `tty7` (`Ctrl+Alt+F7`) is for the `X` which means your `DE` (Desktop Environment) or `WM` (Window Manager).

More information from [here](#)

Tips:

- Sometimes, when you do a wrong configuration to your `DE` or `WM`, even the `DM` (Display Manager which works like a graphical login prompt), then you can switch another `tty` and login to fix it, very handy.
- How to change `tty` fonts:

```
# All fonts stay in this folder
ls -lht /usr/share/kbd/consolefonts

# Set the TTY font
setfont FONT_FILE_NAME_HERE
```

Prepare your preferred editor Configuration

Before to edit a lot of configuration files, you better to prepare your personal preferred editor and shell environment before continuing.

For example, if you prefer the pre-installed `vim`, then you need to install `gvim` to enable the `clipboard` feature which makes your life a bit easier.

```
# It will ask you to remove the `vim-minimal` as a conflict, just says
`Y`
sudo pacman --sync --refresh gvim
```

Or you can install `neovim`:

```
sudo pacman --sync --refresh neovim python-pynvim
mkdir ~/.config/nvim
touch ~/.config/nvim/init.vim
```

Let's do it:)

WIFI Configuration

Right now, the newer `Arch Linux` can connect via `ethernet` NIC, but how about `wireless` NIC?

- Copy the WIFI config from example and named it as `wlan0-dhcp`

```
cd /etc/netctl
sudo cp -rvf examples/wireless-wpa ./wlan0-dhcp
```

- Edit `wlan0-dhcp` to change your WIFI `SSID` and `KEY` (encrypted password in HEX string)

```
sudo vim wlan0-dhcp

# Change the `ESSID` to your WIFI `SSID`

# Go to the bottom, run the command below to read the
# `wpa_passphrase` result into current file.
:r !wpa_passphrase YOUR_SSID_HERE YOUR_WIFI_PASSWORD_TEXT_HERE | grep
psk

# After that, you should get something like below:
# #psk="xxxxxx"
# psk="XXXXXX" // That's encrypted WIFI PASS in HEX string
#
# So you need to copy that "XXXX" hex string and make it looks like
below
# to set the `Key` value.
# Make sure the value start with `\"` and then follow your HEX string
Key=\"XXXXXX

# Finally, enable the `Hidden=yes` line if your SSID is hidden.
# Then save and exit
```

Pay attention:

For connecting to the 5G network, you need to match 2 conditions below:

- You have to use unencrypted (plaintext) password to fill the Key field.
- The 5G network needs to pick the channel to 40.

Otherwise, it won't work!!!

- Start connecting to WIFI

Any file located at /etc/netctl folder is call profile, you can run the netctl start PROFILE_NAME to start any profile-based network configuration:

```
sudo netctl start wlan0-dhcp
```

If start fail, then run `sudo netctl status wlan0-dhcp` to read the detail error.

- Connect to WIFI when computer boots

You can create a `systemd` service to connect to WIFI automatic when computer boots

```
sudo netctl reenable wlan0-dhcp
```

But this is not recommended if you're installing the `Arch Linux` to **USB**, as not all computers always have the `wlan0`. In the case which doesn't have the `wlan0` NIC, then the booting process will keep waiting before time out, it will waste a couple of seconds.

For solving this, you can add a script to start `wlan0-dhcp` profile into a script which will be added to `lightdm`, that will be perfect.

- Run the script to list all available networks

- Install `node` if you don't have it yet:

```
sudo pacman --sync --refresh nodejs-lts-erbium
```

- Create the `~/scripts/scan-ssid.js` with the following content:

```
const {execSync} = require('child_process')

// Run the `iw` command to do a WIFI scan
const cmd = `iw dev wlan0 scan | grep -e "freq:" -e "SSID:"`
let cmdResult = ``

try {
    cmdResult = execSync(cmd)
        .toString()
        .replace(/\t/g, '')
    // console.log(`cmdResult: ${cmdResult}`)
}

catch (error) {
    if (error.message && error.message.indexOf('Network is down') !== -1) {
        console.log(`Your WIFI interface is down, plz run the
command the below and try again: \n\nsudo ip link set wlan0
up\n`)
    }

    console.error(error)
    return;
}

// Format the result
const resultList = []

let lastWifiInfo = {freq: '', ssid: ''}

const tempArr = cmdResult.split(`\n`)
.forEach((tempString, index, arrRef) => {
    const isSsid = index % 2 == 1

    if (isSsid) {
        let fixedSsid = tempString.replace(`SSID: `,
``).trim()
        lastWifiInfo.ssid = Boolean(fixedSsid == '') ?
`Unknown` : fixedSsid
```

```

        resultList.push(lastWifiInfo)
    } else {
        let freqStr = tempString.replace(`freq: `,
``).trim()
        let is5G = Boolean(parseInt(freqStr, 10) > 5100)
        // console.log(`freqStr: ${freqStr}, is5G: ${is5G}`)

        lastWifiInfo = {freq: '', ssid: ''}
        lastWifiInfo.freq = is5G ? `5G` : `2.4G`
    }
}

let resultTable = `\n[ Available WIFI networks ]` +
`\n-----\n` +
resultList.map(wifiInfo => `${wifiInfo.ssid} -
${wifiInfo.freq}`)
    .join(`\n`) + `\n`

console.log(resultTable)

```

- Run the script like below:

```
sudo node --harmony ~/scripts/scan-ssid.js
```

If you didn't up the `wlan0` interface, it will print out the error like below:

```
N | wison | /home/wison/scripts ➜ sudo node --harmony ./scan-ssid.js
command failed: Network is down (-100)
Your WIFI inferace is down, plz run the command the below and try again
:
sudo ip link set wlan0 up
```

Then just run `sudo ip link set wlan0 up`, wait for a few seconds, then re-run the script command again. And it should print out like below:

```
N | wison | /home/wison/scripts ↵ sudo node --harmony ./scan-ssid.js
[ Available WIFI networks ]
-----
SPARK-XYV5A6 - 2.4G
SPARK-GPWV4M - 2.4G
vodafoneED4642 - 2.4G
B818_99B8 - 2.4G
NetComm 0114 - 2.4G
SPARK-GPWV4M-5G - 5G
Unknown - 2.4G
\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00 - 2.4G
\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00 - 2.4G
\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00 - 2.4G
SPARK-R29D34-5G - 5G
SPARK-R29D34 - 2.4G
B818_99B8 - 5G
vodafone365B44 - 2.4G
Trustpower_2.4GHz_1371 - 2.4G
HUAWEI-URV3AD - 2.4G
vodafone1B8998 - 2.4G
```

Make your boot faster

By default, `grub` will wait for around **5** second before select the default boot option.

But we can change it in `/etc/default/grub`.

`sudo vim /etc/default/grub` to change some settings to reduce the timeout

```
GRUB_TIMEOUT=0
GRUB_TIMEOUT_STYLE=hidden
```

Save and exit.

Then run the command below to re-generate the grub configuration file:

```
sudo grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg
```

Now, reboot to take effect.

A tips for changing the resolution for the `GRUB`:

You can change the following settings to `/etc/default/grub`

```
# Try 1024x768x32 first, if fail, then fallback to auto resolution
GRUB_GFXMODE=1024x768x32,auto
```

Install or update kernel

First you need to check the current linux kernel you can install by running:

```
pacman --sync --search linux | grep core/linux

# [ The current kernel installed ]

# core/linux 5.10.5.arch1-1 [installed]
# core/linux-api-headers 5.8-1 [installed]
# core/linux-docs 5.10.5.arch1-1
# core/linux-firmware 20201218.646f159-1 [installed]
# core/linux-headers 5.10.5.arch1-1 [installed]

# [ The LTS (Long Term Support) kernel ]

# core/linux-lts 5.4.87-1
# core/linux-lts-docs 5.4.87-1
# core/linux-lts-headers 5.4.87-1
```

If you need to install driver (webcam driver, usb driver), then you have to install `headers`. Otherwise, you don't need that.

After you confirm you ready need that, then pick the one you like to install:

```
# Install the latest kernel and headers
sudo pacman --sync --refresh linux linux-headers

# Install the latest LTS kernel and headers
sudo pacman --sync --refresh linux-lts linux-headers-lts
```

Optionally, you can list all installed kernels in the `grub` bootloader UI, then you can pick which one you want to boot into.

This just optaional, you don't need to do that if don't need it

```
sudo vim /etc/default/grub
```

 with the following settings:

```
GRUB_DISABLE_SUBMENU=y  
GRUB_DEFAULT=saved  
GRUB_SAVEDEFAULT=true
```

Then re-generate the grub configuration:

```
sudo grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg
```

Reboot.

Install yay to enable AUR

What is AUR?

AUR stands for Arch User Repository. It is a community-driven repository for Arch-based Linux distributions users. It contains package descriptions named **PKGBUILDS** that allow you to compile a package from source with `makepkg` and then install it via `pacman` (package manager in Arch Linux).

How to enable **AUR** installation:

```
mkdir ~/temp && cd ~/temp  
  
pacman -S --needed git base-devel  
git clone https://aur.archlinux.org/yay.git  
cd yay  
makepkg -si  
  
cd ~/temp && rm -rf yay
```

If you want to change or add any mirror server to `/etc/pacman.d/mirrorlist`, you can go to [here](#)

Install X implementation

The **X** Window System (**X11**, or simply **X**) is a windowing system for bitmap displays, common on Unix-like operating systems. It provides the basic framework

for a GUI environment:

- Drawing
- Moving windows
- Interact with mouse and keyboard

It's **Client, Server** architecture

How to install a **X** implementation?

```
sudo pacman -S xorg xorg-server
```

More information from [here](#)

Install **lightDM** as Display Manager

- What is **Display Manager** ?

A display manager, or login manager, is typically a graphical user interface that is displayed at the end of the boot process in place of the default shell.

- We will install one of the implementation which is called: **LightDM**

LightDM is a cross-desktop **Display Manager** (also known as a **Login Manager**). Its key features are:

- Cross-desktop - supports different desktop technologies.
- Supports different display technologies (X, Mir, Wayland ...).
- Lightweight - low memory usage and high performance.
- Supports guest sessions.
- Supports remote login (incoming - XDMCP, VNC, outgoing - XDMCP, pluggable).
- Comprehensive test suite.
- Low code complexity.

[Here](#) has more detail information.

- Installation

```
# `lightdm-webkit2-greeter` is one of the lightdm greeter which will  
explain below  
sudo pacman -S lightdm lightdm-webkit2-greeter
```

- Change the default `greeter`

A `greeter` just like a graphical login prompt, you can install any one you like.

By default, all installed `gretter` are located in `/usr/share/xgreeters`

```
ls -lth /usr/share/xgreeters/  
# lightdm-webkit2-greeter.desktop
```

By default, `lightdm` will use `lightdm-gtk-greeter` but you can change it any time in `/etc/lightdm/lightdm.conf`

If you add new `greeter`, then get the name in `/usr/share/xgreeters` and change in `/etc/lightdm/lightdm.conf` like below:

```
[Seat:*]  
# ...  
# For example, we just installed this one  
greeter-session=lightdm-webkit2-greeter  
# ...
```

- Enable the `lightdm` service when booting

```
sudo systemctl enable lightdm.service
```

- Restart the `lightdm` service when booting

After you change the greeter or another settings, you need to restart the service to take effect. Pay attention that this command will logout the current session, make sure save all docs before you do that

```
sudo systemctl restart lightdm.service
```

If you want to change setting very often and don't want to be forced to logout, then you can open another `tty` (Ctrl+Alt+F1 ~ F6) and run the command above, then back the `lightdm` will refresh in the `tty7` which more convenience.

- Install new theme for the `lightdm-webkit2-greeter`

It's super easy to add a different theme based on `lightdm-webkit2-greeter`, for example, install this one:

```
yay -Sy lightdm-webkit-theme-aether
```

After a theme be installed, it saves in `/usr/share/lightdm/themes`

```
ls -lht /usr/share/lightdm/themes
```

```
# lightdm-webkit-theme-aether
```

So, you need to change the theme name in `/etc/lightdm/lightdm-webkit2-greeter.conf` like below:

```
webkit_theme = lightdm-webkit-theme-aether
```

Save it and logout to take effect.

- Troubleshooting

If you can't start the `lightdm` or `lightdm-webkit2-greeter` (which includes can't see the webkit2 themes), plz double check all configurations to see whether you put the wrong spelling there, as around 90% chance is that:)

If yes, then switch another `tty` to fix it and restart `lightdm` again:

```
sudo systemctl restart lightdm.service
```

If you make sure NO wrong spelling in the configuration file, then switch to another `tty` and run the command below to see whether some helpful error to figure out what's happening there:

```
/usr/bin/lightdm-webkit2-greeter --help
```

My personal very bad luck experience, it causes by missing the correct version of `icu` package to be installed. I think that's because I installed `lightdm-webkit-theme-aether` via `yay` which always use the latest package, but my `Arch Linux` use another older package. That's why no matter what I had tried, it still doesn't work. After I run `sudo pacman -Syc` to upgrade all installed package. It works...:)

Fix resolution issue

In some high `DPI` screens (e.g. Apple Retina Screen), you will see a very high resolution but with tiny small fonts which you even can see what's that.

For that case, you can add the settings below to `~/.Xresources`:

```
# -----
# The settings below will affect the screen DPI (Dots Per Inch)
#
# Based on the wiki (https://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php/HiDPI "X
# Resources"
# section, it says:
#
# For `Xft.dpi`, using the integer multiples 96 usually works best. For
example:
#
# 96 - 100% scaling
# 144 - 150% scaling
# 192 - 200% scaling
# 288 - 300% scaling
#
# -----
# Xft.dpi: 96
Xft.dpi: 192
# Xft.dpi: 144
# Xft.dpi: 288
```

Install GTK themes

After installing `X` implementation, it's optional to install different `GTK themes`. Those themes can make the GUI application looks more nice.

`GTK` (The GIMP Toolkit) was initially made by the `GNU` Project for GIMP, but it is now a very popular toolkit with bindings for many languages.

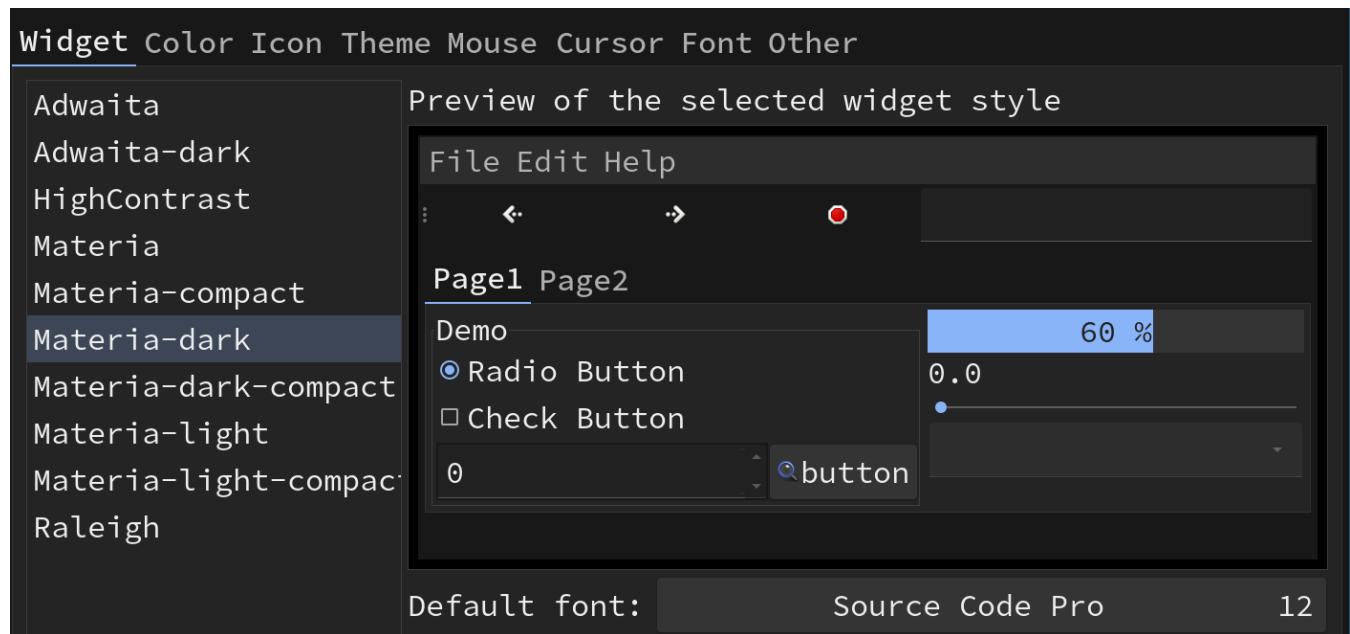
- Install themes and configuration tools

```
sudo pacman -Sy lxappearance materia-gtk-theme
```

After installing, all the themes are located in `/usr/share/themes/`

- Run the configuration tool to pick the theme you like

```
lxappearance
```



The `Materia-dark` + `Source Code Pro` font would be a nice choice.

You can find more GTK themes at [here](#).

Install Google Chrome

- Install via `yay`

```
pacman -S --needed git base-devel
mkdir ~/temp && cd ~/temp
git clone https://aur.archlinux.org/yay.git
cd yay
makepkg -si
cd ~/temp && rm -rf yay

yay -S google-chrome
```

- Apply the selected theme in `lxappearance`:

- Open `chrome` with this url: `chrome://settings/?search=theme`
- Then choose `Use GTK+`

- Install `xdg-utils` and set `Chrome` as the default browser

```
sudo pacman -Sy xdg-utils

# Set `chrome` as the default browser
xdg-settings set default-web-browser google-chrome.desktop

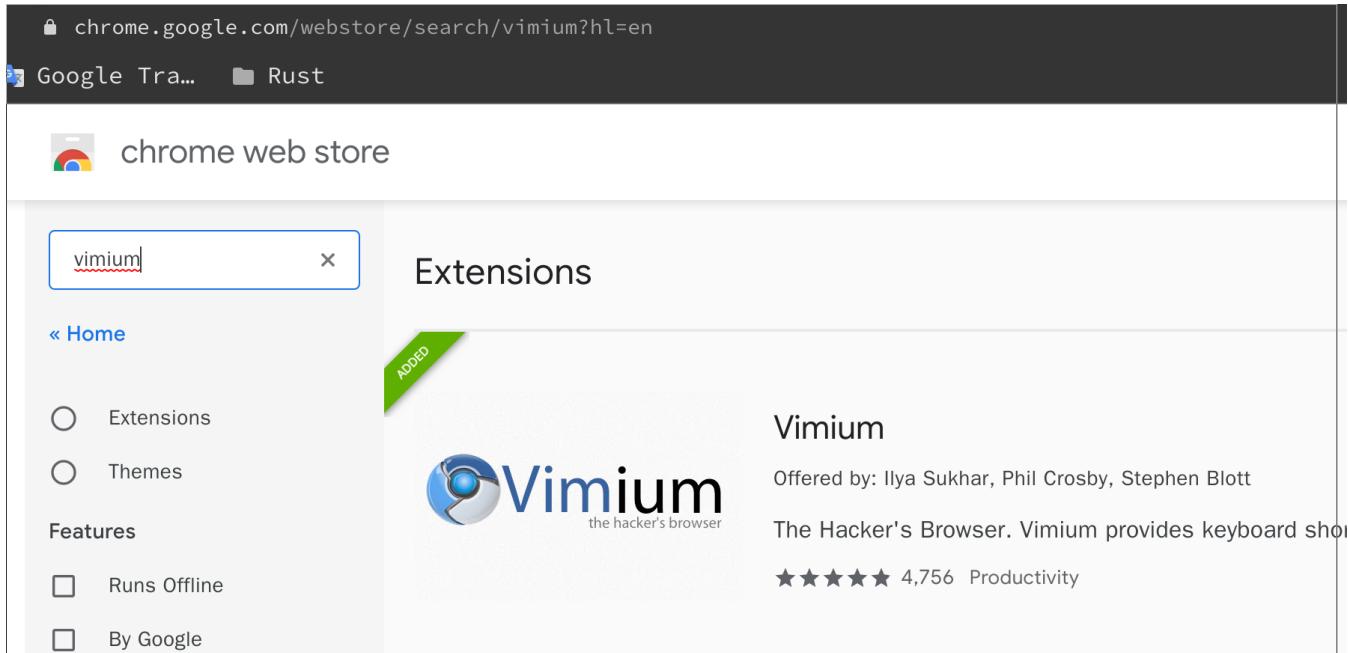
# Query to confirm
xdg-settings get default-web-browser
```

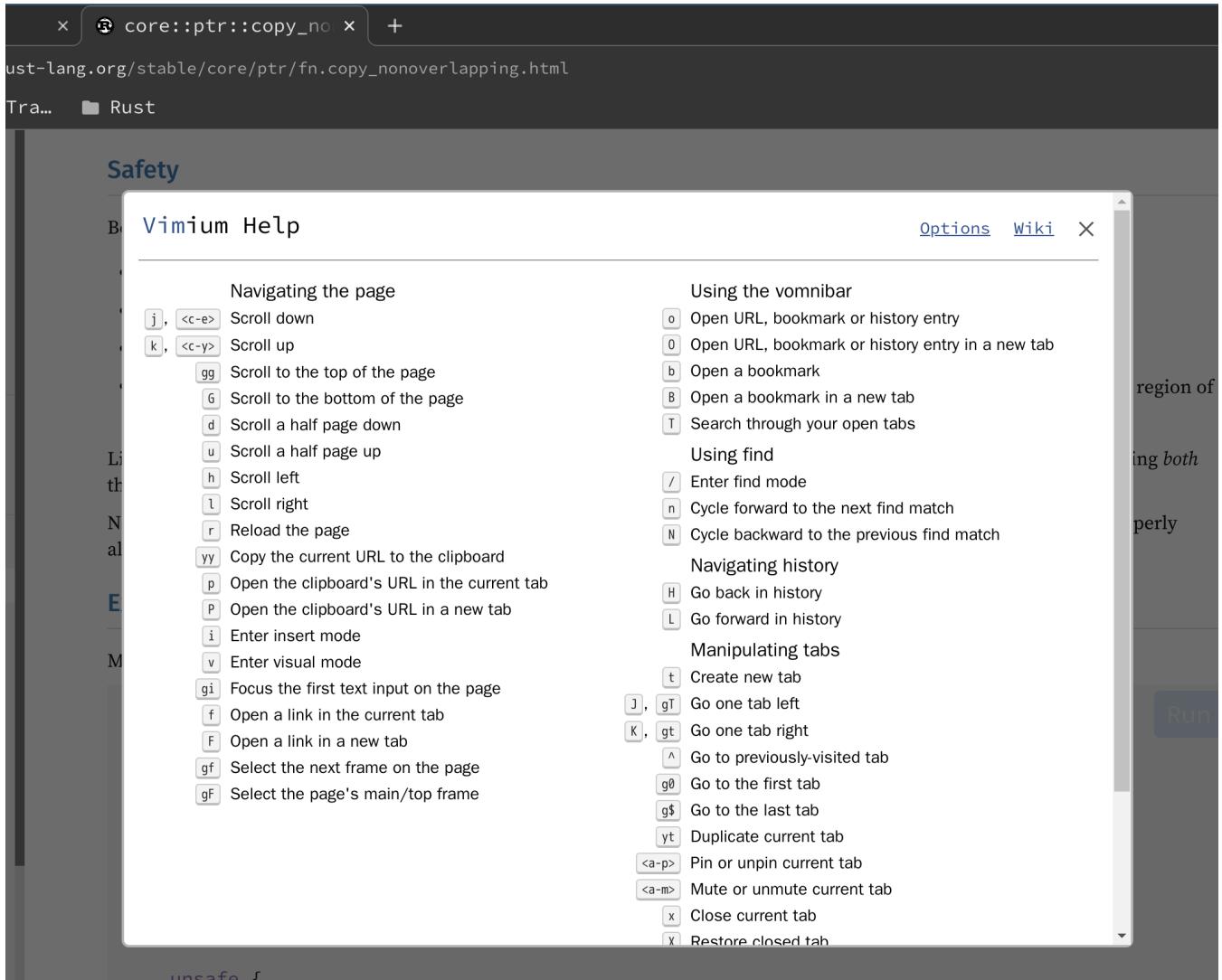
Tips: All installed GUI application links located in `/usr/share/applications/`.

Useful vim plugins

- `vimium`

Open `Chrome web store` and search `vimium` and install it, enjoy the super convenience.





- **firenvim**

`firenvim` allows you to use `nvim` inside the browser!!!

- Install `firenvim`

```
Plug 'glacambre/firenvim', { 'do': { _ -> firenvim#install(0) } }
```

- Install `firenvim` chrome plugin

Open `Chrome web store` and search `firenvim` and install it.

[Home](#) > [Extensions](#) > [Firenvim](#)



Firenvim

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★★★★★ 11

[Developer Tools](#)

1,000+ users

- `firenvim` settings:

```
" -----
-----
" 'glacambre/firenvim'
" -----



let g:firenvim_config = {
    \ 'globalSettings': {
        \ 'alt': 'all',
    \ },
    \ 'localSettings': {
        \ '.*': {
            \ ' cmdline': 'neovim',
            \ 'content': 'text',
            \ 'priority': 0,
            \ 'selector': 'textarea',
            \ 'takeover': 'always',
        \ },
    \ }
\ }

" Disable `firenvim` for the particular website
let fc = g:firenvim_config['localSettings']
" let fc['https?://[^/]+\.co\.uk/'] = { 'takeover': 'never',
'priority': 1 }
let fc['https?://twitter.com/'] = { 'takeover': 'never',
'priority': 1 }
let fc['https?://twitter.tv/'] = { 'takeover': 'never',
'priority': 1 }

" Change `firenvim` file type to enable syntax highlight, `coc`
works perfectly
" after this settings!!!
autocmd BufEnter github.com_*.txt set filetype=markdown
autocmd BufEnter txti.es_*.txt set filetype=typescript
```

```
" Increase the font size to solve the `text too small` issue
function! s:IsFirenvimActive(event) abort
    if !exists('*nvim_get_chan_info')
        return 0
    endif
    let l:ui = nvim_get_chan_info(a:event.chan)
    return has_key(l:ui, 'client') && has_key(l:ui.client,
'name') &&
        \ l:ui.client.name =~? 'Firenvim'
endfunction

function! OnUIEnter(event) abort
    if s:IsFirenvimActive(a:event)
        " Disable the status bar
        set laststatus=0

        " Increase the font size
        set guifont=SauceCodePro\ Nerd\ Font:h18
    endif
endfunction

autocmd UIEnter * call OnUIEnter(deepcopy(v:event))
```

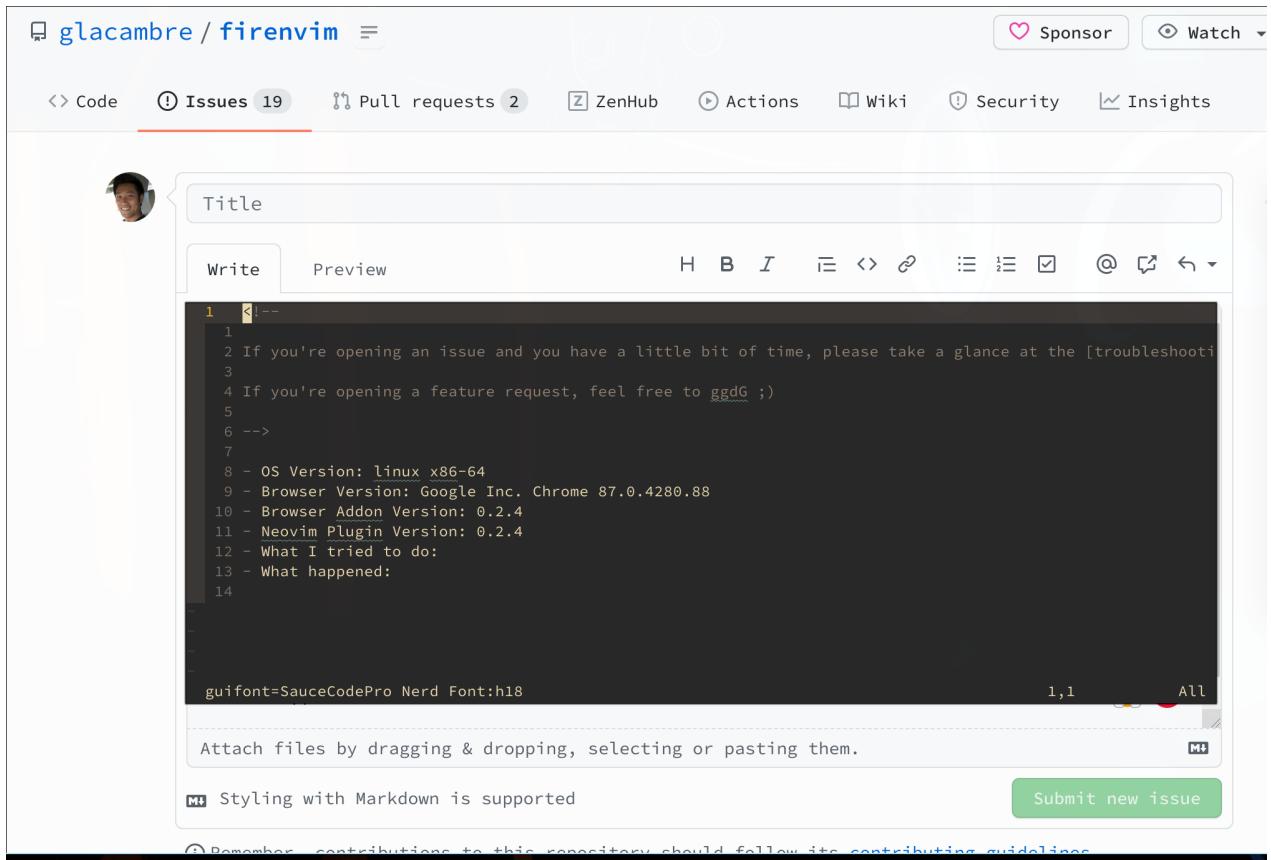
As you can see above, you need to run the `set guifont` command to fix the `text too small` issue when running `firenvim` inside `Chrome`. The important thing is that:

- This will work for `firenvim`:

```
set guifont=SauceCodePro\ Nerd\ Font:h18
```

- This will NOT work for `firenvim`:

```
set guifont=SauceCodePro\ Nerd\ Font\ 18
```



The screenshot above shows the correct font setting when running `set guifont?` inside the `firenvim`.

Install i3 Window Manager

A window manager (`WM`) is system software that controls the placement and appearance of windows within a windowing system in a graphical user interface (GUI). It can be part of a desktop environment (`DE`) or be used standalone.

We will install a `Tiling` window manager which calls `i3`.

- How to install

```
sudo pacman -Sy i3 dmenu

# It will ask you what selection you want like below:
#
# 1) i3-gaps 2) i3-wm 3) i3block 4) i3lock 5) i3status
#
# Enter a selection (default=al): // Just enter to access all of
them!!!
```

Then we need one more component from [AUR](#) `:

```
yay -Sy i3exit
```

Component	Description
i3-gaps	Provides a gap between different tiling windows.
i3-wm	The core component.
i3block	Defines blocks for your i3bar status line.
i3lock	Improved screenlocker based upon XCB and PAM.
i3status	Generates status bar to use with i3bar, dzen2 or xmobar.
i3exit	A easy to do <code>shutdown</code> , <code>reboot</code> , <code>lock</code> in i3 environment.

- Let `lightdm` to start `i3`

After finishing install the `i3`, the new `X` session already been added to `/usr/share/xsessions`.

What you need to do just add that `i3.desktop` to `/etc/lightdm/lightdm.conf` like below:

```
user-session=i3

# Logout to take effect
i3exit logout
```

- How to run some scripts or programs when `i3` reload?

Add the setting below to your `~/.config/i3/config`

```
# Run the command without delay  
exec_always YOUR_COMMAND_HERE  
  
# Sleep 1 second then run the command  
exec_always sleep 1; YOUR_COMMAND_HERE
```

change wallpaper

```
sudo pacman -S feh
```

Download wallpaper you like and then add the following setting to

```
~/.config/i3/config
```

```
exec_always feh --bg--file YOUR_WALLPAPER_FULL_PATH_FILE_NAME
```

Restart `i3` then you should be able to see the new wallpaper.

icon font support

```
sudo pacman -S ttf-font-awesome
```

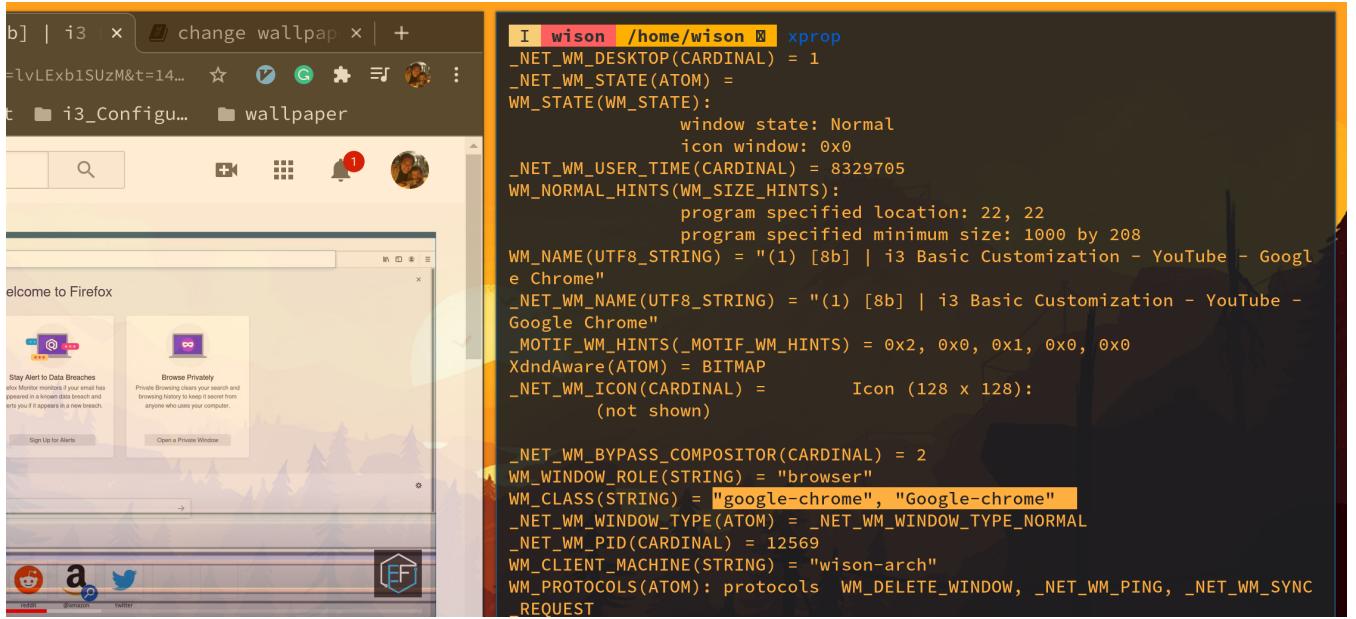
After that, open <https://fontawesome.com/cheatsheet> and copy any icon, then you can paste into any configuration file directly. You need to relogin to take effect.

window customization

- How to get the `Window Class`

Open the (application) window you want to get the class string name, and then open your terminal app side by side, then run `xprop`.

Right now, you can see the cursor become a `cross`, then click on the window, then you will get the result like below:



The highlight part is the `window class` string value, you can pick any one of them and assign to the `i3` configuration file to apply the window customization:

```
for_window [class="(?i)google-chrome"] border pixel 1
# for_window [class="Skype"] floating enable border normal
# for_window [class="(?i)virtualbox"] floating enable border normal
```

- Apply color setting to window

Replace all colors you want and reload `i3` to take effect.

```
# Window colors

set $bg_color          #E66B17
set $ibg_color          #551E22
set $border_color        #E66B17
set $text_color          #FFFFFF
set $itext_color         #000000
set $subg_color          #000000

#                                     border      background      text
indicator
client.focused           $border_color   $bg_color
$text_color    $bg_color
client.focused_inactive  $ibg_color     $ibg_color
$itext_color   $ibg_color
client.unfocused          $ibg_color     $ibg_color
$itext_color   $ibg_color
client.urgent             $subg_color    $subg_color
$text_color    $subg_color
# client.placeholder       #000000  #0c0c0c  #ffffff  #000000  #0c0c0c
```

bar customization

Preview:



- Copy the template to your home folder like below:

```
cp -rvf /etc/i3status.conf ~/.config/i3/i3status.conf
```

- Indicate the config file in `~/.config/i3/config`

```
status_command i3status --config ~/.config/i3/i3status.conf
```

That means run the `i3status --config ~/.config/i3/i3status.conf` command and get back the standard output as the status bar content.

- Here is the `i3status.config` sample with comment

You need to restart `i3` to take effect after changing this file.

The icon below you can copy from <https://fontawesome.com/cheatsheet>

```
general {  
    # `false` to use the bar color by default  
    colors = false  
    # All commands refresh interval in seconds  
    interval = 2  
}  
  
order += "wireless _first_"  
order += "ethernet _first_"  
order += "battery 0"  
order += "disk /"  
order += "memory"  
order += "volume master"  
order += "tztime local"  
  
wireless _first_ {  
    format_up = "📡 %essid"  
    format_down = ""  
}  
  
ethernet _first_ {  
    format_up = "🔗(%speed)"  
    format_down = ""  
}  
  
battery 0 {  
    format = "🔋 %status %percentage"  
    format_down = "⚡"  
    status_bat = ""  
    status_chr = "⚡"  
    status_full = "🔋 "  
}  
  
disk "/" {  
    # format = "💽 %avail"  
    format = "💽 [ %free / %total ]"  
    prefix_type = "custom"
```

```
}
```

```
memory {
    format = "█ %used / %total"
    memory_used_method = "memavailable"
}
```

```
volume master {
    format = "🔊 %volume"
    format_muted = "🔇"
    device = "default"
    mixer = "Master"
    mixer_idx = 0
}
```

```
tztime local {
    format = "⌚ %Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S "
}
```

- Extra `bar` customization with comment

```
#  
=====  
  
# i3 status control  
  
#  
# Start i3bar to display a workspace bar (plus the system information  
i3status  
# finds out, if available)  
  
#  
=====  
  
set $bar_bg_color          #1C1C1CD9  
set $bar_text_color        #FFFFFFCC  
set $bar_itext_color       #616161  
set $bar_ws_bg_color       #551E22  
set $bar_ws_bg_color_2     #E66B17  
set $bar_separator_color   #E66B17  
  
bar {  
    # Run the `i3status` command and get back the standard output as  
    # the bar content  
    status_command i3status --config ~/.config/i3/i3status.conf  
  
    # Bar transparent effect  
    # Even enabled this flag, you still need to apply the  
    "transparency hex" value to  
    # the bar color for getting the real transparency effect. You can  
    # find the hex code  
    # from here:  
    # https://gist.github.com/lopspower/03fb1cc0ac9f32ef38f4  
    i3bar_command i3bar --transparency  
  
    # Stay on the top/bottom  
    position    top  
  
    # Render to the primary screen only  
    output     primary
```

```
# Hide the application icon tray area (which always stay on the
most-right)
tray_output none
# tray_output primary

#
font pango:SourceCodePro 10
# font pango:monospace 10

# The separator
# separator_symbol    "|"
separator_symbol    " + "

# Workspace
workspace_buttons yes
workspace_min_width 25
# strip_workspace_numbers yes
# binding_mode_indicator no
colors {
    background   $bar_bg_color
    statusline   $bar_text_color
    separator    $bar_separator_color

    focused_workspace  $bar_ws_bg_color_2  $bar_ws_bg_color_2
$bar_text_color      $bar_ws_bg_color_2
    active_workspace   $bar_ws_bg_color_2  $bar_ws_bg_color_2
$bar_itext_color     $bar_ws_bg_color_2
    inactive_workspace $bar_ws_bg_color      $bar_ws_bg_color
$bar_itext_color     $bar_ws_bg_color
    urgent_workspace   $bar_ws_bg_color      $bar_ws_bg_color
$bar_text_color      $bar_ws_bg_color
}
}
```

bar customization with i3blocks

`i3status` is simple, but you can get more flexible status output with `i3blocks`, as `i3blocks` allows you to run different script/program for each part you want to display on the status bar.

For example:

You can customize the output with different status and icon based on the `acpi -b` program result:

```
# Run `acpi -b` when charging
Battery 0: Charging, 72%, 00:31:20 until charged

# Run `acpi -b` when discharging
Battery 0: Discharging, 71%, 03:36:05 remaining
```

So, you can use different awesome font icon to show different status.

Let's step-by-step to make that happen.

- Use `i3blocks` as the `status_line_command`

Copy the configuration template to your home folder like below:

```
cp -rvf /etc/i3blocks.conf ~/.config/i3
```

`vim ~/.config/i3/config` and change the line below:

```
bar {
    # Run the `i3block` command and get back the standard
    # output as the bar content
    status_command i3blocks -c ~/.config/i3/i3blocks.conf
}
```

Reload `i3`, the new status content should be displayed on the right-top on your screen.

- Configuration

`i3blocks.conf` is super simple, plz have a look:

```
[test]
# You can define any property you want, and the property will become
# the
# environment variable in the `command` line
my_var="(You look great today:)"

# The command you want to run, the result will show to the status bar
command=echo "OMG $my_var"

# Command running interval settings:
# `once`: only run once, then never run
# `x`: run per `x` second to refresh the content
interval=once
```

That's it, super simple!!!:)

Bar customization with polybar

- Install

```
yay -S polybar
```

- Copy the default config to your home folder like below:

```
mkdir ~/.config/polybar
cp -rvf /usr/share/doc/polybar/config ./polybar/
```

Also, make sure to change the `[bar/example]` to `[bar/i3-bar]` in `~/.config/polybar/config`.

- Create `~/scripts/restart-polybar.sh` with the following content:

```
#!/usr/bin/bash

killall polybar

while pgrep -x > /dev/null; do sleep 1; done

polybar i3-bar
```

- Make some changes to `~/.config/i3/config`

- Add this:

```
# Load polybar
exec_always --no-startup-id ~/scripts/restart-polybar.sh &
```

- Remove all related settings about the `i3 status bar`

```
#
=====
# i3 status control
#
# Start i3bar to display a workspace bar (plus the system
# information i3status
# finds out, if available)
#
=====

bar {
    # .....
}
```

i3 config sample with comment

Here is the fully comment `i3` configuration sample file:

```
#  
=====  
  
# Set `$mod` to `Mod4` (WinKey or CmdKey)  
#  
=====  
  
set $mod Mod4  
set $alt Mod1  
  
#  
=====  
  
# This font is widely installed, provides lots of unicode glyphs, right-to-left  
# text rendering and scalability on retina/hidpi displays (thanks to pango).  
# font pango:DejaVu Sans Mono 8  
#  
=====  
  
font pango:SauceCodePro Nerd Font 11  
  
#  
=====  
  
# Start up programs  
#  
=====  
  
# Set keyboard repeat rate: 200ms for the first delay, 40Hz for repeat rate  
exec --no-startup-id xset r rate 200 40  
  
# xss-lock grabs a logind suspend inhibit lock and will use i3lock to lock the screen before suspend. Use logind lock-session to lock your screen.  
# exec --no-startup-id xss-lock --transfer-sleep-lock -- i3lock --nofork  
  
# NetworkManager is the most popular way to manage wireless networks on Linux,  
# and nm-applet is a desktop environment-independent system tray GUI for it.  
# exec --no-startup-id nm-applet  
  
# Load my custom keymapping  
exec_always sleep 1; xmodmap ~/.Xmodmap  
  
# Load compton renderer. After `compton` runs, `xsetroot -solid 'color'` won't work!!!
```

```
exec_always compton --active-opacity 0.99 --inactive-opacity 0.9

# Load polybar
# exec_always --no-startup-id ~/scripts/restart-polybar.sh &

# Load chinese input method
# exec_always fcitx

# Enable notification server
exec --no-startup-id dunst -config ~/.config/dunst/dunstrc

# Load wallpaper
exec_always feh --bg-scale ~/Photos/wallpaper/tron-2.png
# exec_always feh --bg-scale ~/Photos/wallpaper/arch-2.png

#
=====

# Audio and volume control
#
=====

# Use pactl to adjust volume in PulseAudio.
set $refresh_i3status killall -SIGUSR1 i3status
bindsym XF86AudioRaiseVolume exec --no-startup-id pactl set-sink-volume
@DEFAULT_SINK@ +5% && $refresh_i3status
bindsym XF86AudioLowerVolume exec --no-startup-id pactl set-sink-volume
@DEFAULT_SINK@ -5% && $refresh_i3status
bindsym XF86AudioMute exec --no-startup-id pactl set-sink-mute
@DEFAULT_SINK@ toggle && $refresh_i3status
bindsym XF86AudioMicMute exec --no-startup-id pactl set-source-mute
@DEFAULT_SOURCE@ toggle && $refresh_i3status

#
=====

# Screen brightness control
#
=====

bindsym XF86MonBrightnessUp exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/mac-light-
controller Screen +
bindsym XF86MonBrightnessDown exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/mac-light-
controller Screen -
bindsym XF86KbdBrightnessUp exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/mac-light-
controller Keyboard +
bindsym XF86KbdBrightnessDown exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/mac-light-
controller Keyboard -
```

```
#  
=====  
  
# Special key mapping  
#  
=====  
  
# `cmd+c` -> `ctrl+c` (Copy)  
# bindsym --release $mod+c exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --  
clearmodifiers ctrl+c  
  
# `cmd+v` -> `ctrl+v` (Paste)  
# bindsym --release $mod+v exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --  
clearmodifiers ctrl+v  
  
# `cmd+f` -> `ctrl+f` (Find)  
# bindsym --release $mod+f exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --  
clearmodifiers ctrl+f  
  
# `cmd+t` -> `ctrl+t` (Open new tab)  
# bindsym --release $mod+t exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --  
clearmodifiers ctrl+t  
  
# `cmd+w` -> `ctrl+w` (Close current tab)  
# bindsym --release $mod+w exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --  
clearmodifiers ctrl+w  
  
#  
=====  
  
# Window Navigation (Vim style)  
#  
=====  
  
set $up k  
set $down j  
set $left h  
set $right l  
  
# Change window focus by HJKL  
bindsym $mod+$left focus left  
bindsym $mod+$down focus down  
bindsym $mod+$up focus up  
bindsym $mod+$right focus right  
  
# Change window focus by arrow key  
bindsym $mod+Left focus left  
bindsym $mod+Down focus down  
bindsym $mod+Up focus up
```

```

bindsym $mod+Right focus right

# Move focused window by HJKL
bindsym $mod+Shift+$left move left
bindsym $mod+Shift+$down move down
bindsym $mod+Shift+$up move up
bindsym $mod+Shift+$right move right

# Move focused window by arrow key
bindsym $mod+Shift+Left move left
bindsym $mod+Shift+Down move down
bindsym $mod+Shift+Up move up
bindsym $mod+Shift+Right move right

# kill focused window
bindsym $mod+q kill

#
=====

# Resize window
#
=====

# resize window (you can also use the mouse for that)
set $resize_unit 5
mode "resize" {
    # These bindings trigger as soon as you enter the resize mode

    # Pressing left will shrink the window's width.
    # Pressing right will grow the window's width.
    # Pressing up will shrink the window's height.
    # Pressing down will grow the window's height.
    bindsym $left      resize shrink width $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
    bindsym $down      resize grow height $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
    bindsym $up        resize shrink height $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
    bindsym $right     resize grow width $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt

    # back to normal: Enter or Escape
    bindsym Return mode "default"
    bindsym Escape mode "default"
}
bindsym Shift+$mod+r mode "resize"

#
=====
```

```
=====
# Layout control
#
=====

# Toggle fullscreen on current focused window
# bindsym Control+$mod+f fullscreen toggle
bindsym $mod+f fullscreen toggle

# use Mouse+$mod to drag floating windows to their wanted position
floating_modifier $mod

# toggle tiling / floating
bindsym $mod+Shift+space floating toggle

# change container layout (stacked, tabbed, toggle split)
# bindsym $mod+s layout stacking
# bindsym $mod+w layout tabbed
# bindsym $mod+e layout toggle split
bindsym $mod+e layout toggle tabbed split

# split in horizontal orientation
# bindsym $mod+h split h

# split toggle between splith and splitv
bindsym $mod+v split toggle

# Open window Mode: Open specified layout of windows based on the number
mode "Open multiple windows in the specific layout" {
    # Pressing left will shrink the window's width.
    # Pressing right will grow the window's width.
    # Pressing up will shrink the window's height.
    # Pressing down will grow the window's height.
    # bindsym $left      resize shrink width $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
    # bindsym $down      resize grow height $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
    # bindsym $up       resize shrink height $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
    # bindsym $right     resize grow width $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
    bindsym 2 exec ~/scripts/2w.sh; mode "default"
    bindsym 3 exec ~/scripts/3w.sh; mode "default"

    # back to normal: Enter or Escape
    bindsym Return mode "default"
    bindsym Escape mode "default"
}
bindsym Shift+$mod+o mode "Open multiple windows in the specific layout"
```

```
#  
=====  
  
# Workspace control  
#  
=====  
  
# Workspace name 1 ~ 10  
set $ws1 "1"  
set $ws2 "2"  
set $ws3 "3"  
set $ws4 "4"  
set $ws5 "5"  
set $ws6 "6"  
set $ws7 "7"  
set $ws8 "8"  
set $ws9 "9"  
# set $ws10 "10"  
  
# Switch to workspace  
bindsym $mod+1 workspace number $ws1  
bindsym $mod+2 workspace number $ws2  
bindsym $mod+3 workspace number $ws3  
bindsym $mod+4 workspace number $ws4  
bindsym $mod+5 workspace number $ws5  
bindsym $mod+6 workspace number $ws6  
bindsym $mod+7 workspace number $ws7  
bindsym $mod+8 workspace number $ws8  
bindsym $mod+9 workspace number $ws9  
# bindsym $mod+0 workspace number $ws10  
  
# Move focused window to particular workspace  
bindsym $mod+Shift+1 move container to workspace number $ws1  
bindsym $mod+Shift+2 move container to workspace number $ws2  
bindsym $mod+Shift+3 move container to workspace number $ws3  
bindsym $mod+Shift+4 move container to workspace number $ws4  
bindsym $mod+Shift+5 move container to workspace number $ws5  
bindsym $mod+Shift+6 move container to workspace number $ws6  
bindsym $mod+Shift+7 move container to workspace number $ws7  
bindsym $mod+Shift+8 move container to workspace number $ws8  
bindsym $mod+Shift+9 move container to workspace number $ws9  
bindsym $mod+Shift+0 move container to workspace number $ws10
```

```
# Program launch shortcuts
#
=====

# Terminal
bindsym $mod+Return exec alacritty

# Browser
set $browser google-chrome-stable
bindsym $mod+b exec $browser

# Open file manager
# bindsym $mod+f exec "pcmanfm --new-win $(pwd) &"

# Open ranger
bindsym $mod+r exec "alacritty --command ranger"

# Take screenshot
bindsym --release $alt+$mod+p exec "scrot -s ~/Screenshots/screenshot-$(date +%F_%T).png -e 'xclip -selection c -t image/png < $f'"
bindsym Control+$mod+p exec "scrot ~/Screenshots/screenshot-$(date +%F_%T).png -e 'xclip -selection c -t image/png < $f'"

# start dmenu (a program launcher)
#
# There also is the (new) i3-dmenu-desktop which only displays applications
# shipping a .desktop file. It is a wrapper around dmenu, so you need that
# installed.
# bindsym $mod+d exec --no-startup-id i3-dmenu-desktop
# bindsym $mod+d exec dmenu_run
# bindsym $mod+d exec dmenu_run
bindsym $alt+space exec --no-startup-id i3-dmenu-desktop

# reload the configuration file
# bindsym $mod+Shift+c reload
# restart i3 inplace (preserves your layout/session, can be used to upgrade i3)
# bindsym $mod+Shift+r restart
# exit i3 (logs you out of your X session)
bindsym $mod+Shift+e exec "i3-nagbar -t warning -m 'You pressed the exit shortcut. Do you really want to exit i3? This will end your X session.' -B 'Yes, exit i3' 'i3-msg exit'"

# Toggle `screenkey`
bindsym $mod+s exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/toggle-screenkey.sh

# Launch WxWork
```

```
bindsym $mod+w exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/wechat_work.sh

# Zoom
bindsym $mod+z exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/startzoom.sh

#
=====

# Force some launch programs open in floating mode or control window open style
#
=====

# Make sure dialog window not outside of screen!
floating_maximum_size 1920 x 1080

for_window [class="(?i)google-chrome"] border pixel 1
for_window [class="(?i)vlc"] border pixel 1
# for_window [class="(?i)4kvideodownloader-bin"] floating enable border pixel 1
for_window [class="(?i)VirtualBox Machine"] floating enable
for_window [class="(?i)VirtualBox Manager"] floating enable
for_window [title="^4K Video Downloader"] floating enable
for_window [title="SimpleScreenRecord"] floating enable border pixel 1
for_window [class="(?i)wxwork.exe"] floating enable border pixel 1
for_window [class="(?i)slack"] floating enable border pixel 1
for_window [title="^Firewall Configuration"] floating enable
for_window [title="^glxgears"] floating enable
for_window [class="(?i)zoom"] floating enable

# for_window [window_type="dialog"] floating enable border pixel 1
# for_window [class="Skype"] floating enable border normal
# for_window [class="(?i)virtualbox"] floating enable border normal

#
=====

# Display styles control
#
=====

# Thin border
for_window [class="^.*"] border 1pixel
new_window 1pixel

# With gaps
gaps inner 10
```

```

# Window colors

# Light blue
set $bg_color          #ACE6FE
set $ibg_color          #014775

set $border_color        #ACE6FE
set $text_color          #1C1C1C
set $itext_color         #FFFFFF
set $subg_color          #000000

#                                     border      background      text
indicator
client.focused           $border_color   $bg_color       $text_color
$bg_color
client.focused_inactive  $ibg_color     $ibg_color     $itext_color
$ibg_color
client.unfocused          $ibg_color     $ibg_color     $itext_color
$ibg_color
client.urgent              $subg_color    $subg_color    $text_color
$subg_color
# client.placeholder        #000000  #0c0c0c  #ffffff  #000000  #0c0c0c

# -----
# i3 status control
#
# Start i3bar to display a workspace bar (plus the system information
i3status
# finds out, if available)
#
# -----


set $bar_bg_color          #1C1C1CD9
set $bar_text_color         #FFFFFFFC
set $bar_itext_color        #000000CC
set $bar_ws_text_color      #1C1C1CD9
set $bar_ws_bg_color        #274650
set $bar_ws_bg_color_2      #7ab4cb
set $bar_separator_color    #7ab4cb

bar {
    # Run the `i3block` command and get back the standard output as the
bar content
    status_command i3status -c ~/.config/i3/i3status.conf
    # status_command i3blocks -c ~/.config/i3/i3blocks.conf

    # Bar transparent effect
    # Even enabled this flag, you still need to apply the "transparency"

```

```
hex" value to
    # the bar color for getting the real transparency effect. You can
find the hex code
    # from here:
    # https://gist.github.com/lopspower/03fb1cc0ac9f32ef38f4
i3bar_command i3bar --transparency

    # Stay on the top/bottom
    position    top

    # Render to the primary screen only
    output    primary

    # Hide the application icon tray area (which always stay on the most-
right)
    # tray_output none
tray_output primary

#
font pango:SauceCodePro Nerd Font 10
# font pango:monospace 10

# The separator
# separator_symbol    "|"
separator_symbol    "·"
# separator_symbol    "::"

# Workspace
workspace_buttons    yes
workspace_min_width 25
# strip_workspace_numbers yes
# binding_mode_indicator no
colors {
    background    $bar_bg_color
    statusline    $bar_text_color
    separator    $bar_separator_color

        focused_workspace    $bar_ws_bg_color_2    $bar_ws_bg_color_2
$bar_ws_text_color    $bar_ws_bg_color_2
        active_workspace    $bar_ws_bg_color_2    $bar_ws_bg_color_2
$bar_itext_color    $bar_ws_bg_color_2
        inactive_workspace $bar_ws_bg_color    $bar_ws_bg_color
$bar_itext_color    $bar_ws_bg_color
        urgent_workspace    $bar_ws_bg_color    $bar_ws_bg_color
$bar_text_color    $bar_ws_bg_color
    }
}

# =====
```

```

# System control
#
=====

set $mode_system System (l) Lock, (o) Logout, (r) Reboot, (Shift+s) Shutdown
mode "$mode_system" {
    bindsym l exec --no-startup-id i3exit lock, mode "default"
    bindsym o exec --no-startup-id i3exit logout, mode "default"
    bindsym r exec --no-startup-id i3exit reboot, mode "default"
    bindsym Shift+s exec --no-startup-id i3exit shutdown, mode "default"
    bindsym Return mode "default"
    bindsym Escape mode "default"
}

bindsym $mod+0 mode "$mode_system"

#
=====

# Unknow purpose yet
#
=====

# move the currently focused window to the scratchpad
bindsym $mod+Shift+minus move scratchpad

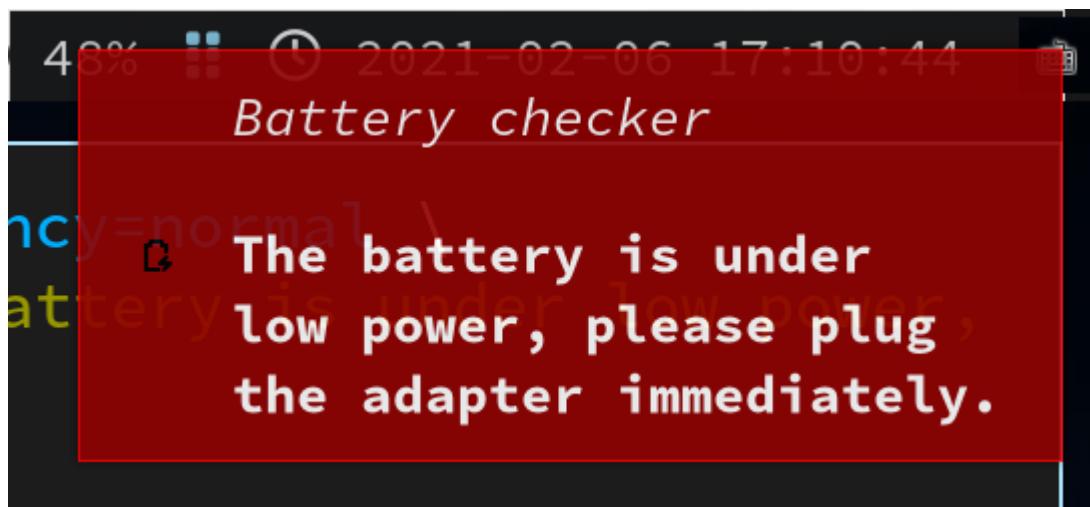
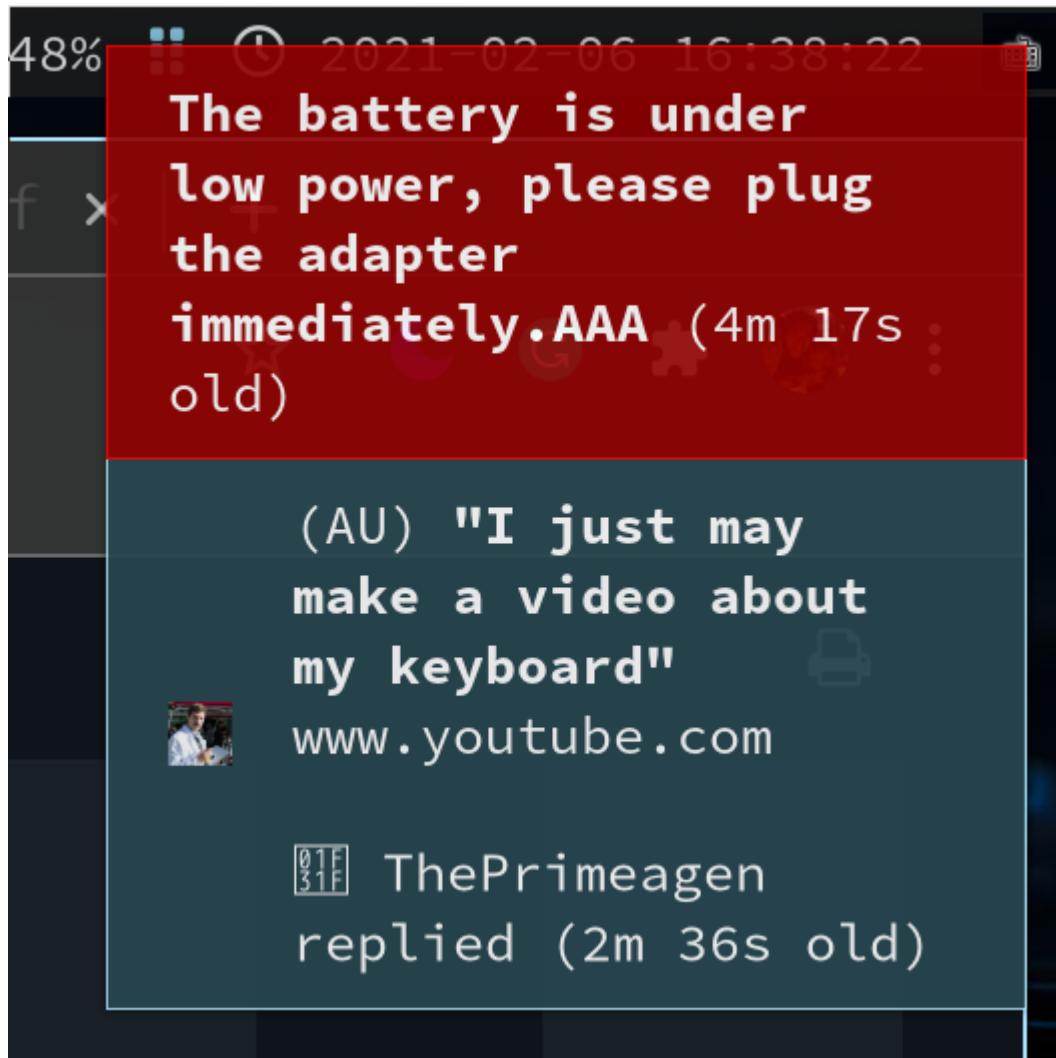
# Show the next scratchpad window or hide the focused scratchpad window.
# If there are multiple scratchpad windows, this command cycles through them.
bindsym $mod+minus scratchpad show

#####
# automatically start i3-config-wizard to offer the user to create a
# keysym-based config which used their favorite modifier (alt or windows)
#
# i3-config-wizard will not launch if there already is a config file
# in ~/.config/i3/config (or $XDG_CONFIG_HOME/i3/config if set) or
# ~/i3/config.
#
# Please remove the following exec line:
#####
exec i3-config-wizard

```

Notification

Preview:



Desktop Notification allows user send custom notification to the **DE/WM**. It needs two parts:

- Notification Server

dunst is a customizable and lightweight notification-daemon.

```
sudo pacman --sync --refresh dunst
```

- Notification client (program)

notify-send is a built-in program to send desktop notifications.

Custom configuration

- Copy the template to your home folder like below:

```
cp -rvf /usr/share/dunst ~/.config
```

- Launch it in **i3** session

`vim ~/.config/i3/config` with the following settings:

```
# Enable notification server
exec --no-startup-id dunst
```

- Here is the `~/.config/dunst/dunstrc` sample with comment

You need to kill the existing process and restart **i3** like below to take effect after changing this file.

```
killall dunst && i3-msg restart
```



```
# The geometry of the window:  
#   [{width}]{height}[+/-{x}+/-{y}]  
# The geometry of the message window.  
# The height is measured in number of notifications everything else  
# in pixels. If the width is omitted but the height is given  
# ("geometry x2"), the message window expands over the whole screen  
# (dmenu-like). If width is 0, the window expands to the longest  
# message displayed. A positive x is measured from the left, a  
# negative from the right side of the screen. Y is measured from  
# the top and down respectively.  
# The width can be negative. In this case the actual width is the  
# screen width minus the width defined in within the geometry option.  
geometry = "500x5-20+20"  
  
# Show how many messages are currently hidden (because of geometry).  
indicate_hidden = yes  
  
# Shrink window if it's smaller than the width. Will be ignored if  
# width is 0.  
shrink = true  
  
# The transparency of the window. Range: [0; 100].  
# This option will only work if a compositing window manager is  
# present (e.g. xcompmgr, compiz, etc.).  
transparency = 10  
  
# Padding between text and separator.  
padding = 15  
  
# Horizontal padding.  
horizontal_padding = 30  
  
# The height of the entire notification. If the height is smaller  
# than the font height and padding combined, it will be raised  
# to the font height and padding.  
notification_height = 0
```

```
# Draw a line of "separator_height" pixel height between two
# notifications.
# Set to 0 to disable.
separator_height = 1

# Padding between text and separator.
padding = 15

# Horizontal padding.
horizontal_padding = 30

# Defines width in pixels of frame around the notification window.
# Set to 0 to disable.
frame_width = 1

# Defines color of the frame around the notification window.
frame_color = "#ACE6FE"

# Font settings
font = SourceCodePro 10

# The spacing between lines. If the height is smaller than the
# font height, it will get raised to the font height.
line_height = 0

# Browser for opening urls in context menu.
browser = /usr/bin/google-chrome-stable

# Paths to default icons.
# Icons are set in the option icon_path. Status and devices icons are
needed.

# By default, Dunst looks for the `gnome-icon-theme` icons. For
example, to use
# `adwaita-icon-theme` (gnome-icon-theme's successor), instead:
icon_path =
/usr/share/icons/Adwaita/16x16/status/:/usr/share/icons/Adwaita/16x16/
```

- Test the notification:

- Use `notify-send`:

```
# Low urgency level
notify-send --urgency=low \
    "The battery is under low power, please plug the adapter
immediately."

# Normal urgency level
notify-send "The battery is under low power, please plug the
adapter immediately."
notify-send --urgency=normal \
    "The battery is under low power, please plug the adapter
immediately."

# Critical urgency level
notify-send --urgency=critical \
    "The battery is under low power, please plug the adapter
immediately."

# Use icon
notify-send --icon=battery-level-0-charging-symbolic.symbolic \
    "The battery is under low power, please plug the adapter
immediately."
```

- Use `dunstify`:

```
dunstify --appname="Battery checker" \
    --urgency=critical --icon=battery-level-0-charging-
symbolic.symbolic \
    "The battery is under low power, please plug the adapter
immediately."
```

i3 notification config sample

Here is the fully comment `notification` configuration sample file:

```
[global]
### Display ###

# Which monitor should the notifications be displayed on.
monitor = 0

# Display notification on focused monitor. Possible modes are:
#   mouse: follow mouse pointer
#   keyboard: follow window with keyboard focus
#   none: don't follow anything
#
# "keyboard" needs a window manager that exports the
# _NET_ACTIVE_WINDOW property.
# This should be the case for almost all modern window managers.
#
# If this option is set to mouse or keyboard, the monitor option
# will be ignored.
follow = mouse

# The geometry of the window:
#   [{width}]{x{height}[+/-{x}+/-{y}]}
# The geometry of the message window.
# The height is measured in number of notifications everything else
# in pixels. If the width is omitted but the height is given
# ("geometry x2"), the message window expands over the whole screen
# (dmenu-like). If width is 0, the window expands to the longest
# message displayed. A positive x is measured from the left, a
# negative from the right side of the screen. Y is measured from
# the top and down respectively.
# The width can be negative. In this case the actual width is the
# screen width minus the width defined in within the geometry option.
geometry = "500x5-20+20"

# Show how many messages are currently hidden (because of geometry).
indicate_hidden = yes

# Shrink window if it's smaller than the width. Will be ignored if
# width is 0.
shrink = true

# The transparency of the window. Range: [0; 100].
# This option will only work if a compositing window manager is
# present (e.g. xcompmgr, compiz, etc.).
transparency = 10

# The height of the entire notification. If the height is smaller
# than the font height and padding combined, it will be raised
# to the font height and padding.
notification_height = 0

# Draw a line of "separator_height" pixel height between two
```

```
# notifications.  
# Set to 0 to disable.  
separator_height = 1  
  
# Padding between text and separator.  
padding = 15  
  
# Horizontal padding.  
horizontal_padding = 30  
  
# Defines width in pixels of frame around the notification window.  
# Set to 0 to disable.  
frame_width = 1  
  
# Defines color of the frame around the notification window.  
frame_color = "#ACE6FE"  
  
# Define a color for the separator.  
# possible values are:  
#   * auto: dunst tries to find a color fitting to the background;  
#   * foreground: use the same color as the foreground;  
#   * frame: use the same color as the frame;  
#   * anything else will be interpreted as a X color.  
separator_color = frame  
  
# Sort messages by urgency.  
sort = yes  
  
# Don't remove messages, if the user is idle (no mouse or keyboard  
input)  
# for longer than idle_threshold seconds.  
# Set to 0 to disable.  
# A client can set the 'transient' hint to bypass this. See the rules  
# section for how to disable this if necessary  
idle_threshold = 120  
  
### Text ###  
  
font = SauceCodePro Nerd Font 10  
  
# The spacing between lines. If the height is smaller than the  
# font height, it will get raised to the font height.  
line_height = 0  
  
# Possible values are:  
# full: Allow a small subset of html markup in notifications:  
#       <b>bold</b>  
#       <i>italic</i>  
#       <s>strikethrough</s>  
#       <u>underline</u>  
#
```

```
#           For a complete reference see
#           <https://developer.gnome.org/pango/stable/pango-
Markup.html>.
#
# strip: This setting is provided for compatibility with some broken
#        clients that send markup even though it's not enabled on the
#        server. Dunst will try to strip the markup but the parsing
is
#        simplistic so using this option outside of matching rules
for
#        specific applications *IS GREATLY DISCOURAGED*.
#
# no:    Disable markup parsing, incoming notifications will be
treated as
#        plain text. Dunst will not advertise that it has the body-
markup
#        capability if this is set as a global setting.
#
# It's important to note that markup inside the format option will be
parsed
# regardless of what this is set to.
markup = full

# The format of the message. Possible variables are:
# %a appname
# %s summary
# %b body
# %i iconname (including its path)
# %I iconname (without its path)
# %p progress value if set ([ 0%] to [100%]) or nothing
# %n progress value if set without any extra characters
# %% Literal %
# Markup is allowed
# format = "<b>%s</b>\n%b"
format = "<i>%a</i>\n\n<b>%s</b>\n%b"

# Alignment of message text.
# Possible values are "left", "center" and "right".
alignment = left

# Vertical alignment of message text and icon.
# Possible values are "top", "center" and "bottom".
vertical_alignment = center

# Show age of message if message is older than show_age_threshold
# seconds.
# Set to -1 to disable.
show_age_threshold = 60

# Split notifications into multiple lines if they don't fit into
# geometry.
```

```
word_wrap = yes

# When word_wrap is set to no, specify where to make an ellipsis in
long lines.
# Possible values are "start", "middle" and "end".
ellipsize = middle

# Ignore newlines '\n' in notifications.
ignore_newline = no

# Stack together notifications with the same content
stack_duplicates = true

# Hide the count of stacked notifications with the same content
hide_duplicate_count = false

# Display indicators for URLs (U) and actions (A).
show_indicators = yes

### Icons ###

# Align icons left/right/off
icon_position = left

# Scale small icons up to this size, set to 0 to disable. Helpful
# for e.g. small files or high-dpi screens. In case of conflict,
# max_icon_size takes precedence over this.
min_icon_size = 0

# Scale larger icons down to this size, set to 0 to disable
max_icon_size = 32

# Paths to default icons.
icon_path =
/usr/share/icons/Adwaita/16x16/status/:/usr/share/icons/Adwaita/16x16/devic

### History ###

# Should a notification popped up from history be sticky or timeout
# as if it would normally do.
sticky_history = yes

# Maximum amount of notifications kept in history
history_length = 20

### Misc/Advanced ###

# dmenu path.
dmenu = /usr/bin/dmenu -p dunst:
```

```
# Browser for opening urls in context menu.  
browser = /usr/bin/google-chrome-stable  
  
# Always run rule-defined scripts, even if the notification is  
# suppressed  
always_run_script = true  
  
# Define the title of the windows spawned by dunst  
title = Dunst  
  
# Define the class of the windows spawned by dunst  
class = Dunst  
  
# Print a notification on startup.  
# This is mainly for error detection, since dbus (re-)starts dunst  
# automatically after a crash.  
startup_notification = false  
  
# Manage dunst's desire for talking  
# Can be one of the following values:  
# crit: Critical features. Dunst aborts  
# warn: Only non-fatal warnings  
# mesg: Important Messages  
# info: all unimportant stuff  
# debug: all less than unimportant stuff  
verbosity = mesg  
  
# Define the corner radius of the notification window  
# in pixel size. If the radius is 0, you have no rounded  
# corners.  
# The radius will be automatically lowered if it exceeds half of the  
# notification height to avoid clipping text and/or icons.  
corner_radius = 0  
  
# Ignore the dbus closeNotification message.  
# Useful to enforce the timeout set by dunst configuration. Without  
this  
# parameter, an application may close the notification sent before  
the  
# user defined timeout.  
ignore_dbusclose = false  
  
### Legacy  
  
# Use the Xinerama extension instead of RandR for multi-monitor  
support.  
# This setting is provided for compatibility with older nVidia  
drivers that  
# do not support RandR and using it on systems that support RandR is  
highly  
# discouraged.
```

```
#  
# By enabling this setting dunst will not be able to detect when a  
monitor  
# is connected or disconnected which might break follow mode if the  
screen  
# layout changes.  
force_xinerama = false  
  
### mouse  
  
# Defines list of actions for each mouse event  
# Possible values are:  
# * none: Don't do anything.  
# * do_action: If the notification has exactly one action, or one is  
marked as default,  
#                 invoke it. If there are multiple and no default, open  
the context menu.  
# * close_current: Close current notification.  
# * close_all: Close all notifications.  
# These values can be strung together for each mouse event, and  
# will be executed in sequence.  
mouse_left_click = close_current  
mouse_middle_click = do_action, close_current  
mouse_right_click = close_all  
  
# Experimental features that may or may not work correctly. Do not expect  
them  
# to have a consistent behaviour across releases.  
[experimental]  
# Calculate the dpi to use on a per-monitor basis.  
# If this setting is enabled the Xft.dpi value will be ignored and  
instead  
# dunst will attempt to calculate an appropriate dpi value for each  
monitor  
# using the resolution and physical size. This might be useful in  
setups  
# where there are multiple screens with very different dpi values.  
per_monitor_dpi = false  
  
[shortcuts]  
  
# Shortcuts are specified as [modifier+][modifier+]...key  
# Available modifiers are "ctrl", "mod1" (the alt-key), "mod2",  
# "mod3" and "mod4" (windows-key).  
# Xev might be helpful to find names for keys.  
  
# Close notification.  
close = ctrl+space  
  
# Close all notifications.  
close_all = ctrl+shift+space
```

```
# Redisplay last message(s).
# On the US keyboard layout "grave" is normally above TAB and left
# of "1". Make sure this key actually exists on your keyboard layout,
# e.g. check output of 'xmodmap -pke'
history = ctrl+grave

# Context menu.
context = ctrl+shift+period

[urgency_low]
# IMPORTANT: colors have to be defined in quotation marks.
# Otherwise the "#" and following would be interpreted as a comment.
background = "#222222"
foreground = "#888888"
timeout = 10
# Icon for notifications with low urgency, uncomment to enable
#icon = /path/to/icon

[urgency_normal]
background = "#274650"
foreground = "#ffffff"
timeout = 10
# Icon for notifications with normal urgency, uncomment to enable
#icon = /path/to/icon

[urgency_critical]
background = "#900000"
foreground = "#ffffff"
frame_color = "#ff0000"
timeout = 0
# Icon for notifications with critical urgency, uncomment to enable
#icon = /path/to/icon

# Every section that isn't one of the above is interpreted as a rules to
# override settings for certain messages.
#
# Messages can be matched by
#   appname (discouraged, see desktop_entry)
#   body
#   category
#   desktop_entry
#   icon
#   match_transient
#   msg_urgency
#   stack_tag
#   summary
#
# and you can override the
#   background
#   foreground
```

```
#      format
#      frame_color
#      fullscreen
#      new_icon
#      set_stack_tag
#      set_transient
#      timeout
#      urgency
#
# Shell-like globbing will get expanded.
#
# Instead of the appname filter, it's recommended to use the
# desktop_entry filter.
# GLib based applications export their desktop-entry name. In comparison
# to the appname,
# the desktop-entry won't get localized.
#
# SCRIPTING
# You can specify a script that gets run when the rule matches by
# setting the "script" option.
# The script will be called as follows:
#   script appname summary body icon urgency
# where urgency can be "LOW", "NORMAL" or "CRITICAL".
#
# NOTE: if you don't want a notification to be displayed, set the format
# to "".
# NOTE: It might be helpful to run dunst -print in a terminal in order
# to find fitting options for rules.

# Disable the transient hint so that idle_threshold cannot be bypassed
# from the
# client
#[transient_disable]
#      match_transient = yes
#      set_transient = no
#
# Make the handling of transient notifications more strict by making them
# not
# be placed in history.
#[transient_history_ignore]
#      match_transient = yes
#      history_ignore = yes

# fullscreen values
# show: show the notifications, regardless if there is a fullscreen
# window opened
# delay: displays the new notification, if there is no fullscreen window
# active
#      If the notification is already drawn, it won't get undrawn.
# pushback: same as delay, but when switching into fullscreen, the
# notification will get
```

```
#           withdrawn from screen again and will get delayed like a new
notification
#[fullscreen_delay_everything]
#   fullscreen = delay
#[fullscreen_show_critical]
#   msg_urgency = critical
#   fullscreen = show

#[espeak]
#   summary = "*"
#   script = dunst_espeak.sh

#[script-test]
#   summary = "*script*"
#   script = dunst_test.sh

#[ignore]
#   # This notification will not be displayed
#   summary = "foobar"
#   format = ""

#[history-ignore]
#   # This notification will not be saved in history
#   summary = "foobar"
#   history_ignore = yes

#[skip-display]
#   # This notification will not be displayed, but will be included in
the history
#   summary = "foobar"
#   skip_display = yes

#[signed_on]
#   appname = Pidgin
#   summary = "*signed on*"
#   urgency = low
#
#[signed_off]
#   appname = Pidgin
#   summary = *signed off*
#   urgency = low
#
#[says]
#   appname = Pidgin
#   summary = *says*
#   urgency = critical
#
#[twitter]
#   appname = Pidgin
#   summary = *twitter.com*
#   urgency = normal
```

```
#  
#[stack-volumes]  
#    appname = "some_volume_notifiers"  
#    set_stack_tag = "volume"  
#  
# vim: ft=cfg
```

How to setup low-battery notifications

- `vim ~/scripts/check-battery.sh` with the following content:

```
#!/bin/bash

# Because `dunstify` needs the `dbus-daemon` to send the
notification,
# that's why we need to have the below settings.
#
# `DBUS_SESSION_BUS_ADDRESS` helps the `dbus-daemon` to use the
existing
# running session rather than fork the new one!!!
#
# Otherwise, you will see a lot of forked `dbus-daemon` processes
under the
# `CGroup: /system.slice/cronie.service` when checking the service
like below:
#
# `systemctl status cronie.service`
export DISPLAY=:0
export DBUS_SESSION_BUS_ADDRESS="unix:path=/run/user/1000/bus"

#Check parameters
if [[ -z "$1" || "$1" -lt 0 || "$1" -gt 100 ]]; then
    echo "Usage: checkbat <warning threshold in percentage>"
    exit 1
fi

#Check if battery is present
if [[ -f /sys/class/power_supply/BAT0/capacity ]]; then
    #Poll status and current capacity
    LEVEL=$(cat /sys/class/power_supply/BAT0/capacity)
    STATUS=$(cat /sys/class/power_supply/BAT0/status)
    echo "Battery level at ${LEVEL}% $STATUS"

    #Check if the capacity is below threshold and discharging
    if [[ "$LEVEL" -lt "$1" && "$STATUS" == "Discharging" ]]; then
        dunstify --appname="Battery checker" \
            --urgency=critical \
            --icon=battery-level-0-charging-symbolic.symbolic \
```

```
"Battery at ${LEVEL}%, Please connect charger  
immediate!"  
    fi  
else  
    echo "No battery!"  
fi
```

- Install `cronie`

```
sudo pacman --sync --refresh cronie
```

- Add repeatable task to `cronine`

Run `EDITOR=vim crontab -e` with the following settings:

```
*/1 * * * * ~/scripts/check-battery.sh 8
```

It means run the `~/scripts/check-battery.sh 8` command for every minute with the `8%` threshold notification settings.

- Enable `cronie` service

```
sudo systemctl enable --now cronie.service
```

- Service log

If you run `systemctl status cronie.service` to check the service status, it will print out the log like below:

- `cronie.service` – Periodic Command Scheduler

```
Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/cronie.service; enabled; vendor preset: disabled)
```

```
Active: active (running) since Sat 2021-02-06 20:46:55 NZDT; 44min ago
```

```
Main PID: 722 (crond)
```

```
Tasks: 1 (limit: 19013)
```

```
Memory: 1.1M
```

```
CGroup: /system.slice/cronie.service
```

```
└─722 /usr/bin/crond -n
```

```
Feb 06 21:29:01 wison-arch CROND[5367]: (wison) CMDOUT (Unable to send notification: Error spawning command line “dbus-launch --autolaunch=61a4f82”)
```

```
Feb 06 21:29:01 wison-arch CROND[5367]: pam_unix(crond:session): session closed for user wison
```

```
Feb 06 21:30:01 wison-arch crond[5531]: pam_unix(crond:session): session opened for user wison(uid=1000) by (uid=0)
```

```
Feb 06 21:30:01 wison-arch CROND[5532]: (wison) CMD (~scripts/check-battery.sh 60)
```

```
Feb 06 21:30:01 wison-arch CROND[5531]: (wison) CMDOUT (Battery level at 30% Discharging)
```

```
Feb 06 21:30:01 wison-arch CROND[5531]: pam_unix(crond:session): session closed for user wison
```

```
Feb 06 21:31:01 wison-arch crond[5610]: pam_unix(crond:session): session opened for user wison(uid=1000) by (uid=0)
```

```
Feb 06 21:31:01 wison-arch CROND[5611]: (wison) CMD (~scripts/check-battery.sh 60)
```

```
Feb 06 21:31:01 wison-arch CROND[5610]: (wison) CMDOUT (Battery level at 30% Discharging)
```

```
Feb 06 21:31:01 wison-arch CROND[5610]: pam_unix(crond:session): session closed for user wison
```

How to open multiple window in the particular layout

You can run `i3-msg` command in terminal, it's the same way you call command in the `i3` config file.

Let's use terminal script to open multiple windows in the particular layout:)

- Write some scripts to run `i3-msg` to open windows and change layout
 - `vim ~scripts/2w.sh` with the following contents:

- o `vim ~scripts/3w.sh` with the following contents:

```
#!/usr/bin/fish

# Open 3 windows in the particular layout below:
# -----
# |       |   |
# |       |   |
# |       | -----|
# |       | -----|
# |       |   |
# |       |   |
# -----
# The `sleep` call here is important, as the `i3-msg` needs a bit
# before the layout gets changed!!!
sleep 0.2

i3-msg --quiet --type command "split horizontal; exec alacritty; exec alacritty" &

sleep 0.1

i3-msg --quiet --type command "focus left" &
```

```

- Map the key binding to run the scripts created above

`vim ~/.config/i3/config` with the following settings:

```
Open window Mode: Open specified layout of windows based on the
number

mode "Open multiple windows in the specific layout" {
 # Pressing left will shrink the window's width.
 # Pressing right will grow the window's width.
 # Pressing up will shrink the window's height.
 # Pressing down will grow the window's height.

 # bindsym $left resize shrink width $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
 # bindsym $down resize grow height $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
 # bindsym $up resize shrink height $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt
 # bindsym $right resize grow width $resize_unit px or
$resize_unit ppt

 bindsym 2 exec ~/scripts/2w.sh; mode "default"
 bindsym 3 exec ~/scripts/3w.sh; mode "default"

 # back to normal: Enter or Escape
 bindsym Return mode "default"
 bindsym Escape mode "default"
}

bindsym Shift+$mod+o mode "Open multiple windows in the specific
layout"
```

Run `i3-msg reload` to reload.

- Test it

Go to any `i3` workspace and press `Shift+$mod+o`, then you can see the tips below to show on left-top area which is saying that you're in the particular mode at this moment:

Open multiple windows `in` the specific layout

And press `3`, then 3 windows should open like this:



# Special keybinding

You need to install the utilities below:

- `xmodmap` : A utility for modifying keymaps and pointer button mappings in Xorg.
- `xev` : A utility which we need it to see the keycode for each key.

After that, run the commands below to generate a copy with the current `keyboard key code -> key symbol` mapping.

```
xmodmap -pke > ~/Xmodmap
```

Inside that file, it contains the keybinding with the syntax like below:

```
keycode 9 = Escape NoSymbol Escape
```

Then you can search `keycode` or `key symbol` in that file and change the mapping. Just in case, if you will switch to different keyboard very often, then you should use

`keycode` to set your own keybinding!!!

How to know the `keycode`? Just run `xev` and press any key, it prints out the hardware `keycode`.

Here is some `keycode` you might interest in:

```
133 - Left Super/Win key, Left Command key (Apple Keyboard)
64 - Left Alt
37 - Left Control
66 - Caps_Lock
9 - Escape
```

## Let's do a real example for mapping `Caps_Lock` to `Escape`

`vim ~/.Xmodmap` then find the `keycode 66` and replace the settings like below:

```
keycode 66 = Escape NoSymbol Escape
```

Save and exit.

## How to load the `~/.Xmodmap` when `i3` reload?

`vim ~/.config/i3/config` and add the settings below:

```
It will reload `~/.Xmodmap` every time when `i3` reload
exec_always sleep 1; xmodmap ~/.Xmodmap
```

And pay attention on that: Even the `Caps_Lock` key already mapped to `Escape`, but the caplock functionality still works!!!

So always tap `Caps_Lock` twice to make sure it doesn't switch uppercase mode!!!)

# Advanced keybinding

In Arch Linux, it uses the key combination below by default:

- Control + c : Copy
- Control + v : Paste
- Control + f : Find or search
- Control + t : Open new tab
- Control + w : Close current tab

But if you're a Mac user, then you will very difficult to deal with those settings. Is that possible to change that?

**YES**, you can use `xdotool` combine with `i3` keybinding to do that:

`vim ~/.config/i3/config` and add the following settings:

```

=====

Special key mapping

=====

`cmd+c` -> `ctrl+c` (Copy)
bindsym --release $mod+c exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --
clearmodifiers ctrl+c

`cmd+v` -> `ctrl+v` (Paste)
bindsym --release $mod+v exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --
clearmodifiers ctrl+v

`cmd+f` -> `ctrl+f` (Find)
bindsym --release $mod+f exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --
clearmodifiers ctrl+f

`cmd+t` -> `ctrl+t` (Open new tab)
bindsym --release $mod+t exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --
clearmodifiers ctrl+t

`cmd+w` -> `ctrl+w` (Close current tab)
bindsym --release $mod+w exec --no-startup-id xdotool key --
clearmodifiers ctrl+w
```

# Switching keyboard in real-time

If you have multiple keyboards, how do you switch them in Arch Linux in real-time?

For example, you have different keyboards below:

- Apple keyboard (embedded in your MBP) or separated Apple wireless keyboard
- Varmilo mechanical keyboard

And you want to switch between them in real-time, how to do that?

Let's make some requirements for the switching task below:

- No matter switch to which keyboard, the i3 configuration settings below no need to be changed:

```

=====

Set '$mod' to `Mod4` (WinKey or CmdKey)

=====

set $mod Mod4
set $alt Mod1
```

- **Apple keyboard**

- Use Super\_L (Left Command) key as the i3 \$Mod key
- Use Caps Lock key as Escape key
- Use Alt\_L (Left Alt) key as Mod1

- **Varmilo mechanical keyboard**

- Exchange the `Super_L` key and `Alt_L` key, as they're in a different position with `Apple Keyboard` and you don't like to change your pressing habit
- Use `Super_L` (Left Command) key as the `i3 $Mod` key
- Use `Caps Lock` key as `Escape` key
- Use `Alt_L` (Left Alt) key as Mod1

Let's do it.

- **Apple keyboard**

- Create `~/scripts/Xmodmap-for-apple-keyboard` from current keybinding:

```
xmodmap -pke > ~/scripts/Xmodmap-for-apple-keyboard
```

- Open `~/scripts/Xmodmap-for-apple-keyboard` and add some settings below:

- Add to the beginning of the file:

```
clear lock
clear mod1
clear mod4
```

- Add to the bottom of the file:

```
add mod1 = Alt_L
add mod4 = Super_L
```

- Edit the setting like below:

```
keycode 66 = Escape NoSymbol Escape
```

- Create `~/scripts/change-keybinding-for-apple-keyboard.sh` with the following settings:

```
#!/bin/bash
cp -rvf ~/scripts/Xmodmap-for-apple-keyboard ~/.Xmodmap
i3-msg restart
```

- Make it executable

```
chmod +x ~/scripts/change-keybinding-for-apple-keyboard.sh
```

- Apple keyboard for colemak keyboard layout

- Set to colemak layout before you continue:

```
setxkbmap us colemak
```

Right now, your keyboard key mapping should be load as cole mak.

- Create ~/scripts/Xmodmap-colemak-for-apple-keyboard from current keybinding:

```
xmodmap -pke > ~/scripts/Xmodmap-colemak-for-apple-keyboard
```

- Open ~/scripts/Xmodmap-for-apple-keyboard and add some settings below:

- Add to the beginning of the file:

```
clear lock
clear mod1
clear mod4
```

- Add to the bottom of the file:

```
add mod1 = Alt_L
add mod4 = Super_L
```

- Edit the setting like below:

```
keycode 66 = Escape NoSymbol Escape
```

- Create `~/scripts/change-keybinding-for-apple-keyboard-colemak.sh` with the following settings:

```
#!/bin/bash
cp -rvf ~/scripts/Xmodmap-colemak-for-apple-keyboard ~/.Xmodmap
i3-msg restart
```

- Make it executable

```
chmod +x ~/scripts/change-keybinding-for-apple-keyboard-
colemak.sh
```

- **Varmilo mechanical keyboard**

- Create `~/scripts/Xmodmap-for-varmilo-keyboard` from current keybinding:

```
xmodmap -pke > ~/scripts/Xmodmap-for-varmilo-keyboard
```

- Open `~/scripts/Xmodmap-for-varmilo-keyboard` and add some settings below:

- Add to the beginning of the file:

```
clear lock
clear mod1
clear mod4
```

- Add to the bottom of the file:

```
add mod1 = Alt_L
add mod4 = Super_L
```

- Edit the setting like below:

```
keycode 66 = Escape NoSymbol Escape
keycode 64 = Super_L NoSymbol Super_L
keycode 133 = Alt_L Meta_L Alt_L Meta_L
```

- Create `~/scripts/change-keybinding-for-varmilo-keyboard.sh` with the following settings:

```
#!/bin/bash
cp -rvf ~/scripts/Xmodmap-for-varmilo-keyboard ~/.Xmodmap
i3-msg restart
```

- Make it executable

```
chmod +x ~/scripts/change-keybinding-for-varmilo-keyboard.sh
```

After that, you can switch to any keyboard at anytime you want in real-time.

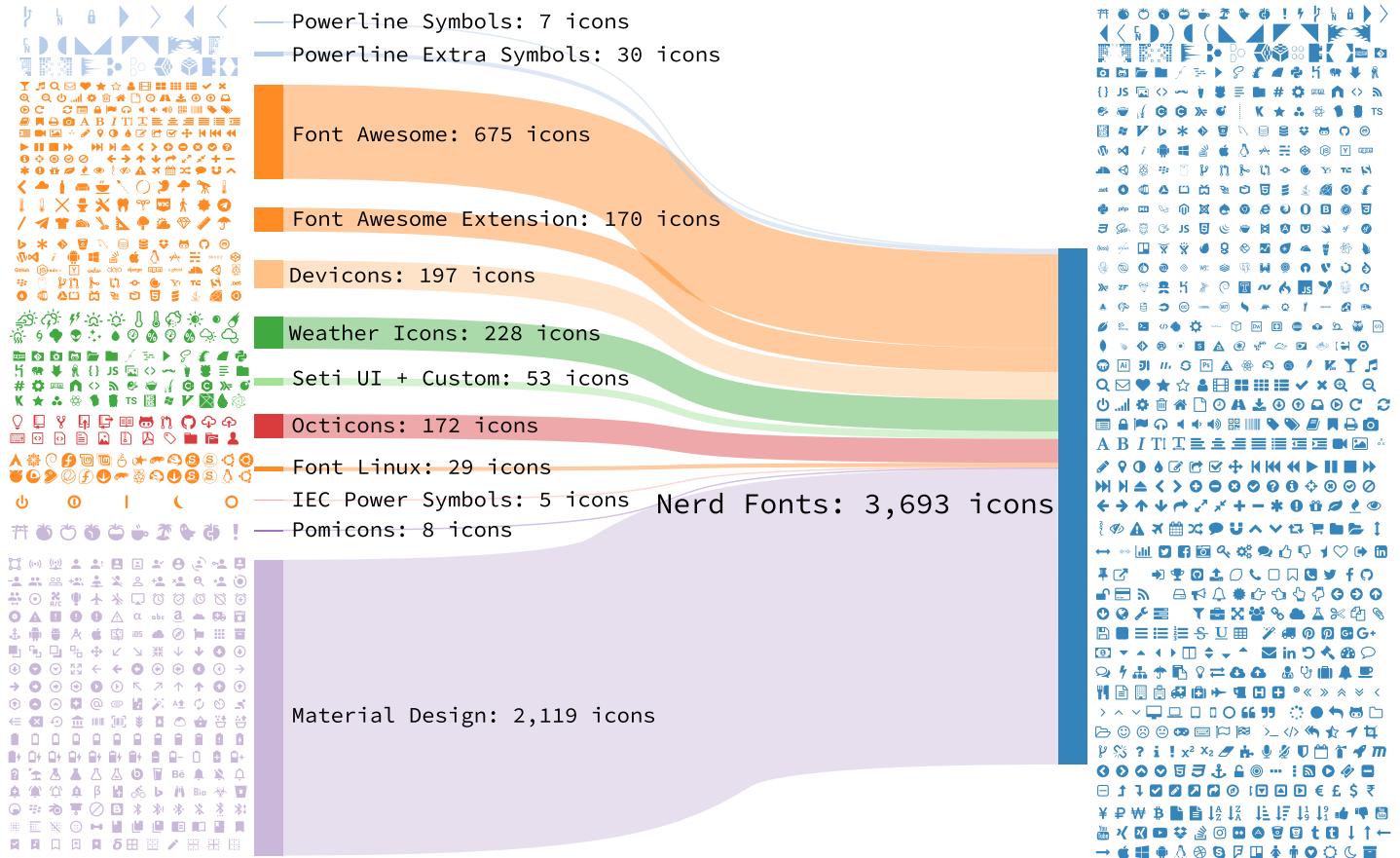
```
For Apple keybaord
~/scripts/change-keybinding-for-apple-keyboard.sh

For Apple keybaord colemak
~/scripts/change-keybinding-for-apple-keyboard-colemak.sh

For Varmilo keyboard
~/scripts/change-keybinding-for-varmilo-keyboard.sh
```

## Install NerdFont

**Nerd Fonts** is a project that patches developer targeted fonts with a high number of glyphs (icons). Basically, it adds all popular icons into the popular fonts which call `patched font` which include the original font and all supported icons. Then you can use any of those `patched font` to show any supported icons below:



## Installation

It has 7 optional ways to install **Nerd Fonts**. But for **Arch**, you can install via **AUR**. Let's take the **Source Code Pro** at an example:

```
yay -S nerd-fonts-source-code-pro
```

After installing, you can run the command below to show the installed location:

```
yay --query --list nerd-fonts-source-code-pro

/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Black Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Black Italic Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Black Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Black Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Bold Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Bold Italic Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Bold Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Bold Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro ExtraLight Italic Nerd Font
Complete Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro ExtraLight Italic Nerd Font
Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro ExtraLight Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro ExtraLight Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Italic Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Italic Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Light Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Light Italic Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Light Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Light Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Medium Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Medium Italic Nerd Font
Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Medium Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Medium Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Nerd Font Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Semibold Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Semibold Italic Nerd Font
Complete.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Semibold Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Semibold Nerd Font Complete.ttf
```

## Setup correct font name

As you can see that, the font name is **NOT** the `Source Code Pro` !!! So you have to run the command below to know the **Real font name** which you can fill into any application's font configuration file:

```
fc-list | grep Pro
```

```
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Light Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Light Italic,Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Black Italic Nerd Font
Complete.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Black Italic,Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Semibold Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Semibold,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Bold Nerd Font Complete.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Bold
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Semibold Italic Nerd Font
Complete.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Semibold Italic,Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Italic Nerd Font Complete.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Light Nerd Font Complete.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Light,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Nerd Font Complete.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Italic Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Bold Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Bold
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Medium Italic Nerd Font
Complete.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Medium Italic,Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Medium Nerd Font Complete.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Medium,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro ExtraLight Italic Nerd Font
Complete.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=ExtraLight Italic,Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Bold Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Bold Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Medium Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Medium Italic,Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Light Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Light,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Bold Italic Nerd Font Complete.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Bold Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro ExtraLight Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=ExtraLight,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Black Nerd Font Complete.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Black,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Black Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Black Italic,Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro ExtraLight Nerd Font Complete.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=ExtraLight,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Medium Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Medium,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Black Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Black,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Semibold Italic Nerd Font Complete
Mono.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Semibold Italic,Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro ExtraLight Italic Nerd Font
```

```
Complete Mono.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=ExtraLight
Italic,Italic
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Nerd Font Complete Mono.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono:style=Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Semibold Nerd Font Complete.ttf:
SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Semibold,Regular
/usr/share/fonts/TTF/Sauce Code Pro Light Italic Nerd Font
Complete.ttf: SauceCodePro Nerd Font:style=Light Italic,Italic
```

Right now, you should notice that the font name is either **SauceCodePro Nerd Font Mono** or **SauceCodePro Nerd Font**. So fill them into your application font configuration file.

For example, put it into the \*\***Alacritty** configuration file:

```
Bold italic font face
bold_italic:
 # Font family
 #
 # If the bold italic family is not specified, it will fall back to
the
 # value specified for the normal font.
 family: "SauceCodePro Nerd Font"

 # The `style` can be specified to pick a specific face.
 style: Bold Italic
```

## Copy icons from **NerdFont cheatsheet**

After setting the correct font name, then you can copy and paste the icons from the **NerdFont cheatsheet** :



Just type any searching keyword there, place the mouse on top of the one you like, it will show up a popup menu on the right-top corner. So, click `Icon` to copy to clipboard, then you can paste to anywhere to have that icon.

## Vim support

Add the settings below to your `vimrc` or `init.vim` (for `neovim`):

```

Plug 'ryanoasis/vim-devicons'

Set the `guifont` to your patched font name with the size
set guifont=SauceCodePro\ Nerd\ Font\ 11

Enable this line if you use `vim-airline`
let g:airline_powerline_fonts = 1
```

Then run `:PlugInstall` and restart `vim` to take effect.

# Install Ranger

- Install

```
sudo pacman -S ranger
```

```
During the installation process, it will list another optional packages you might needed:
```

```
Optional dependencies for ranger
atool: for previews of archives
elinks: for previews of html pages
ffmpegthumbnailer: for video previews
highlight: for syntax highlighting of code
libcaca: for ASCII-art image previews
lynx: for previews of html pages
mediainfo: for viewing information about media files
odt2txt: for OpenDocument texts
perl-image-exiftool: for viewing information about media files
poppler: for pdf previews
python-chardet: in case of encoding detection problems
sudo: to use the "run as root"-feature
transmission-cli: for viewing bittorrent information
ueberzug: for previews of images
w3m: for previews of images and html pages
```

```
You just pick what you want. For example:
```

```
sudo pacman -S ueberzug highlight mediainfo sudo poppler
```

- Generate your own configuration

You need to run the command below to generate a copy of the `ranger rc` configuration, it will saved to your `~/.config/ranger/rc.conf`.

```
ranger --copy-config=rc
```

- The normal daily keybinding you need to know (just in case if you're new to `ranger`)

| Keybinding | Description                                                                                                                |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Basic      | <i>Basic file and folder operations</i>                                                                                    |
| yy         | Copy current file or folder, then you can to to any folder and paste it                                                    |
| dd         | Cut current file or folder, then you can to to any folder and paste it                                                     |
| dD         | Delete the file same with <code>rm -rf</code> , need to press <code>enter</code> to confirm                                |
| pp         | paste the last copied file or folder to current folder                                                                     |
| yp         | (Yank full path), copy the full path with filename to clipboard                                                            |
| yd         | (Yank dir), copy the full path WITHOUT filename to clipboard                                                               |
| yn         | (Yank name), copy only the filename to clipboard                                                                           |
| cw         | (Change word), rename current file or folder                                                                               |
| I          | (Insert), rename, cursor position will be stopped at the beginning of the filename.<br><pre>:rename ranger-fzf-2.png</pre> |
| a          | (append), rename, cursor position will be stopped at the end of the filename.<br><pre>:rename ranger-fzf-2.png</pre>       |

| Keybinding           | Description                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A                    | (append at the end), rename, cursor position will be stopped at the end of the extension name.<br><pre>:rename ranger-fzf-2.png</pre> |
| cw                   | (Change word), rename current file or folder                                                                                          |
| oc                   | Order/Sort by change time (latest to older)                                                                                           |
| oC                   | Order/Sort by change time (older to latest)                                                                                           |
| ot                   | Order/Sort by type                                                                                                                    |
| oT                   | Order/Sort by type (reversed)                                                                                                         |
| on                   | Order/Sort by name                                                                                                                    |
| oN                   | Order/Sort by name (reversed)                                                                                                         |
| Control+h            | Toggle show hidden file                                                                                                               |
| :mkdir xx            | Create new folder                                                                                                                     |
| :touch xx            | Create empty file                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Select</b>        | <i>Select/Mark mode</i>                                                                                                               |
| va                   | Select all or unselect all                                                                                                            |
| v                    | Toggle select mode, move your cursor to select file in select mode                                                                    |
| Space                | Toggle select mode for single file                                                                                                    |
| <b>Change folder</b> | <i>Change folder quickly</i>                                                                                                          |
| gh                   | Go home (to \$HOME )                                                                                                                  |
| ge                   | Go to /etc                                                                                                                            |
| gu                   | Go to /usr                                                                                                                            |
| gv                   | Go to /var                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Shell</b>         | <i>Shell related operations</i>                                                                                                       |
| du                   | Run du (disk usage) command on current folder and sort the result by size                                                             |
| #                    | Type your command to run in shell with current path, wait for press enter to return.                                                  |

| Keybinding | Description                                                                                                    |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Shift+s    | Open terminal with current folder/path. When you done, type <code>exit</code> to back to <code>ranger</code> . |

- Add customization configuration if you needed

Here are some very useful settings maybe can help you, `vim` `~/.config/ranger/rc.conf` and pick what you want to try. You should search `set xxxx` and replace to the below settings.

```
Only show 2 columns with 1:2 width
set column_ratios 2,4

Change color themes
set colorscheme jungle

Show both borders, looks comfortable for some people
set draw_borders separators
set draw_borders outline
set draw_borders none
set draw_borders both

Sync the folder name to window title
set update_title true

Display `~` related to your home folder, save some display space
set tilde_in_titlebar true

Show the relative line number. If you use this feature in `vim`, then
you will like it, it can help u fast jump to the specified line
set line_numbers relative

Just add any `go to XXX` keybinding for yourself, For example:
map gd cd ~/Downloads
map gr cd ~/Rust
map gs cd ~/Screenshots
map gb cd ~/my-shell/backup
map gp cd ~/xxx/yyy/zzz/...very deep path/YOUR_PROJECT_FOLDER

Replace the default `du` command, as it doesn't sort by size by default
map du shell -p du --max-depth=1 -h --apparent-size
map du shell -p du --max-depth=1 -h --apparent-size | sort -rh
```

## More powerful features:

- Add `fuzzy finder` to `ranger`
  - First you need to install `fuzzy finder` by running `sudo pacman -S fzf`
  - Add `~/.config/ranger.commands.py` with the following settings

```
from ranger.api.commands import Command

class fzf_select(Command):
 """
 :fzf_select

 Find a file using fzf.

 With a prefix argument select only directories.

 See: https://github.com/junegunn/fzf
 """

 def execute(self):
 import subprocess
 import os.path
 if self.quantifier:
 # match only directories
 command = "find -L . \(-path '*/\.*' -o -fstype 'dev' -o -fstype 'proc' \) -prune \
 -o -type d -print 2> /dev/null | sed 1d | cut -b3- | fzf +m"
 else:
 # match files and directories
 command = "find -L . \(-path '*/\.*' -o -fstype 'dev' -o -fstype 'proc' \) -prune \
 -o -print 2> /dev/null | sed 1d | cut -b3- | fzf +m"

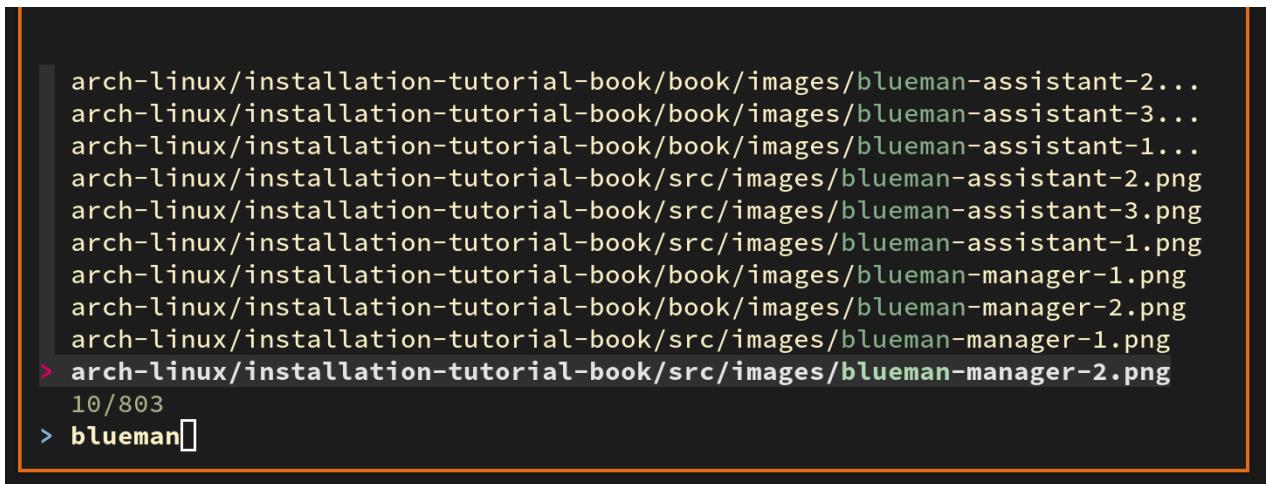
 fzf = self.fm.execute_command(command,
 universal_newlines=True,
 stdout=subprocess.PIPE)
 stdout, stderr = fzf.communicate()
 if fzf.returncode == 0:
 fzf_file = os.path.abspath(stdout.rstrip('\n'))
```

```
if os.path.isdir(fzf_file):
 self.fm.cd(fzf_file)
else:
 self.fm.select_file(fzf_file)
```

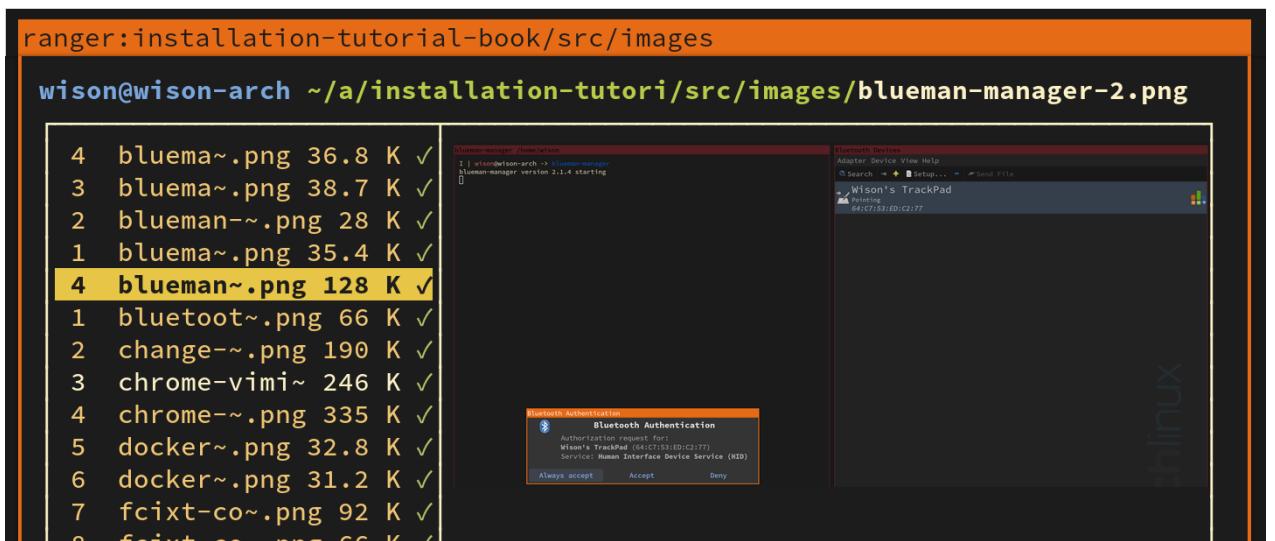
- Add keybinding to `~/.config/ranger/rc.conf`

```
map <c-f> fzf_select
```

After that, open `ranger` and press `Control + f` and type any part of the file name, you got crazy fast search result:



press `Enter` to go to the selected file:

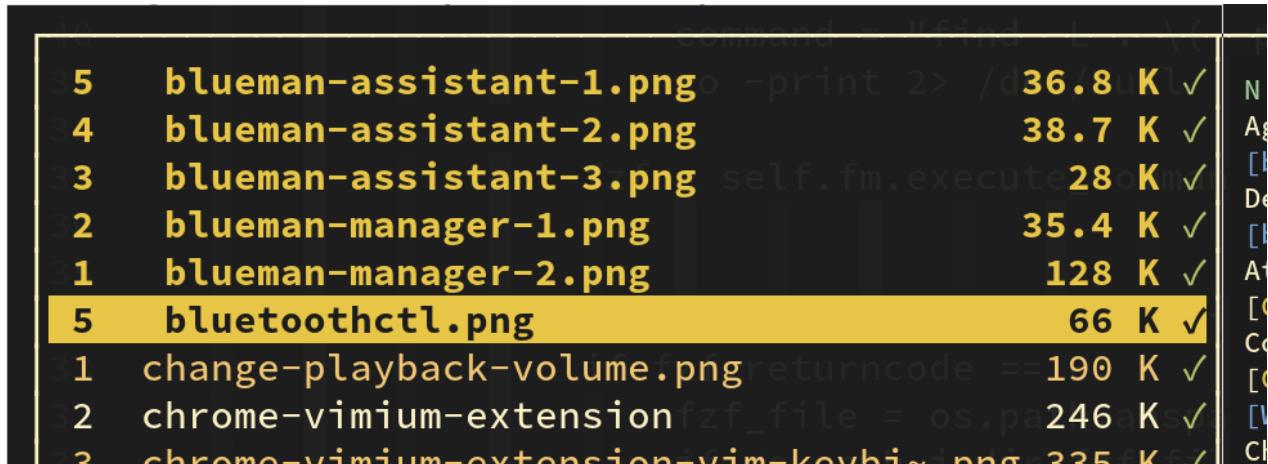


- Fast rename multiple selected files

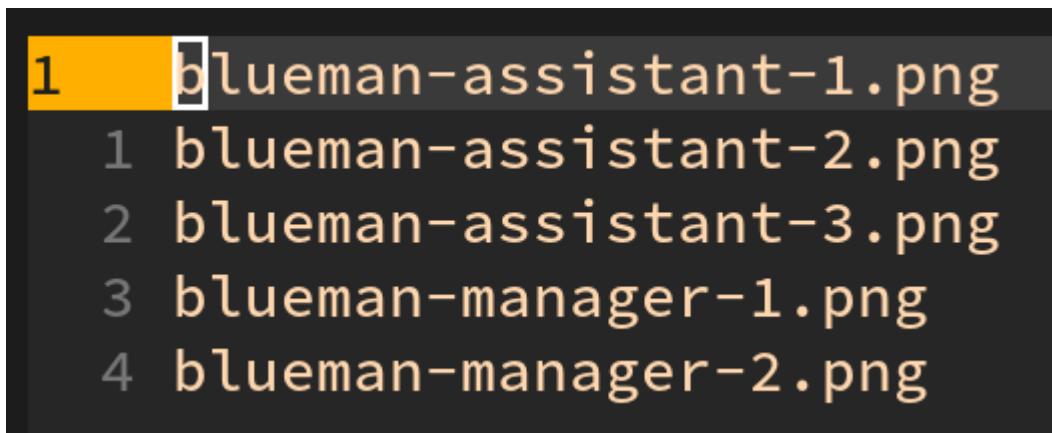
`vim ~/.config/ranger/rc.conf`, and then replace the below keybinding to overwrite the default one:

```
map cw eval fm.execute_console("bulkrename") if
fm.thisdir.marked_items else fm.open_console("rename ")
```

After that, select all the files you want to rename to together like below:



Then press `cw`, it will show your selected file name in your default editor. Change it and save it, done.



## Everything related to neovim

- Installation

```
sudo pacman --sync --refresh neovim python-pynvim
```

```
mkdir ~/.config/nvim
touch ~/.config/nvim/init.vim
```

- Auto install `vim-plug` when open `nvim`

`nvim ~/.config/nvim/init.vim` and add the following settings:

```
" ===
" === Auto load for first time uses
" ===
if empty(glob('~/\.config/nvim/autoload/plug.vim'))
 silent !curl -fLo ~/\.config/nvim/autoload/plug.vim --create-
dirs
 \
 https://raw.githubusercontent.com/junegunn/vim-plug/master/plug.vim
 autocmd VimEnter * PlugInstall --sync | source $MYVIMRC
endif
```

- `Ranger` plugin

`nvim ~/.config/nvim/init.vim` with the following settings:

```

Plug 'kevinhwang91/rnvimr'

" -----

" 'rrnvim'
" -----

" Make Ranger to be hidden after picking a file
let g:rnvimr_enable_picker = 1

" Hide the files included in gitignore
let g:rnvimr_hide_gitignore = 1

" Fullscreen for initial layout
let g:rnvimr_layout = {
 \ 'relative': 'editor',
 \ 'width': &columns,
 \ 'height': &lines - 2,
 \ 'col': 0,
 \ 'row': 0,
 \ 'style': 'minimal'
 \ }

" Open key mapping
nnoremap <leader>r :RnvimrToggle<CR>

```

- Coc troubleshooting

- TypeScript: If you see the error below when you open any TypeScript file:

```
[tsserver 2307] [E] Cannot find module XXXXXXXX
```

That means you should already installed the coc-deno extention. It's very easy to fix it:

- Run `:CocList extenstions` command
- Inside the extenstions list, search `coc-deno`, then press `tab` on it and choose `disable`.

# About GPU

- Identify your graphics card:

```
lspci -v | grep -A1 -e VGA -e 3D

It will print something like this:
#
VGA compatible controller: Intel Corporation Crystalell Integrated
Graphics Controller (rev 08) (prog-if 00 [VGA controller])
Subsystem: Apple Inc. Device 0147
```

So you can know that's a GPU integrated inside Intel CPU and 'Subsystem' show you the specific model for you to find the driver

- Install the video driver

```
Driver - `xf86-video-BRAND_NAME_HERE`
OpenGL - `lib32-mesa` if that's Intel
OpenGL (multilib) - `mesa` if that's Intel
sudo pacman -S xf86-video-intel mesa mesa-demos
sudo pacman -Sy
```

[here](#) is the full list for all GPU brands.

After that, you can run the utilities below to check your OpenGL ability:

```
Check the OpenGL version
glxinfo | grep "OpenGL version"

Test the OpenGL render framerate
glxgears
```

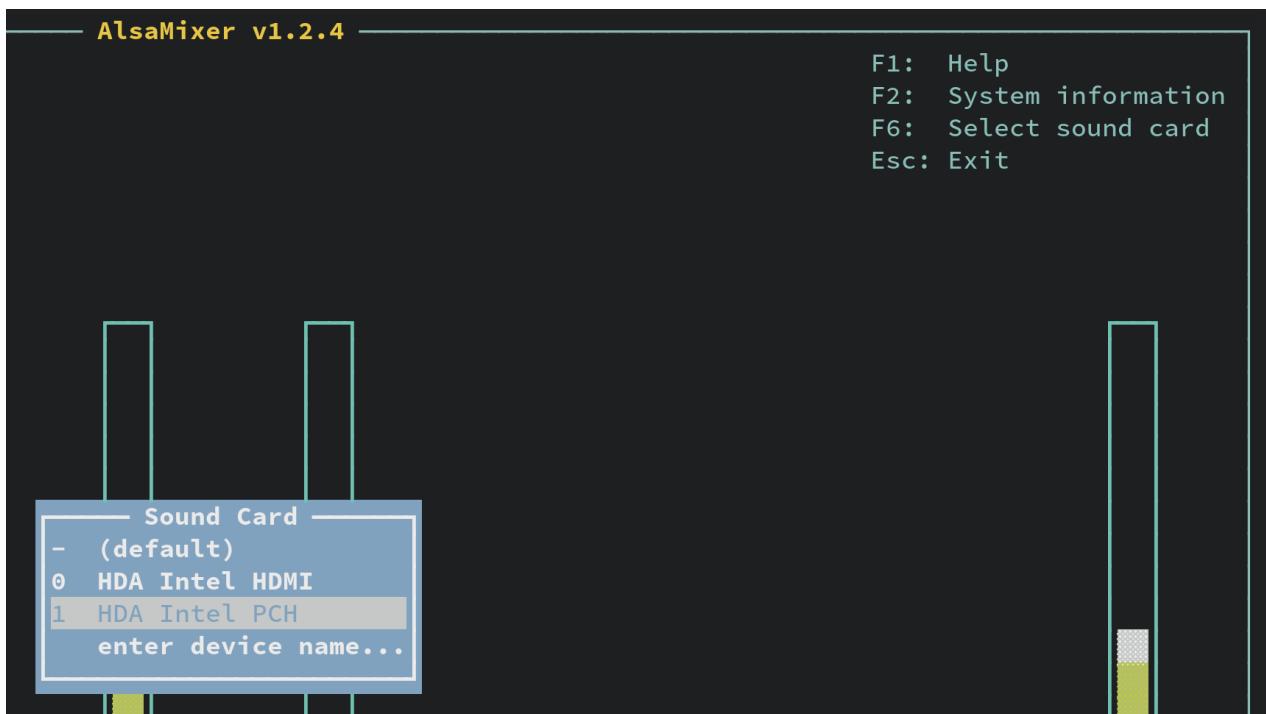
## Fix sound issue

- Install the packages below:

```
sudo pacman -Sy pulseaudio alsa-utils

Reboot
```

- Run `alsamixer` and tune your sound setting
  - Press `F6` to choose your major audio playback device:



- After selecting your correct audio playback device, press `F3` to setup the `Playback` volume. Use left/right arrow key to switch item and use

Up/Down arrow key to change the volume.



- You should be able to control with your `volume up/down` key on your keyboard

If you installed `i3`, by default it has the volume keybindings like below:

```

=====

Audio and volume control

=====

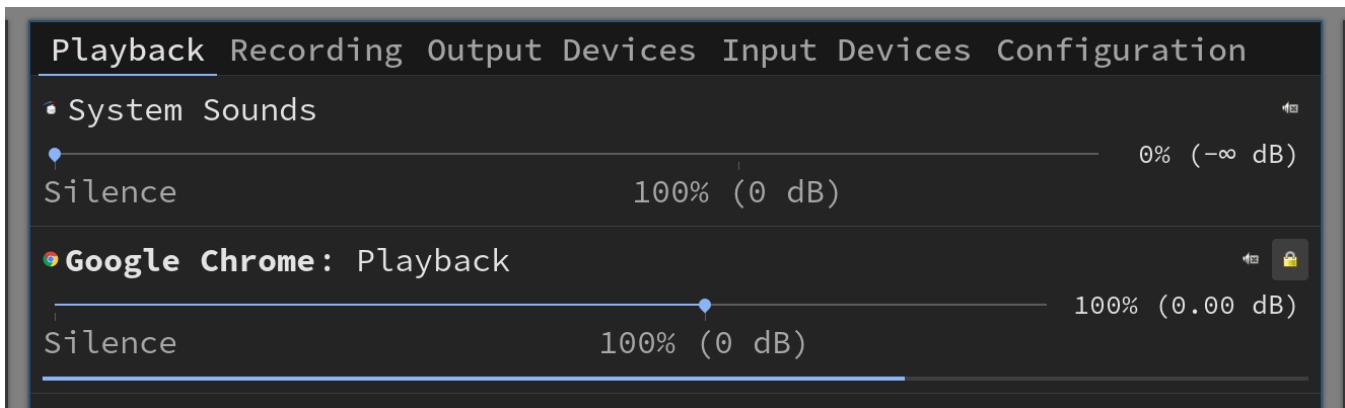
Use pactl to adjust volume in PulseAudio.
set $refresh_i3status killall -SIGUSR1 i3status
bindsym XF86AudioRaiseVolume exec --no-startup-id pactl set-sink-
volume @DEFAULT_SINK@ +10% && $refresh_i3status
bindsym XF86AudioLowerVolume exec --no-startup-id pactl set-sink-
volume @DEFAULT_SINK@ -10% && $refresh_i3status
bindsym XF86AudioMute exec --no-startup-id pactl set-sink-mute
@DEFAULT_SINK@ toggle && $refresh_i3status
bindsym XF86AudioMicMute exec --no-startup-id pactl set-source-mute
@DEFAULT_SOURCE@ toggle && $refresh_i3status
```

It should work out-of-the-box.

- Optionally, you can install `pavucontrol` GUI volume control app

```
sudo pacman -Sy pavucontrol
```

It looks like this:



# Fix webcam issues

- Check your `webcam` whether being detected

- If you got `v4l-utils`, then try to run:

```
v4l2-ctl --list-devices

Cannot open device /dev/video0, exiting.
```

- If you got `vlc`, then just run:

```
vlc v4l2:// :input-slave=alsa:// :v4l-vdev="/dev/video0"
```

Or open `vlc` and choose `media --> Open Capture Device` and test it.

Basically, if you don't have `/dev/video0` device, then your webcam is not supported by the default kernel driver. So, you need to solve that manually.

- List your hardware and find the driver

First you need to know what webcam hardware you have on your computer by running:

```
sudo lspci -v | grep -e Cam -A18

04:00.0 Multimedia controller: Broadcom Inc. and subsidiaries 720p
FaceTime HD Camera
Subsystem: Broadcom Inc. and subsidiaries 720p FaceTime HD
Camera
Flags: bus master, fast devsel, latency 0, IRQ 39
Memory at a0a00000 (64-bit, non-prefetchable) [size=64K]
Memory at 80000000 (64-bit, prefetchable) [size=256M]
Memory at a0900000 (64-bit, non-prefetchable) [size=1M]
Capabilities: [48] Power Management version 3
Capabilities: [58] MSI: Enable+ Count=1/1 Maskable- 64bit+
Capabilities: [68] Vendor Specific Information: Len=44 <?>
Capabilities: [ac] Express Endpoint, MSI 00
Capabilities: [100] Advanced Error Reporting
Capabilities: [13c] Device Serial Number 00-00-00-ff-ff-00-
00-00
Capabilities: [150] Power Budgeting <?>
Capabilities: [160] Virtual Channel
Capabilities: [1b0] Latency Tolerance Reporting
Capabilities: [220] Physical Resizable BAR
Kernel driver in use: bdc-pci
Kernel modules: bdc_pci
```

For my case, even the kernel driver `bdc_pci` is loaded, but the webcam still not working. That means the default `bdc_pci` driver is not correct or not support the `Apple MacBook Pro FaceTime HD Camera` provided by `Boradcom Inc.`.

After that, you can go to [here](#) to find your webcam driver if it exists there.

- Install `linux-header` if you don't have it

before install driver, you better to check whether the `linux-headers` is installed or not by runing:

```
pacman --query | sort | grep linux
```

If you don't have `linuxXXX-headers` (`XXX` is your kernel version which you can get from `uname -sr`), then you need to install the `linux-headers` first.

```
sudo pacman -S linux-headers
```

Otherwise, you might get error like below during installing your webcam driver:

```
Unable to install module bcwc-pcie/r245.82626d4 for kernel *: Missing kernel headers.
```

- Install your webcam driver

For my case, I will install the `bcwc-pcie-git` driver via [AUR](#).

```
yay -S bcwc-pcie-git
```

After that, the new module `facetimehd` will be installed and it conflicts with the `bdc_pci` module. So, you need to disable it by doing this:

```
sudo vim /etc/modprobe.d/blacklist.conf
```

 with the following settings:

```
blacklist bdc_pci
install bdc_pci /bin/fals
```

Then next reboot, it will load the correct module to serve your webcam.

If you don't want to wait for the next reboot, then just do like this:

```
Unload all of them
modprobe -r facetimehd
modprobe -r bdc_pci

Then load the new module
modprobe facetimehd
```

Right now, it should work:

```
v4l2-ctl --list-devices

Apple Facetime HD (PCI:0000:04:00.0):
/dev/video0
```

# Support chinese

- Install chinese input method

```
sudo pacman -S fcitx fcitx-im fcitx-configtool
```

After finishing, it will create an auto start desktop link in here:

```
/etc/xdg/autostart/fcitx-autostart.desktop
```

- Add input method configuration file

Put the following settings into `~/.xprofile`:

```
export GTK_IM_MODULE=fcitx
export QT_IM_MODULE=fcitx
export XMODIFIERS="@im=fcitx"
```

- Auto start `fcitx` in your `i3` configuration

```
vim ~/.config/i3/config and add the following settings:
```

```
Load chinese input method
exec_always fcitx
```

Make sure you reboot to take effect, or you can reboot after installing chinese fonts below.

- Install chinese fonts

```
yay -S wqy-bitmapfont wqy-microhei \
wqy-microhei-lite \
wqy-zenhei \
adobe-source-han-mono-cn-fonts \
adobe-source-han-sans-cn-fonts \
adobe-source-han-serif-cn-fonts
```

Now, relogin to take effect.

- Install extra input methods

If you need 仓颉、五笔等输入法

```
sudo pacman S fcitx-table-extra
```

If you need 搜狗拼音五笔混输

```
SouGou PinYin (it includes WuBi)
yay -S fcitx-sogoupinyin
```

```
translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/resources/skin/经典酷黑/configtool/picture/single-select-white.png' to UTF-8: Can't translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/resources/skin/经典酷黑/configtool/picture/single-select.png' to UTF-8: Can't translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/resources/skin/经典酷黑/configtool/picture/test.png' to UTF-8: Can't translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/resources/skin/经典酷黑/configtool/sogou-logo.png' to UTF-8: Can't translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/resources/skin/经典酷黑/configtool/sogouImeService.qss' to UTF-8: Can't translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/resources/skin/经典酷黑/经典酷黑.zip' to UTF-8: Can't translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/shell/dict/PCPYDict/scd/古诗词名句【官方推荐】.scel' to UTF-8: Can't translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/shell/dict/PCPYDict/scd/成语俗语【官方推荐】.scel' to UTF-8: Can't translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/shell/dict/PCPYDict/scd/政府机关团体机构大全【官方推荐】.scel' to UTF-8: Can't translate pathname 'opt/sogoupinyin/files/share/shell/dict/PCPYDict/scd/计算机词汇大全【官方推荐】.scel' to UTF-8=> Leaving fakeroot environment.
=> Finished making: fcitx-sogoupinyin 2.4.0.2732-1 (Wed 23 Dec 2020 03:02:56 PM NZDT)
=> Cleaning up...
[sudo] password for wison:
loading packages...
resolving dependencies...
looking for conflicting packages...

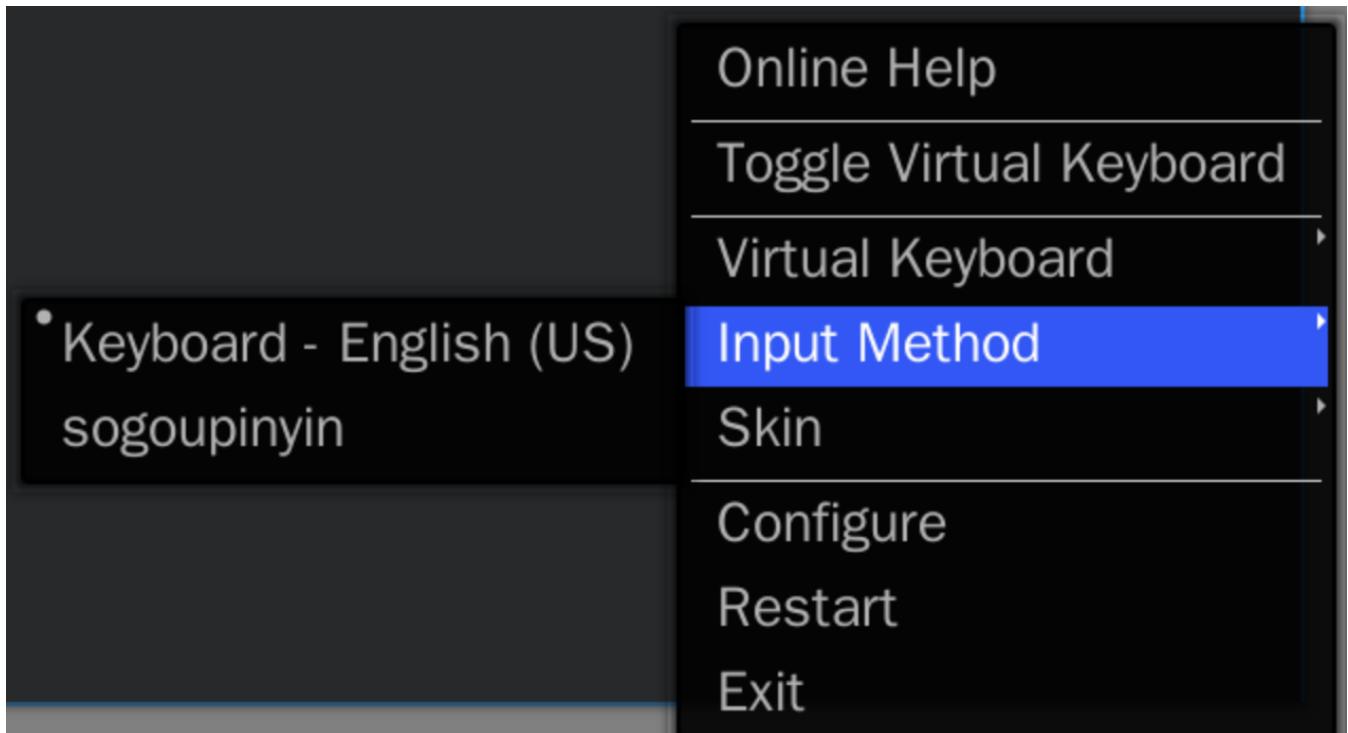
Packages (1) fcitx-sogoupinyin-2.4.0.2732-1

Total Installed Size: 290.62 MiB

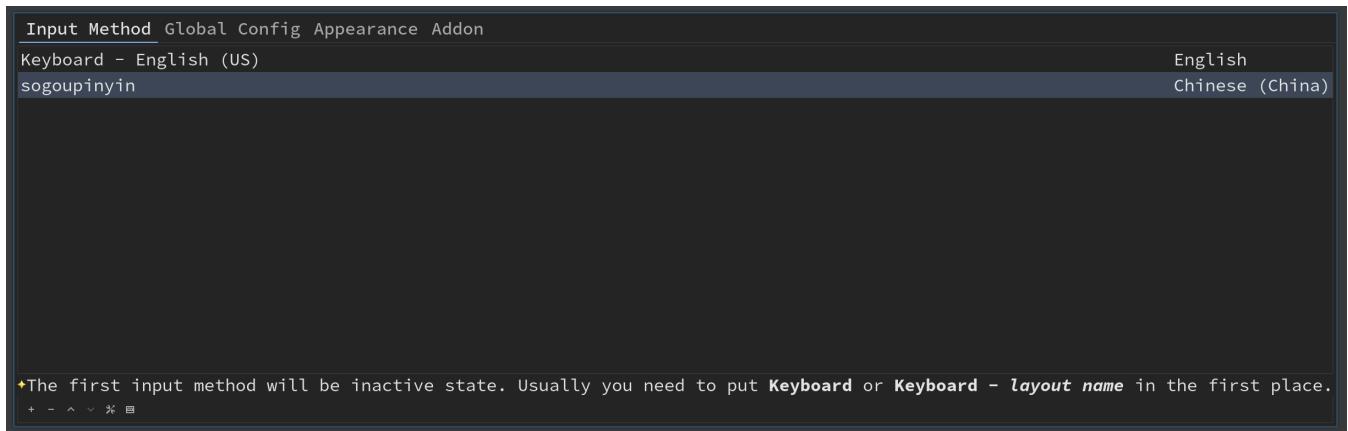
:: Proceed with installation? [Y/n]
(1/1) checking keys in keyring
(1/1) checking package integrity
(1/1) loading package files
(1/1) checking for file conflicts
(1/1) checking available disk space
:: Processing package changes...
(1/1) installing fcitx-sogoupinyin
:: Running post-transaction hooks...
(1/2) Arming ConditionNeedsUpdate...
(2/2) Updating icon theme caches...
I | wison | /home/wison ⌛ dust -di /opt/sogoupinyin/
4.0K └── info
140K └── entries
286M └── files
287M └── sogoupinyin
```

- About the configuration

After re-login, you should be able to see the `fcixt-configtool` icon shows on the bottom-right of your screen. Click on it, it will show a menu like below:



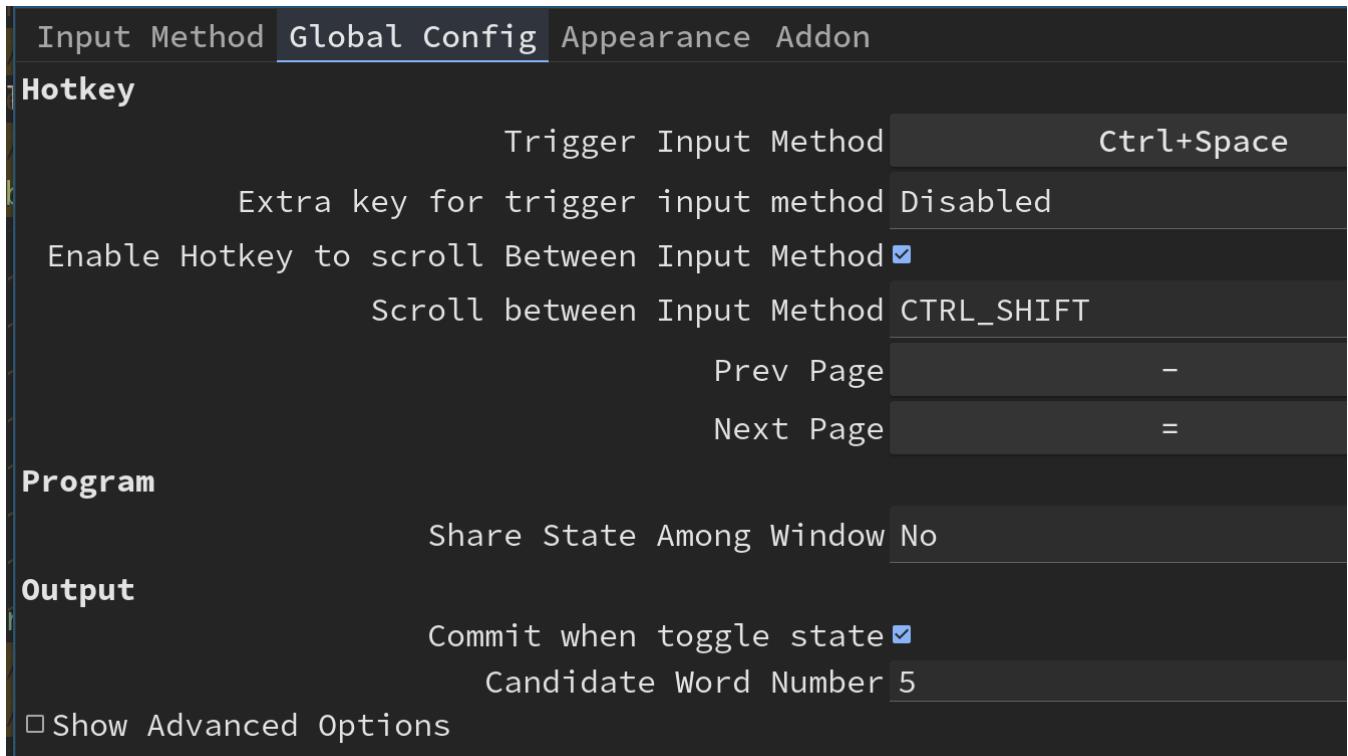
Click on `configure`, then you will see the configuration UI below:



If you don't see your installed input method, then click the left-bottom button to add it.

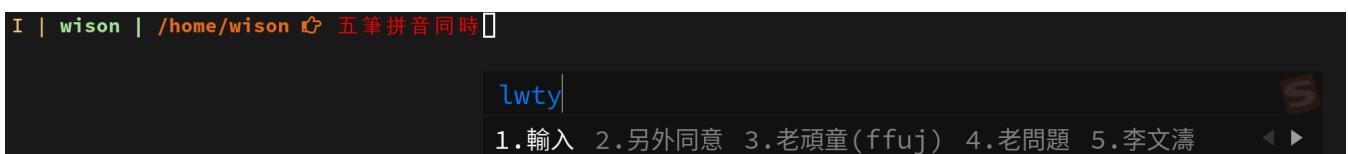
## The default shortcuts

- **Ctrl+Space**: Trigger input method. If you only install single input method (`fcitx-sogoupinyin`), then it works like toggle chinese input method.
- **Shift+Ctrl+f**: Switch between `Traditional Chinese` and `Simplified Chinese`.



Press `Ctrl + Space`, you should able to see your input method, then you can configure it if you wanted:





# Install docker

- Installation

```
sudo pacman -S docker
```

What components are installed by default?

```
Packages (4) bridge-utils-1.7-1 containerd-1.4.3-1 runc-1.0.0rc92-1 docker-1:19.03.14-3
```

```
Total Download Size: 87.84 MiB
Total Installed Size: 375.75 MiB
```

- Handle `docker` as a service

- Query status

```
sudo systemctl status docker
```

- Start

```
sudo systemctl start docker
```

- Stop

```
sudo systemctl stop docker
```

- Enable auto start

```
sudo systemctl enable docker
```

- Disable auto start

```
sudo systemctl disable docker
```

Of course you can add the commands above to your shell configuration as an `alias` or `abbreviation`. For example, `fish` abbreviation sample:

```
abbr startdocker "sudo systemctl start docker"
abbr stopdocker "sudo systemctl stop docker"
```

- Run `docker` client without `sudo`

The `Docker` daemon binds to a `Unix socket` instead of a TCP port. By default that `Unix socket` is owned by the user `root` and other users can only access it using `sudo`. The `Docker` daemon always runs as the `root` user.

That means you have run `sudo docker COMMAND` rather than `docker COMMAND!`

If you don't want to preface the `docker` command with `sudo`, add your linux account to `docker` group. When the `Docker` daemon starts, it creates a `Unix socket` accessible by members of the `docker` group.

By default, the `docker` group will be created during the installation:

```
:: Running post-transaction hooks...
(1/4) Creating system user accounts...
Creating group docker with gid 972.
```

You can confirm that by running the command below:

```
cat /etc/group | grep docker
```

If it doesn't exists, then create it by yourself:

```
Optional step!
sudo groupadd docker
```

Now, add your linux account into the `docker` group:

```
sudo usermod -aG docker $USER
```

You need to re-login to take effect.

After that, run `docker info` (after running `docker service`) to test the permission, should be ok already.

- Install `docker-compose`

```
sudo bash -c 'curl -L
"https://github.com/docker/compose/releases/download/1.27.4/docker-
compose-$(uname -s)-$(uname -m)" \
-o /usr/bin/docker-compose && chmod +x /usr/bin/docker-compose'
```

## Screen recording

- `screenkey`

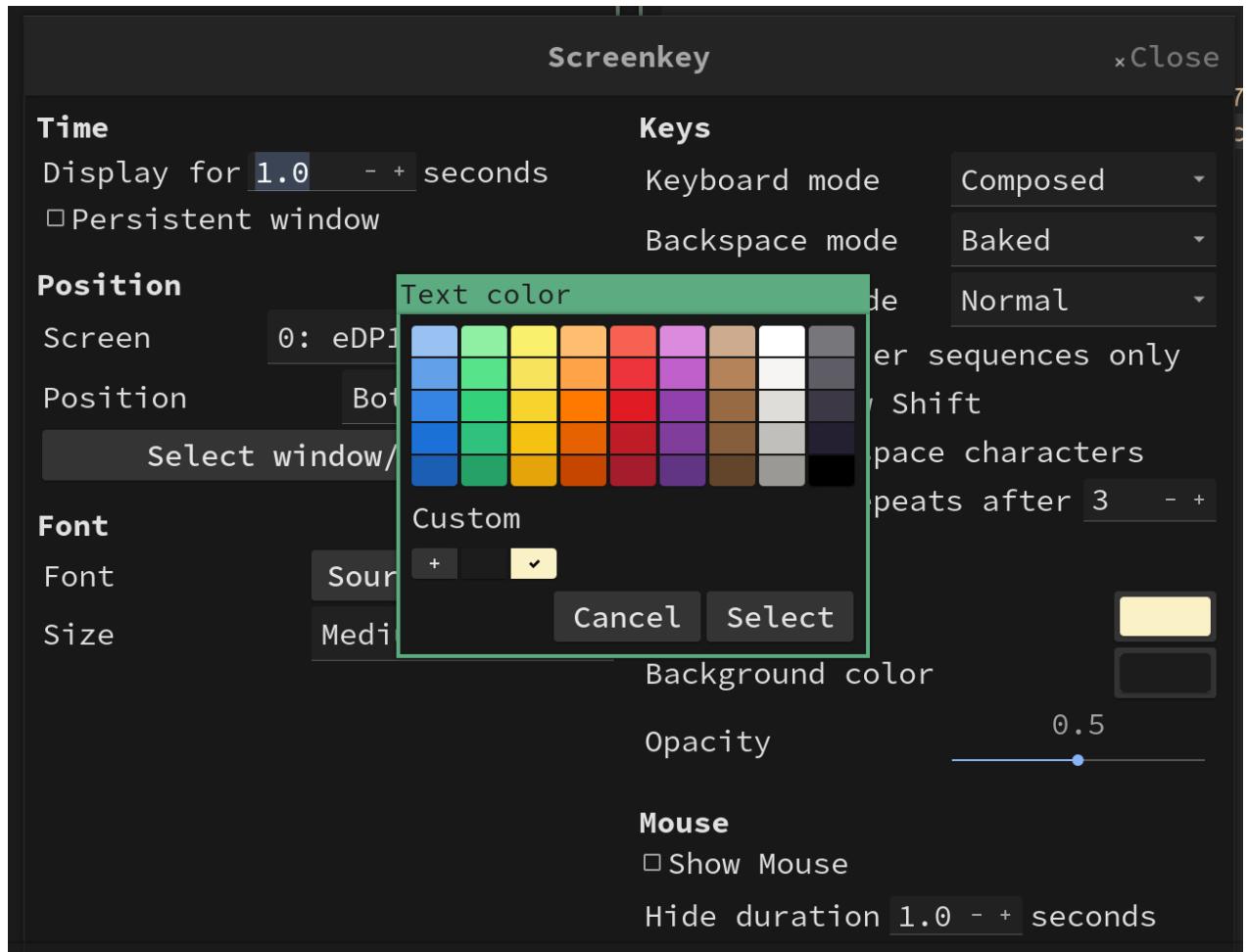
- Install

```
sudo pacman -S screenkey
```

- Configuration

When you run `screenkey`, the last config will be saved to  
`~/.config/screenkey.json`.

But DO NOT edit this file manually, you should use the startup parameters or the `preference` menu in the tray icon to do that.



If you don't pass the `--no-systray`, then the tray icon will be shown.

- About the `color` settings

```

11 {
10 "no_systray": false,
9 "timeout": 1.0,
8 "recent_thr": 0.1,
7 "compr_cnt": 3,
6 "ignore": [],
5 "position": "bottom",
4 "persist": false,
3 "font_desc": "Source Code Pro",
2 "font_size": "medium",

```

```
1 "font_color": "#fbfbf1f1c7c7",
12 "bg_color": "#1c1c1c1c1c1c1c",
1 "opacity": 0.5,
2 "key_mode": "composed",
3 "bak_mode": "baked",
4 "mods_mode": "normal",
5 "mods_only": false,
6 "multiline": false,
7 "vis_shift": false,
8 "vis_space": false,
9 "geometry": null,
10 "screen": 0,
11 "start_disabled": false,
12 "mouse": false,
13 "button_hide_duration": 1
14 }
```

```
~
~
N... SPELL .config/screenkey.json
"./.config/screenkey.json" 26L, 603B
```

As you can see above, the `R, G, B` value will be `double !!!` If you don't double, then `screenkey` won't run!!!

- `i3` keybinding for toggling `screenkey`

`vim ~/.scripts/toggle-screenkey.sh` with the following content:

```
#!/bin/bash

KILL_RESULT=$(killall -v screenkey 2>&1)
PROCESS_NOT_FOUND_STR="no process found"
echo "KILL_RESULT: $KILL_RESULT"

if [[$KILL_RESULT == *"$PROCESS_NOT_FOUND_STR"*]]; then
 echo "'screenkey' started."
 screenkey --no-systray --timeout 1 \
 --opacity 0.5 \
 --no-whitespace \
 --font "Source Code Pro" \
 --font-size medium \
 --font-color "#FBFBF1F1C7C7" \
 --bg-color "#1C1C1C1C1C1C" &
else
 echo "Killed all 'screenkey'"
fi
```

`vim ~/.config/i3/config` and add the following settings:

```
Toggle `screenkey`
bindsym $mod+s exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/toggle-
screenkey.sh
```

- Simple screen recorder

```
sudo pacman -S simplescreenrecorder
```

## Running wechat in docker

- Install

```
Download the docker run script
curl "https://raw.githubusercontent.com/huan/docker-
wechat/master/dochat.sh" --output ~/scripts/dochat.sh

Make it executable
chmod +x ~/scripts/dochat.sh
```

- Better to make an `alias` or `abbreviation` in your shell

For example in `fish` shell

```
"DOCHAT_DEBUG=true": print out the debug info which can help if
start fail.

#
"DOCHAT_DPI=192": for the display scale. Allows value below:
96 100%
120 125%
144 150%
192 200%
#
"DOCHAT_SKIP_PULL=true": Don't pull latest docker image every time.
#
For more detail informations, access here:
https://github.com/huan/docker-wechat
#
abbr startwebchat "DOCHAT_DEBUG=true DOCHAT_SKIP_PULL=true
DOCHAT_DPI=192 ~/scripts/dochat.sh"
```

- Run it

```
Make sure to run this command once to allow all users can access
your X
xhost +

startwebchat
```

When you run it at the first time, it will pull the image then run it.

```
I wison /home/wison DOCHAT_SKIP_PULL=true DOCHAT_DPI=192 ~/scripts/dochat.sh
total 0
I wison /home/wison dust -d1 ./cache
4.0K | _\obxd / _|_|_ _|-|_|_
4.0K | |-|/uem\|-ray|1'00\ / _|_|_
4.0K | _|lt(e)a|-ppl|t|i0|(_|_|_|
8.0K | ____/y\rn/__|_|_|__,_|_|
12K event-sound-cache.tdb.b419303d8d164dbc9721547fbacac42.x86_64-pc-linux-gnu
16K https://github.com/huan/docker-wechat
16K dmenu_run
24K ligh+-----+ter
40K lig|dm /|
72K gs/r|amer-1.0 /|
204K f**+-+---+g-----+
240K .|ac|cache.wison|
732K t|pe|cri盒装
3.8M yy | 微信
3.9M m|sa+snaader_cach+-
7.1M n|d/-gyp /|
54M g|/build /|
367M g**-----+
438M .cache
I w DoChat /daa'tæt/(Docker-weChat) is:google-chrome/
total 4.0K
drwx-- a Dockerimage 4.0K Dec 12 11:49 Default/
N w You're running a PC Windows WeChatache/google-chrome/Default/
total 0 on your Linux desktop
drwx-- by one-lineof command 4.0K Dec 13 12:21 Cache/
drwx----- 3 wison wison 4.0K Dec 6 21:47 Storage/
Starting DoChat /daa'tæt/ ...
I wison /home/wison dust -d1 ./cache/google-chrome/Default/
Unable to find image 'zixia/wechat:2.7.1.85' locally
2.7.1.85: Pulling from zixia/wechat
93956c6f8d9e: Pull complete
46bddb84d1c5: Pull complete
15fa85048576: Pull complete -lht /var/cache/pacman/pkg/
8aa40341c4fa: Pull complete
1e85f9d3a0e2: Pull complete Dec 6 05:41 docker-1:19.03.14-3-x86_64.pkg.tar.zst 223.2MB/230MB
1e7ba6fed8ef: Downloading [=====>] 223.2MB/230MB
522c0a74c4cc: Download complete 8 23:33 yarn-1.22.10-1-any.pkg.tar.zst
bb6c04ebadfd: Download complete 7 08:37 runc-1.0.0rc92-1-x86_64.pkg.tar.zst
2d5b3070ed76: Downloading [=====>] 59.06MB/139MB
375ed383c7a8: Downloading [=====>] 45.36MB/49.22MB
```

After that, it should run:

```
DOCHAT_DEBUG=true DOCHAT_SKIP_PULL=true DOCHAT_DPI=144 ~/scripts/dochat.sh
CONTAINER_ID IMAGE COMMAND CREATED STATUS
I wison_ /home/wison_ gosu
fish: [unkn\ command: gosu] -- _-|_
I wiso| | /me\|s\|n \| 'in\|scripts\|ochat.sh
I wi|o|_|/|o(e)w|s|o|_| | | | (| | |_
|---/ \---/ \---|_| | | \--,-| \--|
https://github.com/huan/docker-wechat

+-----+
/ | / |
--+----- |
| | 盒装 |
| | 微信 |
| +-----+ |
/ | / |
----- |

DoChat /daa'tʃæt/ (Docker-weChat) is:

* a Docker image
* for running PC Windows WeChat
* on your Linux desktop
* by one-line of command

* Starting DoChat /daa'tʃæt/ ...

++ id -u
+ '[' 0 -ne 0 ']'
+ '[' -n 995 ']'
+ groupmod -o -g 995 audio
+ '[' -n 986 ']'
+ groupmod -o -g 986 video
++ id -g user
+ '[' 1000 != 1000 ']'
++ id -u user
+ '[' 1000 != 1000 ']'
+ chown user:group '/home/user/.wine/drive_c/users/user/Application Data' '/home/user/WeChat Files'
```

# Wine

What is **Wine**?

**Wine is not an Emulator.** It is a compatibility layer capable of running Windows applications. Wine translates Windows API into **POSIX** call on-the-fly, eliminating the performance and memory penalties of other methods and allowing you to cleanly integrate Windows applicants into your desktop.

- Install **wine** from **pacman**.

```
sudo vim /etc/pacman.conf and uncomment the lines below to enable the
multilib:
```

```
[multilib]
Include = /etc/pacman.d/mirrorlist
```

Sync the database:

```
sudo pacman -Sy
```

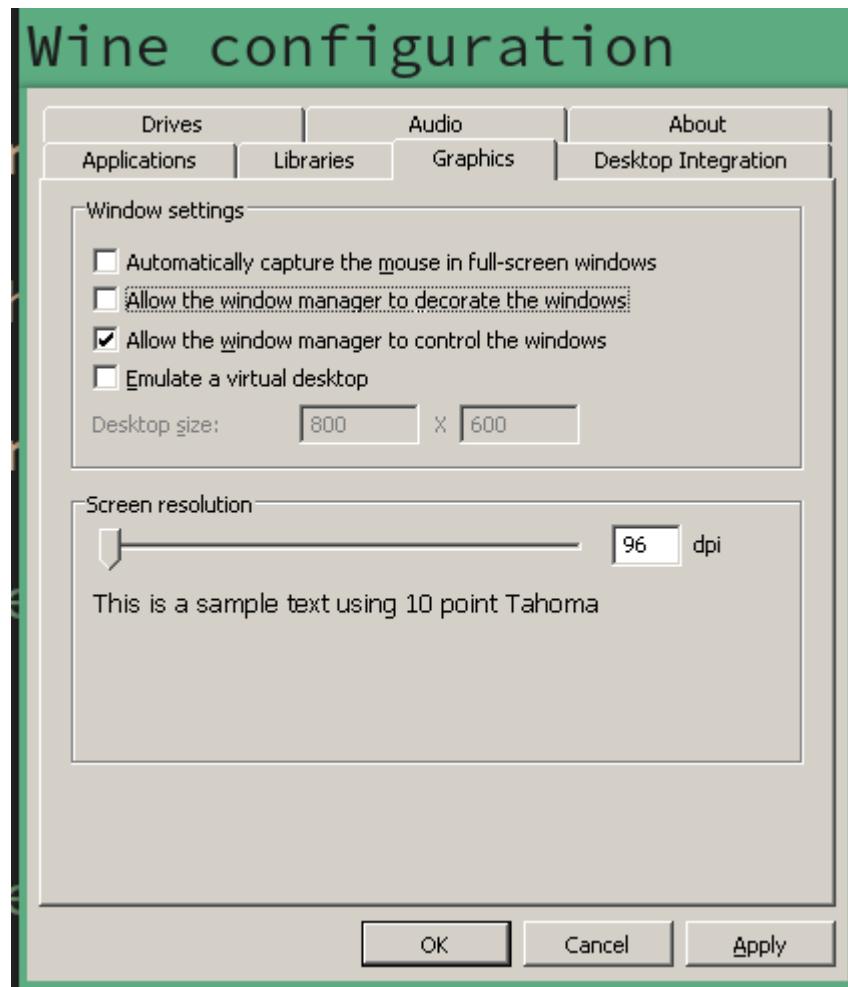
Then install it:

```
sudo pacman -S wine winetricks
```

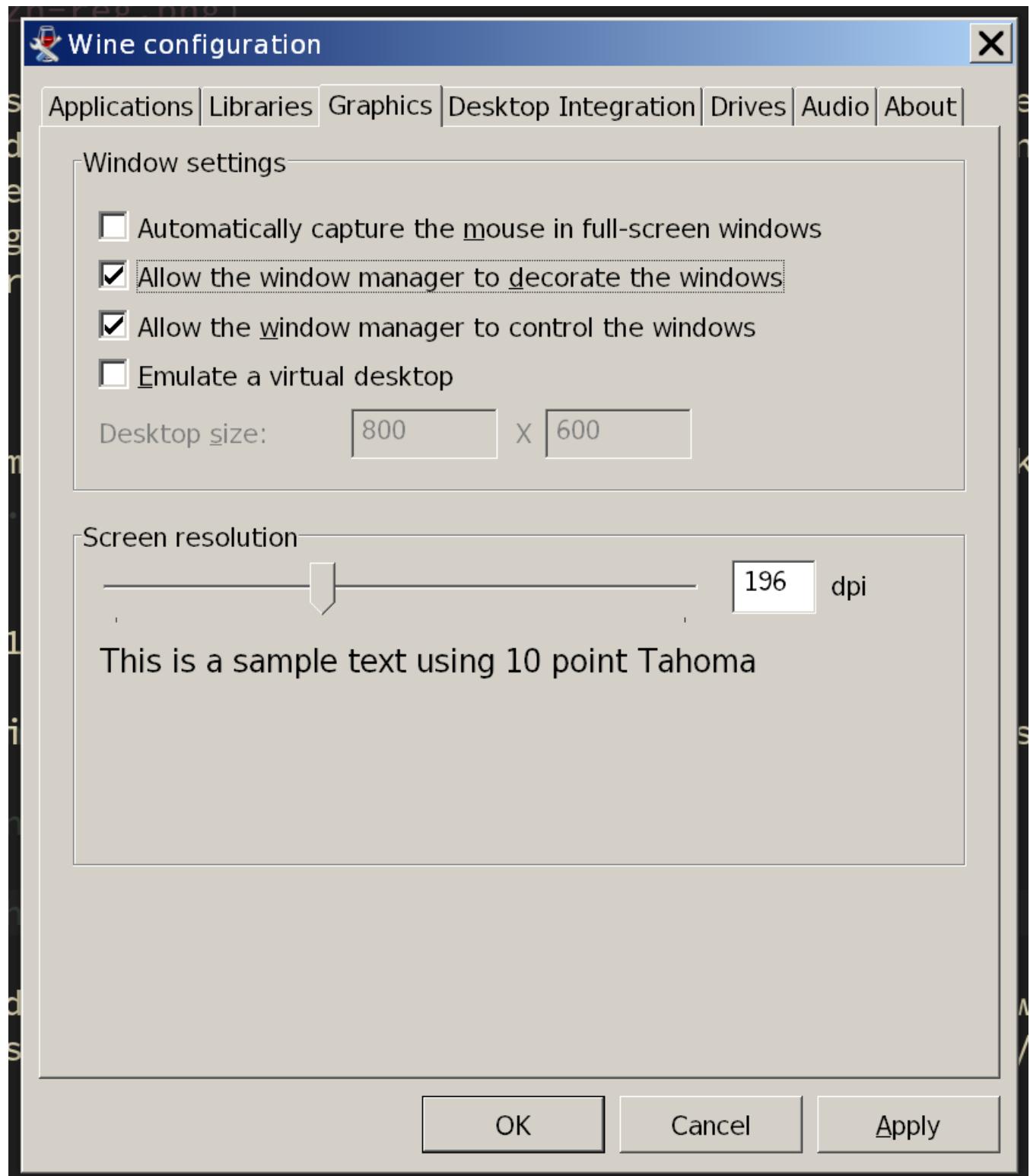
Run `winecfg` to create a default `C:/` in `$HOME/.wine/drive_c`. It will ask you to install some extra stuff, just click `cancel` for all of them, as it doesn't matter to run `wercaht`.

```
winecfg
```

For the first time, you might see the UI looks like below (very tiny font):



After you change the correct DPI, re-run `winecfg` again, it should look better:



- Link Chinese fonts to your local font

Save the following content to a temporary file, you need to `import` it later, make sure NOT save into a `hidden` folder, as the `winecfg` program won't be able to see your `hidden` folder!!!

For example, save to `~/zh.reg`:

```
$ vim ~/zh.reg

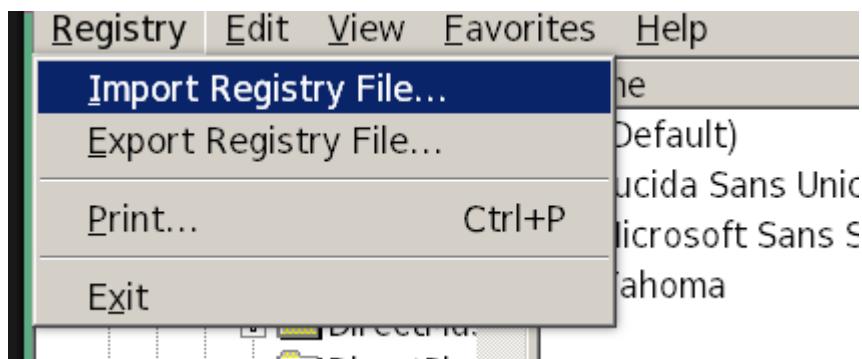
You can find the font name in `/usr/share/fonts`, just replace
"wqy-microhei.ttc"
to the one you like. e.g. "SourceHanSansCN-Medium.otf"

REGEDIT4
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows
NT\CurrentVersion\FontLink\SystemLink]
"Lucida Sans Unicode"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"Microsoft Sans Serif"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"Microsoft YaHei"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"微软雅黑"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"MS Sans Serif"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"Tahoma"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"Tahoma Bold"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"SimSun"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"Arial"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"Arial Black"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"宋体"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
"新細明體"="wqy-microhei.ttc"
```

Run the command below to import `zh.reg`:

```
wine regedit
```

Then click `Import Registry File` and choose your `zh.reg`:



- Download `DLLs` by running `winetricks`

```
winetricks riched20
```

It will download the dependencies into `$HOME/.cache/winetricks` then install it into `$HOME/.wine/drive_c`.

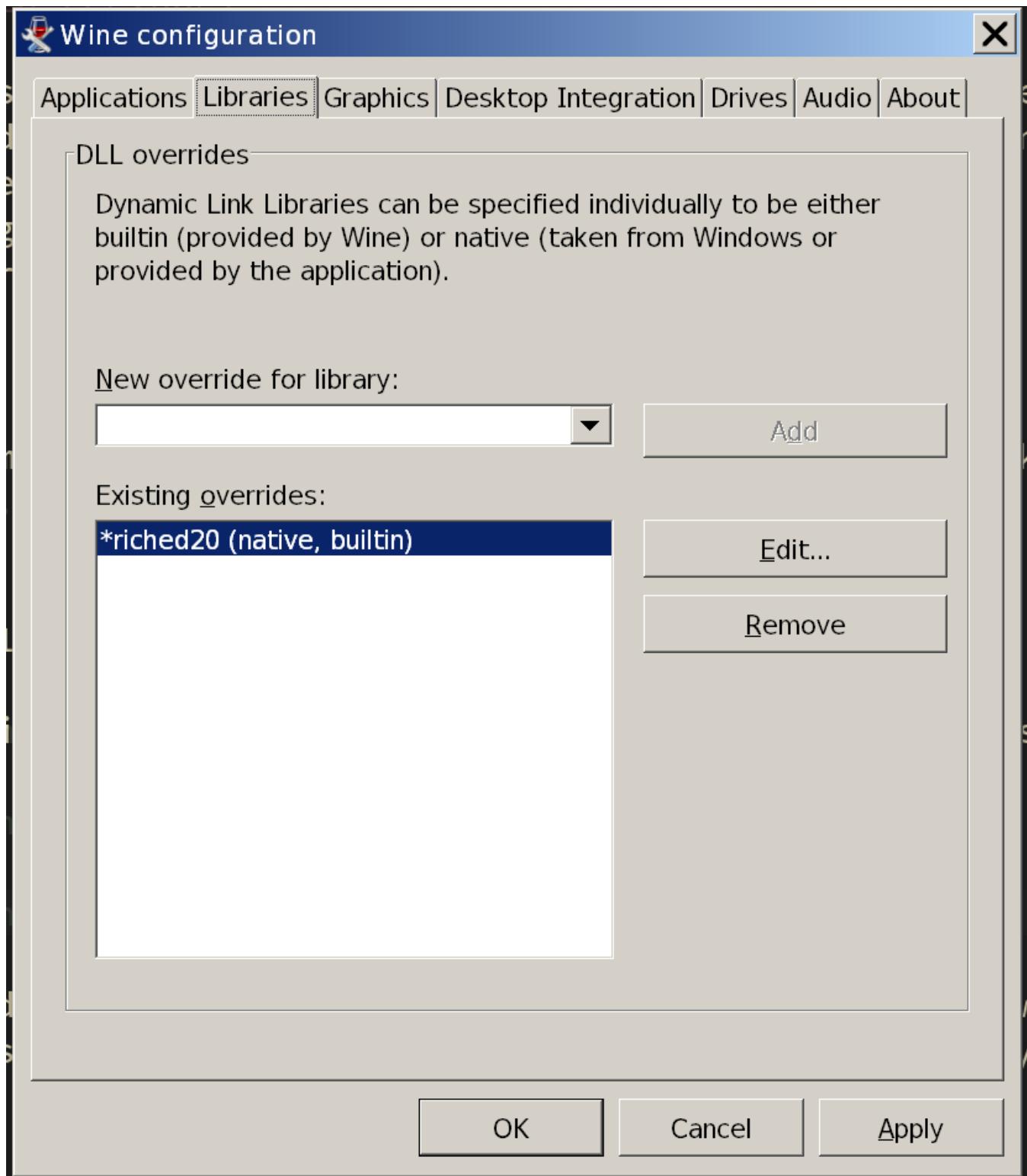
Pay attention:

If you can't download `W2KSP4\_EN.EXE` , then you can download it from:

[http://www.mywindowspage.com/index.php/download/w2ksp4\\_en-exe/](http://www.mywindowspage.com/index.php/download/w2ksp4_en-exe/)

After downloaded, move it into  
`'$HOME/.cache/winetricks/wine2ksp4/'` ,  
and then run `'winetricks riches20'` again

After installed the `DLLs`, if you run `winecfg` again, you should be able to see the `DLL` there:



- Install **Wechat** or **WxWork**

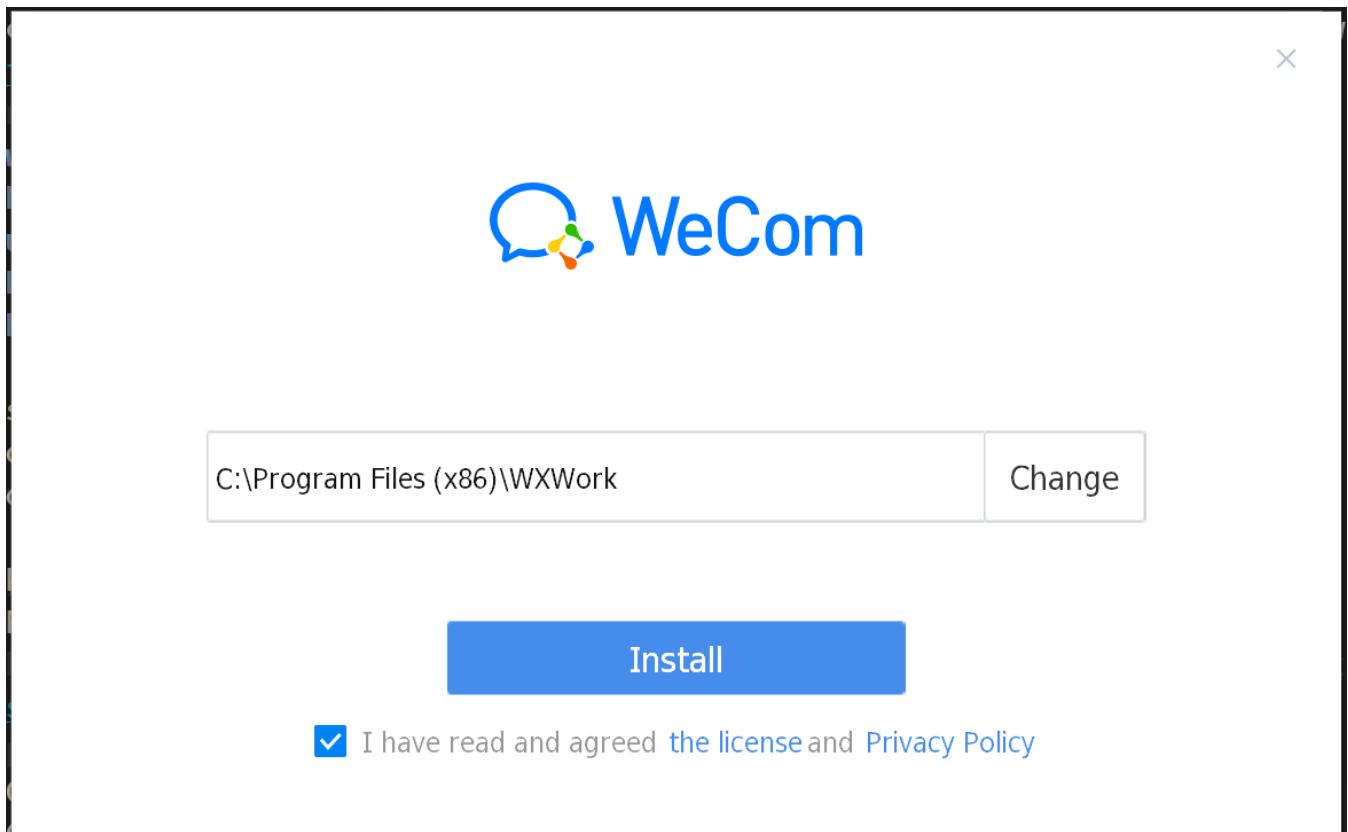
Download the window version installation EXE from here, just pick the one you needed:

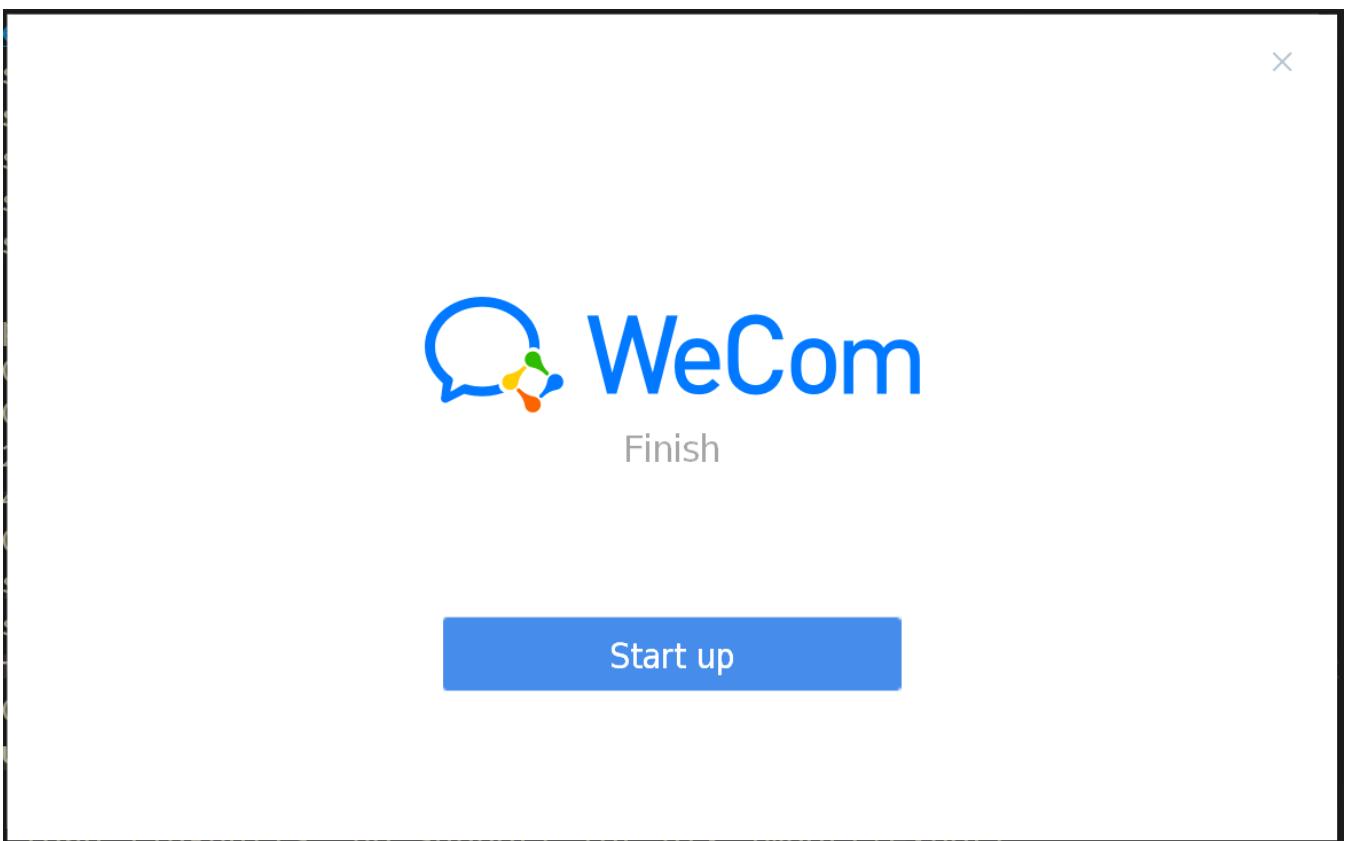
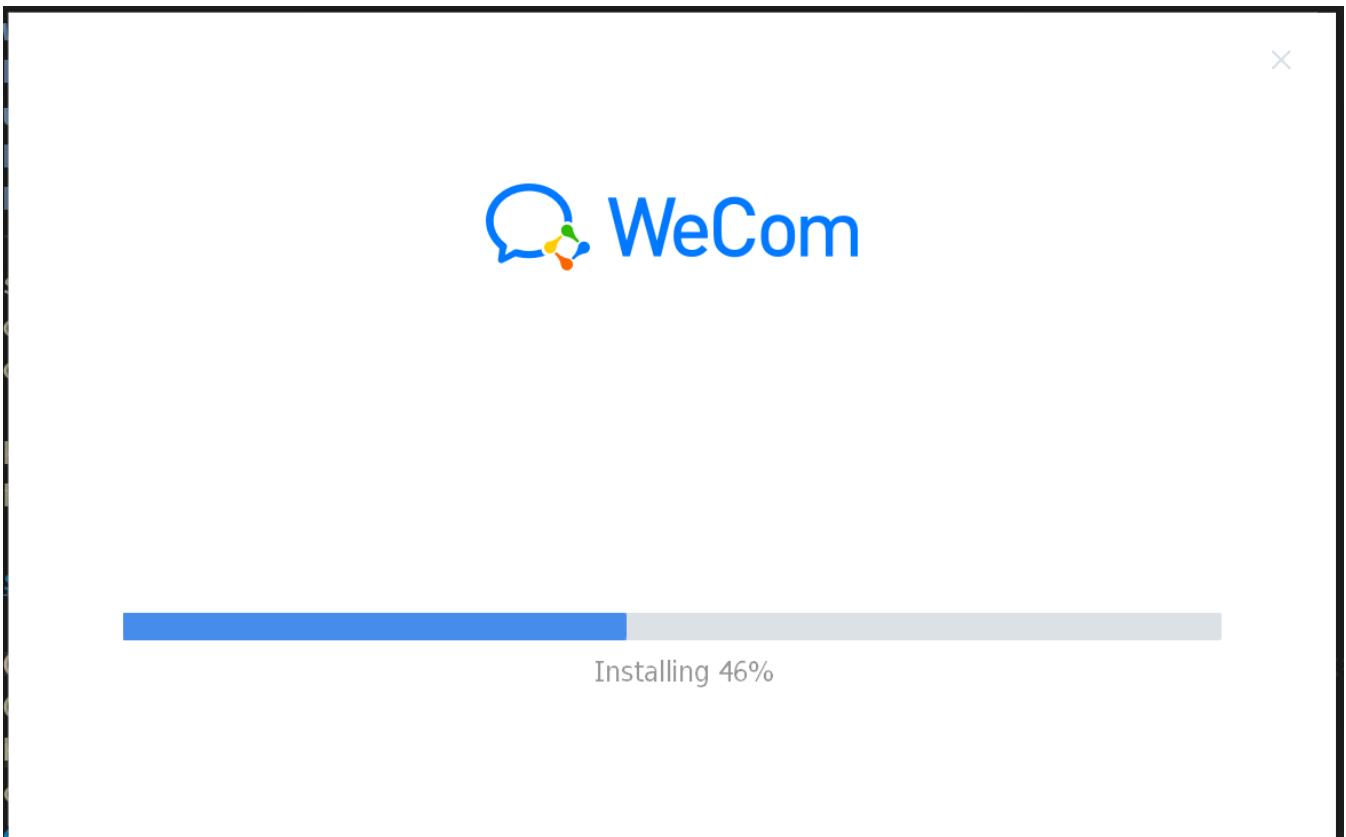
- o [WxWork](#)
- o [Wechat](#)

After download, run the installation program you needed. Let's take the [WxWork](#) as example:

```
If you need `WxWork`
wine $HOME/Downloads/WE_CHAT_WORK_EXE_FILE_NAME_HERE
```

Then, you should be able to see the install UI like below:







- How to use `i3` keybinding to lanuch `WxWork`

- Create lanuch script

```
vim ~/scripts/wechat_work.sh with the following content:
```

If you change the default installation folder, then you should change to yours!!!

```
wine ~/.wine/drive_c/Program\ Files\ \|(x86\|)/WXWork/WXWork.exe &
```

Make it executable:

```
chmod +x ~/scripts/wechat_work.sh
```

- i3 keybinding

```
vim ~/.config/i3/config and add the following keybinding to lanuch WxWork :
```

```
Launch WxWork
bindsym $mod+w exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/wechat_work.sh

Enable the floating mode for `WxWork` window
for_window [class="wxwork.exe"] floating enable border pixel 1
```

A tips:

As `WxWork` runs in floating mode and its UI is bigger, for getting the better user experience, you might switch to a empty workspace to run the `WxWork`.

- How to remove `wine` and `winetricks` completely?

If you don't like it, walk through the steps below to remove them completely:

```
Remove the package and all related dependencies
sudo pacman -Rsn wine winetricks

Remove the entire `~/.wine`, as that's huge!!!
rm -rf ~/.wine

Remove the cache as well
rm -rf ~/.cache/winetricks/
```

## Install zoom

- Install

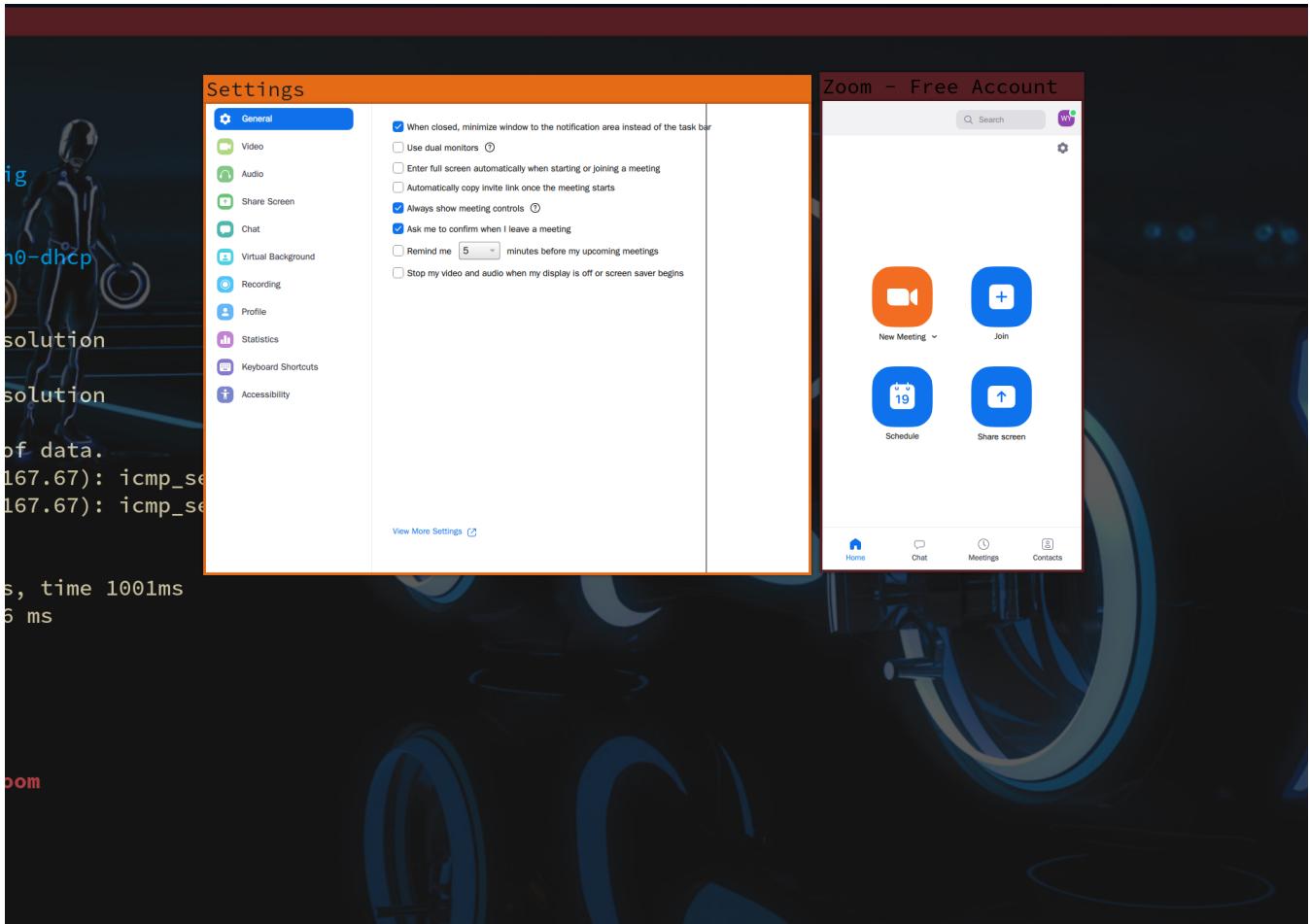
Download `zoom_x86_64.pkg.tar.xz` from [here](#)

After that, install it by running:

```
sudo pacman -U ./zoom_x86_64.pkg.tar.xz
```

- Fixed the UI font size

Mayb you will see the UI has very tiny font size like this:



If that happens, then add the `QT_SCALE_FACTOR` environment var to fix that. You can try 1 or 2 even 3 to have a look.

- Add hotkey to `i3`

`vim ~scripts/startzoom.sh` with the following settings:

```
#!/bin/sh
QT_SCALE_FACTOR=2 zoom &
```

Change the `QT_SCALE_FACTOR` value to yours.

Then add the following settings to `~/.config/i3/config`

```
Zoom
bindsym $mod+z exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/startzoom.sh
```

# About cleaning cache

After running Arch Linux for a while, you will notice that your disk free space keeps reducing and never stop, that should be a signal that you should clean your cache. Usually, it will save over 500 MB disk space:)

```
Show how much your cache hold the disk space
dust -d1 ~/.cache

Clean yay cache and unneeded dependencies
yay -Sc
yay -Yc

Clean pacman cache (it locates `/var/cache/pacman/pkg/`)
sudo pacman -Scc

Clean yarn (if you installed)
yarn cache clean

Clean google-chrome cache (sometimes, this folder is huge!)
rm -rf ~/.cache/google-chrome/Default

After that, calculate again, it should get big improved.
dust -d1 ~/.cache
```

# Backup and restore

- Backup

Create the backup script with following content:

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "Backup started at: $(date +'%Y-%m-%d_%H-%M-%S')"
BACKUP_FILE_NAME="arch-linux-$(date +'%Y-%m-%d_%H-%M-%S').img.gz"
echo "Backup file name: $BACKUP_FILE_NAME"
sudo dd if=/dev/disk2 bs=8m | gzip -c > $BACKUP_FILE_NAME
echo "Backup done at $(date +'%Y-%m-%d_%H-%M-%S')"
```

Of course, you need to change something above which match your real case:

- `BACKUP\_FILE\_NAME`, change to your prefer name (with path)
- `/dev/disk2`, change to your real dev name

In my case, I backup the 32GB USB to .img.gz, it takes around 47 mins and the compress size is 14GB.

```
N [11:17:54] wison@Wisons-iMac /Users/wison
> vim ~/temp/backup-arch-linux.sh
N [11:18:29] wison@Wisons-iMac /Users/wison
> ~/temp/backup-arch-linux.sh
Backup started at: 2020-12-17_11-18-31
Backup file name: arch-linux-2020-12-17_11-18-31.img.gz
Password:
3666+0 records in
3666+0 records out
30752636928 bytes transferred in 2862.147033 secs (10744604 bytes/sec)
Backup done at 2020-12-17_12-06-16
I [12:06:16] wison@Wisons-iMac /Users/wison
```

14G 17 Dec 12:06 arch-linux-2020-12-17\_11-18-31.img.gz

- Restore

Prepare your USB, and make sure the size should be equal or great than your original backup USB size.

Better to remove all the partitions before you restore, I think it can make sure the bootloader works fine. (not 100% sure)

Then create the restore script with the folling content:

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "Restore started at: $(date +'%Y-%m-%d_%H-%M-%S')"
RESTORE_FILE_NAME="arch-linux-$(date +'%Y-%m-%d_%H-%M-%S').img.gz"
echo "Restore file name: $RESTORE_FILE_NAME"
sudo bash -c 'gunzip -c ${RESTORE_FILE_NAME} | sudo dd of=/dev/disk2
bs=8m'
echo "Restore done at $(date +'%Y-%m-%d_%H-%M-%S')"
```

# Firewall

- Install

```
sudo pacman -Sy firewalld ipset
```

- About the `zone` and `service`

- What is a `zone`

Long story short, a zone just like a `folder` contains predefined firewall rules.

- Predefined `services`

A service is a combination of port and/or protocol rules.

- Available `zones`

Here only list the usual zone which user will use, for more details plz access the man page by running: `man firewalld.zones`.

- `drop`

The high secure option, no service open by default. Any incoming network packets are dropped, there is no reply. Only outgoing network connections are possible.

```
sudo firewall-cmd --info-zone=drop
#drop
target: DROP
icmp-block-inversion: no
interfaces:
sources:
services:
ports:
protocols:
forward: no
masquerade: no
forward-ports:
source-ports:
icmp-blocks:
rich rules:
```

- **public** (The default zone)

For use in public areas. You do not trust the other computers on networks to not harm your computer. Only selected incoming connections are accepted.

```
sudo firewall-cmd --info-zone=home
#home
target: default
icmp-block-inversion: no
interfaces:
sources:
services: dhcpcv6-client mdns samba-client ssh
ports:
protocols:
forward: no
masquerade: no
forward-ports:
source-ports:
icmp-blocks:
rich rules:
```

- Configuration

All configurations in `firewalld` separate in `runtime` and `permanent`, `runtime` means only take effect from now on, but will not exists after reboot. If you run the command without `--permanent`, that means only affect to the `runtime` configuration.

```
List the default zone
firewall-cmd --get-default-zone

List all available zones
firewall-cmd --get-zones

List all enabled services under current zone (`public` by default)
sudo firewall-cmd --list-service
sudo firewall-cmd --list-service --permanent

List all available services which you can add or remove
firewall-cmd --get-services

Add the specified (enable) service to the current zone
sudo firewall-cmd --add-service SERVICE_NAME_HERE
sudo firewall-cmd --add-service SERVICE_NAME_HERE --permanent

Remove the specified service to the current zone
sudo firewall-cmd --remove-service SERVICE_NAME_HERE
sudo firewall-cmd --remove-service SERVICE_NAME_HERE --permanent

Usually, all setting commands are instantly.
But you can reload all the rules at any time.
sudo firewall-cmd --reload
```

But you can config all the rules in a `GUI` tool:

```
sudo firewall-config
```

# Change DPI by script

If you install Arch Linux to a USB, then you definitely need to change screen DPI when you switch between iMac and MacBookPro.

- **iMac (5K)**

- Create `~/scripts/Xresources-imac` with the following settings:

```
Xft.dpi: 144
```

- Create `~/scripts/change-dpi-for-imac.sh` with the following settings:

```
#!/bin/bash
cp -rvf ~/scripts/Xresources-imac ~/.Xresources
i3exit logout
```

- Make it executable

```
chmod +x ~/scripts/change-dpi-for-imac.sh
```

- **MacBookPro 2015**

- Create `~/scripts/Xresources-mbp-2015` with the following settings:

```
Xft.dpi: 192
```

- Create `~/scripts/change-dpi-for-mbp-2015.sh` with the following settings:

```
#!/bin/bash
cp -rvf ~/scripts/Xresources-mbp-2015 ~/.Xresources
i3exit logout
```

- Make it executable

```
chmod +x ~/scripts/change-dpi-for-mbp-2015.sh
```

- MacBookPro 2012

- Create `~/scripts/Xresources-mbp-2012` with the following settings:

```
Xft.dpi: 96
```

- Create `~/scripts/change-dpi-for-mbp-2012.sh` with the following settings:

```
#!/bin/bash
cp -rvf ~/scripts/Xresources-mbp-2012 ~/.Xresources
i3exit logout
```

- Make it executable

```
chmod +x ~/scripts/change-dpi-for-mbp-2015.sh
```

After that, you can change to any screen DPI at anytime you want in real-time.

Pay attention: After you run the script, it will log you out to take effect!!!

```
For iMac 5K Screen
~/scripts/change-dpi-for-imac.sh

For MacBookPro 2015 screen
~/scripts/change-dpi-for-mbp-2015.sh

For MacBookPro 2012 screen
~/scripts/change-dpi-for-mbp-2012.sh
```

# Screen brightness control

## The basic approach to control screen brightness

```
Print out the current screen brightness
cat /sys/class/backlight/intel_backlight/brightness

Print out the maximum screen brightness
cat /sys/class/backlight/intel_backlight/max_brightness

Set the current screen brightness
sudo bash -c "echo 512 > /sys/class/backlight/intel_backlight/brightness"
```

### For the iMac

Sometimes `acpi` doesn't work very well on `iMac`, for the case I met, the `iMac 5K` screen is very bright by default and can't control via the `/sys/class/backlight` file system path.

Even you can't control the brightness, but it's reduce the default brightness (at least not 100% brightness). For that purpose, you can disable the `acpi` brightness control for the `iMac` via the steps below:

- `sudo vim /etc/default/grub` and add the `acpi_backlight=none` settings like below:

```
Assume `loglevel=3 quiet` is your original settings
GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT="loglevel=3 quiet acpi_backlight=none"
```

- Then re-generate the GRUB based on your new settings

```
sudo grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg
```

## Build the mac-light-controller (it only work for MacBookPro)

- Pull from repo, build it

```
Go into any folder you want
git clone https://github.com/wisonye/mac-light-controller.git
cd mac-light-controller
cargo clean && \
cargo build --release && \
strip ./target/release/mac-light-controller

Move to any folder you want `i3` to launch from there (Optional)
mv ./target/release/mac-light-controller ~/scripts/
```

- Add keybinds to i3 configuration file

```
vim ~/.config/i3/config and add the following settings:
```

```

=====

Screen brightness control

=====

bindsym XF86MonBrightnessUp exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/mac-light-
controller Screen +
bindsym XF86MonBrightnessDown exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/mac-
light-controller Screen -
bindsym XF86KbdBrightnessUp exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/mac-light-
controller Keyboard +
bindsym XF86KbdBrightnessDown exec --no-startup-id ~/scripts/mac-
light-controller Keyboard -
```

- Allow any linux account in `wheel` group can modify the backlight system file with `root` permission
  - `sudo vim /etc/udev/rules.d/90-backlight.rules` and add the following settings:

```
SUBSYSTEM=="backlight", ACTION=="add", \
 RUN+="/bin/chgrp wheel /sys/class/backlight/%k/brightness", \
 RUN+="/bin/chmod g+w /sys/class/backlight/%k/brightness"
```

- `sudo vim /etc/udev/rules.d/91-leds.rules` and add the following settings:

```
SUBSYSTEM=="leds", ACTION=="add", \
 RUN+="/bin/chgrp wheel /sys/class/leds/%k/brightness", \
 RUN+="/bin/chmod g+w /sys/class/leds/%k/brightness"
```

Of course, make sure your current linux account is in `wheel` group!!!

Reload `i3`, then press the screen brightness control key, it should work. You can run the script manually like below to test it if it doesn't work.

```
DEBUG=true ./target/release/mac-screen-brightness-controller -
is_add_brightness: false
total_steps: 10
max_brightness: Some(1953)
current_brightness: Some(1953)
temp_step_value: 195
new_brightness_value: 1758
Set new brightness value '1758' successfully.
```

## Trackpad support

- List your `Apple Trackpad` device

```
sudo libinput list-devices | grep Trackpad -A 17
```

```
By default, this folder should empty if you didn't add any
configuration
manually
ls -lht /etc/X11/xorg.conf.d/

If you installed `synaptics` (`xf86-input-synaptics`) and `libinput`
(`xf86-input-libinput`),
then you should see result like this:
ls -lht /usr/share/X11/xorg.conf.d/

-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 1.4K Dec 2 08:51 10-quirks.conf
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 92 May 19 2020 10-amdgpu.conf
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 1.4K May 19 2020 40-libinput.conf
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 92 May 17 2020 10-radeon.conf
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 1.8K May 17 2020 70-synaptics.conf

If match the above case, then create to soft link like this:
sudo ln -s /usr/share/X11/xorg.conf.d/40-libinput.conf
/etc/X11/xorg.conf.d/40-libinput.conf

After restart the X, run the command below and you should some ouput
like below:
grep -e "Using input driver 'libinput'" /var/log/Xorg.0.log

[5734.514] (II) Using input driver 'libinput' for 'Power Button'
[5734.579] (II) Using input driver 'libinput' for 'Video Bus'
[5734.633] (II) Using input driver 'libinput' for 'Power Button'
[5734.687] (II) Using input driver 'libinput' for 'Sleep Button'
[5734.729] (II) Using input driver 'libinput' for 'Apple Inc. Apple
Internal Keyboard / Trackpad'
[5734.887] (II) Using input driver 'libinput' for 'Broadcom Corp.
Bluetooth USB Host Controller'
[5734.927] (II) Using input driver 'libinput' for 'Broadcom Corp.
Bluetooth USB Host Controller'"
```

That proves your trackpad is using the `libinput` driver. So you can add the following setting to improve your trackpad experiences:

- Same scrolling experience within `MacOS`

`sudo vim /etc/X11/xorg.conf.d/40-libinput.conf`, then add the following settings to `libinput touchpad catchall` section.

- `Option "NaturalScrolling" "true"` - Reverse the scrolling direction
- `Option "Tapping" "on"` - Tap to click

Finally, it looks like this:

```
Section "InputClass"
 Identifier "libinput touchpad catchall"
 MatchIsTouchpad "on"
 MatchDevicePath "/dev/input/event*"
 Driver "libinput"
 Option "NaturalScrolling" "true"
 Option "Tapping" "on"
EndSection
```

# Bluetooth support

- Install

```
sudo pacman bluez bluez-utils blueman
```

- Enable/start service

```
If you want auto bluetooth service
sudo systemctl enable bluetooth.service
```

```
You can restart it manually anytime you need input
sudo systemctl restart bluetooth.service
sudo systemctl status bluetooth.service
```

- Make sure `rfkill` not block your bluetooth adapter

`rfkill` a tool for enabling and disabling wireless device.

```
sudo rfkill list

0: hci0: bluetooth
Soft blocked: no
Hard blocked: no
```

The case above means no block at all, that's fine. If you see it's blocked, then run the command below to unblock:

```
sudo rfkill unblock bluetooth
```

- Scan and pair, then connect

First, turn off your bluetooth device which want to connect to. Run `bluetoothctl`, then follow the steps below to connect:

```
Make sure turn on the bluetooth
power on

Enable scan, after that, bluetooth devices show up there one by one
scan on

Right now, turn on your bluetooth device, then wait for it to show
up.

Hopefully, it shows its name directly which you can confirm that's
your device.

If it doesn't, only show the MAC ID, then copy that Id and run the
command to confirm.

info XX:XX:XX:XX:XX:XX

Once you confirm that your device, then do:
pair XX:XX:XX:XX:XX:XX

After pairing, you can connect to it
connect XX:XX:XX:XX:XX:XX

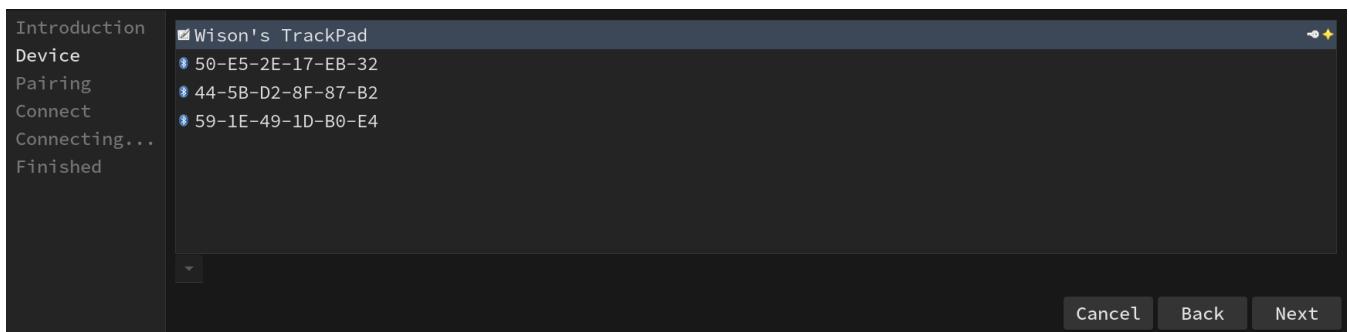
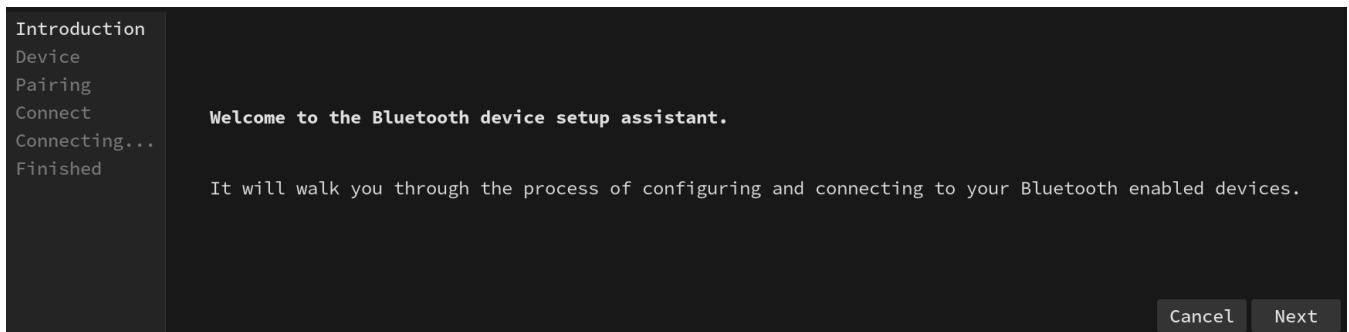
Optionally, you can trust it and it will auto connect next time
trust XX:XX:XX:XX:XX:XX

Quit
quit
```

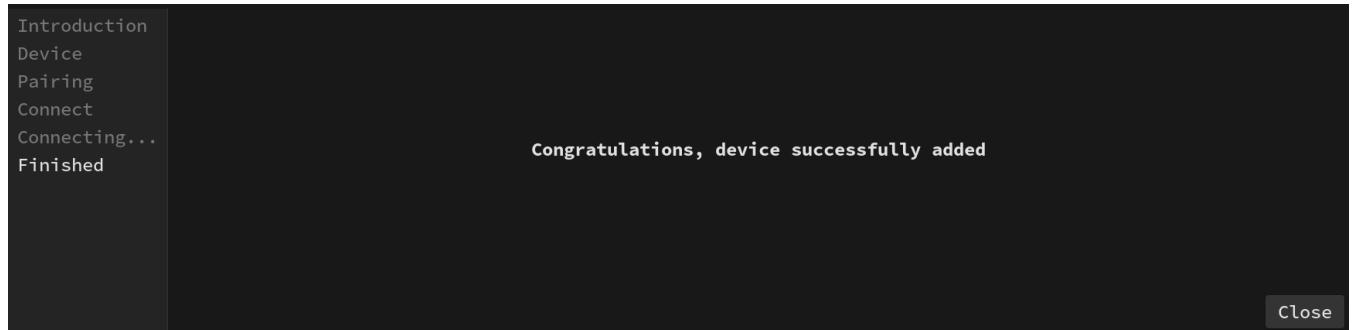
Below is the real example:

```
N | wison@wison-arch ~> bluetoothctl
Agent registered
[bluetooth]# devices
Device 64:C7:53:ED:C2:77 Wilson's TrackPad
[bluetooth]# connect 64:C7:53:ED:C2:77
Attempting to connect to 64:C7:53:ED:C2:77
[CHG] Device 64:C7:53:ED:C2:77 Connected: yes
Connection successful
[CHG] Device 64:C7:53:ED:C2:77 ServicesResolved: yes
[Wison's TrackPad]# trust 64:C7:53:ED:C2:77
Changing 64:C7:53:ED:C2:77 trust succeeded
[Wison's TrackPad]# []
```

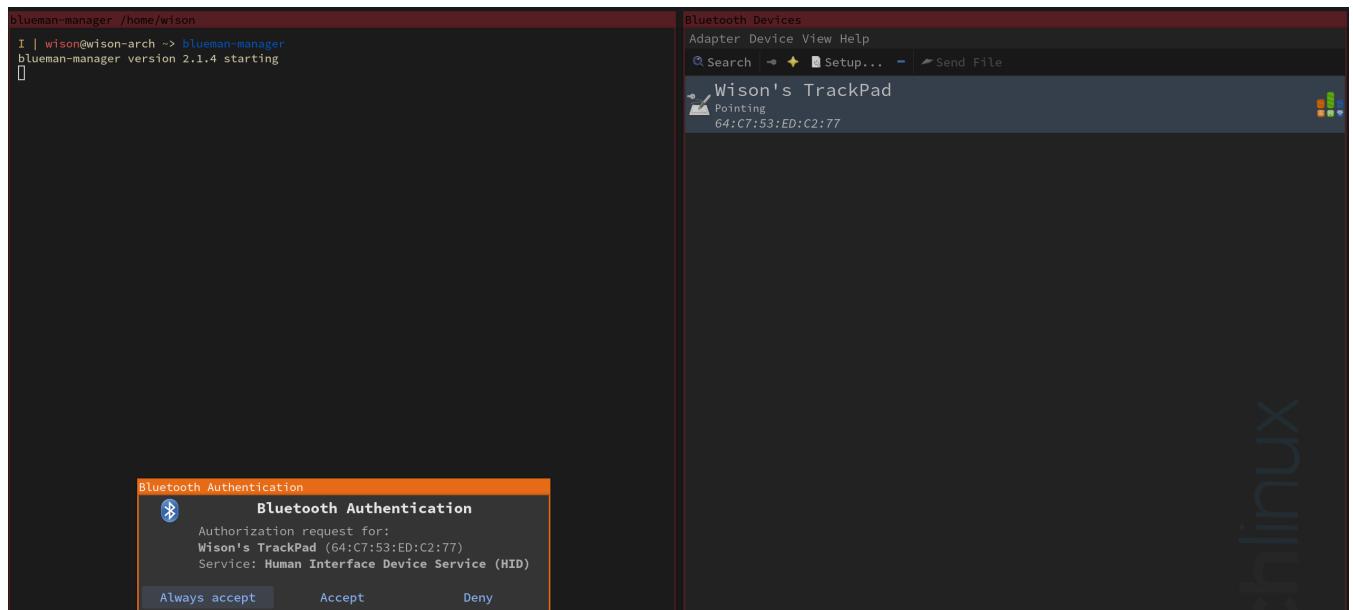
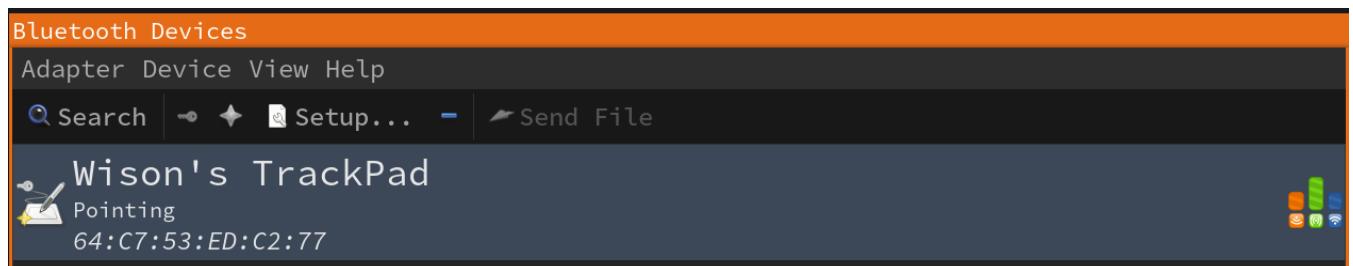
- Alternatively, you can use the `blueman-assistant` to do that in GUI mode:



// Ignore the pair and connect steps.....



- Another option, you can use `blueman-manger` directly which is another GUI tool:



## Access Apple File System

In 2017, Apple changed the default filesystem on their `macOS` (High Sierra and above) to `APFS`, the `Apple File System`. It replaced `HFS+`.

For safety reason, you can use `apfs-fuse` to mount your MacOS drive within the read-only mode.

- Install

```
sudo pacman -Sy fuse3 zlib bzip2 cmake
```

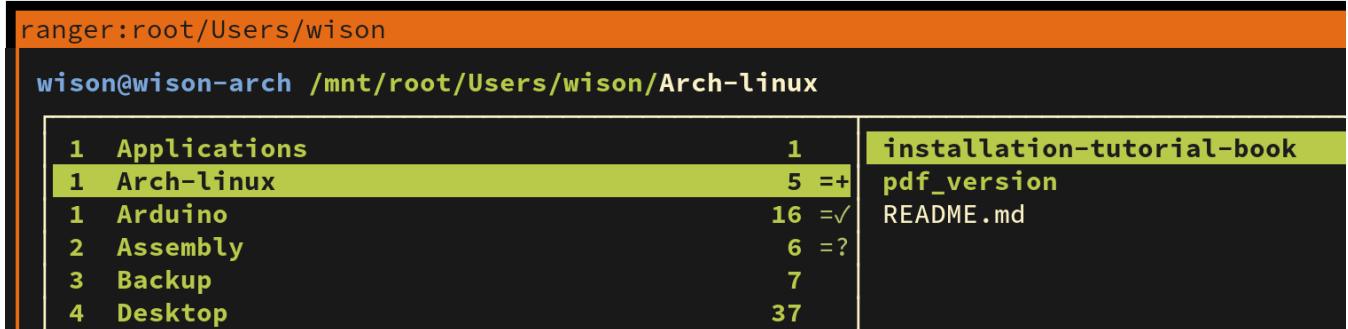
- Compile

```
git clone https://github.com/sgan81/apfs-fuse.git
cd apfs-fuse/
git submodule init
git submodule update

mkdir build && cd build
cmake ..
make
sudo make install
```

- Mount and umount

```
Mount with `allow_other` (can access) option
Plz replace the `sdXX` to your real device
sudo apfs-fuse -o allow_other /dev/sdXX /mnt
```



```
Unmount
sudo umount /mnt
```