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HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer

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May 6th, 2006

#1

Peter76
Way Too Much Ubuntu

Join Date: Oct 2005
Location: Netherlands
Beans: 258
Edubuntu 7.04 Feisty Fawn User

HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer

I've been using Icewm with Rox now for a while on an older machine and thought it a good idea to share my gathered knowledge till now, seeing not a lot of info on Icewm here.....

I'll assume you did a server install and know your way around the command line.
Also have a look here: <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/Installation/LowMemorySystems>

For this configuration, you need the following packages:

```
gdm ( or any other dm )
x-window-system-core
icewm
icewm-themes
rox-filer
menu
xfce4-terminal ( This is a Dapper package; use xterminal in Breezy )
Any other programs you like
```

Ok, so you have installed this and are ready for your first login. Now in GDM, set your session to icewm and make it the default. Otherwise it will start up with gnome and this doesn't work properly (have never tried to get it to work though, so no info here.) Well, type your log and pass and enter... There you are at a simple looking icewm session.

Now we are going to tweak this a bit so it looks nicer, we have a desktop with icons, and you know how to edit the icewm configuration files.

So first open a terminal, if you installed one, there should be a terminal icon in the taskbar and in your start(icewm)menu

Code:

```
mkdir ~/.icewm
```

Code:

```
cp /etc/X11/icewm/* ~/.icewm/
```

Now, with your favorite editor (I use Mousepad here...) create a file "startup" in the ~/.icewm directory and put the following line in it:

```
rox --pinboard=yourusername &
```

Save it and make it executable:

Code:

```
chmod +x ~/.icewm/startup
```

Now logout and log back in, in the Icewm menu -> Logout. Now you come back into Icewm with Rox filer having taken over the desktop and a nice icon sitting there for your home directory. If you right click, you now get the Rox menu, have a look around here, especially the options, this is pretty straight forward.

If you want more things on your desktop, just drag them there from a Rox window. One thing I like to have around is an icon for my cdrom, as this doesn't automatically appears as in gnome: from a rox window, go into the /media directory and drag the cdrom dir to the desktop. Now if you insert a cd and open this icon, it gets mounted automatically....

Setting the standard application for a certain file is also a matter of drag and drop: right click on the file you want to set the standard app for and -> Set run action.

Now in a Rox window go to (most of the time) /usr/bin/ and from there drag the application you want to use to the Set run action window. That's it!

There's no trash by default in Rox; you delete files PERMANENTLY by right clicking on them and -> delete. If you want to have a nice trash on your desktop, download a trash from here: <http://www.hayber.us/rox/misc/Rubbish-001.tgz>
Extract the file:

Code:

```
tar xzvf Rubbish-001.tgz
```

Drag the icon to your desktop and Voila, you now have a trash. Drag stuff to it to put it there. Be warned though: the delete option from the Rox menu still deletes things PERMANENTLY!!!

Two more little nifty Rox tricks: in a Rox window, hit '/' and you can type the location you want to go to, hit 'esc' to get out. Hit 'shift+' to get a command line, hit 'esc' to get out again

Ok, this far about Rox, now we'll get into configuring Icewm. As you probably figured out, the configuration files for Icewm are now in ~/.icewm.

To add an application to your Icewm menu, there is are two ways. The easy way is to use the 'program's' menu in the Icewm menu. This menu is managed by the menu package. Every time you install a new application,run

Code:

```
update-menus
```

from the terminal and this menu will get updated with your new app.

The other way is by editing the `~/icwm/menu` file. Open it with your favorite editor and have a look at it; it's pretty self-explanatory. You can leave it as it is and add things to your needs, or delete everything in there and start all over again as I did. What it comes down to is this:

If you want a menu, add:

Code:

```
menu "NameOfMenu" folder {
}
```

And DON'T forget the closing bracket 😊. If you want a submenu, add the same code between the brackets of the menu. The syntax for adding a program to a menu is like this:

Code:

```
prog "NameOfProg" pathtoiconofprog commandtoexecute
```

You don't have to use the " " in the name of the program if it's a single word, but with them you can use spaces in the name. The path to the icon for the program is nine out of ten times `/usr/share/pixmaps/nameofprogram.png`. If this doesn't work, try `.xpm` instead of `.png`. If that doesn't work, you have to do a bit of searching around.....
So, if for example, we want to create an 'Internet' menu, with a 'Browser' submenu, with 'Firefox' in there, you need the following:

Code:

```
menu "Internet" folder {
  menu "Browser" folder {
    prog "Firefox" /usr/share/pixmaps/firefox.png firefox
  }
}
```

In the same way you can add programs to your toolbar, only then you have to edit `~/icwm/toolbar` (DUH).

Have a look at the other files in `~/icwm` as well, especially the preferences. They shouldn't be too much trouble now. Don't change the programs file though, as it is maintained by the menu package.

Also don't forget to have a look into the themes menu in the Icewm menu (Icewm->themes) I personally like the SilverXP a lot; looks very slick.

Hope I helped some people out with this HOWTO; any comments are very welcome!!! Many thanks to the Ubuntu developers for making this happen and to the Ubuntu community for being so alive and kicking!

▶ QUOTE

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📅 May 15th, 2006

#2



Googler
5 Cups of Ubuntu



Join Date: Apr 2006
Location: Egypt
Beans: 41
Ubuntu 6.06 User

Re: HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer

easier way:

Code:

```
sudo apt-get install icewm rox icewm-themes
```



i don't like to install icewm-themes "ugly themes" , instead download your preferred theme and extract it and

Code:

```
mkdir ~/.icewm/themes
```

copy your extracted theme folder to ~/.icewm/themes

and load it from the menu

Idleness is not doing nothing, Idleness is being free to do anything.

Last edited by Googler : May 15th, 2006 at 11:18 AM.

QUOTE

May 26th, 2006

#3



jon_benge
5 Cups of Ubuntu



Join Date: Apr 2006
Location: Userland
Beans: 54
Kubuntu 6.06 Dapper User

Re: HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer

Peter, this is an awesome tutorial so thanks 😊

If anyone is looking for some iceWM eyecandy, download [THIS SKIN](#) and install it following Googler's advice.

Next, open up a terminal and type:

Code:

```
sudo apt-get install gtk-theme-switch gtk2-engines-ubuntulooks
```

Then

Code:

```
update-menus
```

Click the iceWM menu > Programs > Apps > Tools > GTK+ 2.0 Theme Switch.

Click the drop down box and select 'Human', then click 'Apply'.

EDIT: Thought i'd post some screenshots 😊

Attached Images

shot1.jpg (95.1 KB, 255 views)

shot2.jpg (132.9 KB, 201 views)

Last edited by jon_benge : May 26th, 2006 at 10:10 PM.

QUOTE

May 26th, 2006

#4

**jon_benge**

5 Cups of Ubuntu

Join Date: Apr 2006
Location: Userland
Beans: 54
Kubuntu 6.06 Dapper User**Re: HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer**

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Peter***There's no trash by default in Rox; you delete files PERMANENTLY by right clicking on them and -> delete. If you want to have a nice trash on your desktop, download a tarsh from here:*<http://www.hayber.us/rox/misc/Rubbish-001.tgz>*Extract the file:*

You can also add that wastebasket to the 'right click file menu'.

Simply right click a file and choose 'Customise Menu'. A new ROX window will open and a message will appear. Simply drag the wastebin icon from the desktop into this new Window. A menu will appear and you need to choose 'Relative Link'.

From now, whenever you right click that file type, you will see 'Rubbish' in the menu. The downside is that you have to repeat this procedure for everything single file type! 🙄

▶ QUOTE

May 28th, 2006

#5

Peter76

Way Too Much Ubuntu

Join Date: Oct 2005
Location: Netherlands
Beans: 258
Edubuntu 7.04 Feisty Fawn User**Re: HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer**

Hi John, thanks for your suggestions, especially the one about the wastebasket, I was looking for something like that... I've been quite busy with work lately, but when I have some time, I'll look if there's an easy way to set the procedure for all files... There is a file for ROX about MIME types, think there might ly a clue...

▶ QUOTE

Off-topic forum discussions at [Social Discussion](#). Check it out.. Good stuff!

May 29th, 2006

**dmizer** ☀

May the Ubuntu Be With You!

Join Date: Mar 2
Location: Fukuoka
Beans: 1,786
Ubuntu 6.06 Use**Re: HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer**

Quote:

Originally Posted by **jon_benge***Peter, this is an awesome tutorial so thanks 😊*

Code:

```
sudo apt-get install gtk-theme-switch gtk2-engines-ubuntulooks
```

um ... i can't find gtk2-engines-ubuntulooks in my repository anywhere. i find that extremely odd.

but i concur, even though i don't have an appealing theme up yet, i do appreciate the tutorial. i didn't expect to get icons without taking a b on my resources.

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May 29th, 2006

#7



jon_benge 
5 Cups of Ubuntu


Join Date: Apr 2006
Location: Userland
Beans: 54
Kubuntu 6.06 Dapper User

Re: HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer

I got the 'gtk2-engines-ubuntulooks' package from the Dapper repositories.
I can't remember whether it's in the main/restrictive or universal repositories.

It may be available in the Breezy repositories too, but under a different name. Try searching for it with:

Code:

```
sudo apt-cache search ubuntulooks
```

or

Code:

```
sudo apt-cache search gtk2 engines
```

▶ QUOTE

May 29th, 2006

#8



dmizer 
May the Ubuntu Be With You!




Join Date: Mar 2006
Location: Fukuoka Japan
Beans: 1,786
Ubuntu 6.06 User

Re: HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer

yeah ... i tried searching for gtk2, gtk2-engines, gtk2 looks, ubuntulooks ... i really can't find it. all i found is clearlooks.

i'll keep looking and see if i can find it, but it looks like it might be a dapper only package.

never the less, i am extremely happy with the way this turned out. thanks for the how to.

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[linux is not windows](#) ->  Happy Ubunting! 

Last edited by dmizer : May 29th, 2006 at 08:32 PM.

▶ QUOTE

May 30th, 2006

#9



jon_benge 
5 Cups of Ubuntu


Join Date: Apr 2006
Location: Userland
Beans: 54
Kubuntu 6.06 Dapper User

Re: HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer

Clearlooks is a good theme, much better then the standard GTK themes.

▶ QUOTE

June 7th, 2006

#10

**dmizer** ☀

May the Ubuntu Be With You!

Join Date: Mar 2006
Location: Fukuoka Japan
Beans: 1,786
Ubuntu 6.06 User**Re: HOWTO: Setup Icewm with Rox-Filer**

how do i put mounted drives on the desktop as a folder? i don't need auto mount, but i'd like to place a folder for my network drives on the desktop for easy access.

edit:

okay, i'm an idiot. i just went back and read the first post. i just drag the mounted folder to the desktop and shezam ... folder on desktop. lol

how about this ... is there a way to make that folder appear automatically every time i mount the drive?

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[linux is not windows](#) -> ☀ Happy Ubunting! ☀

Last edited by dmizer : June 7th, 2006 at 08:29 PM. Reason: i'm an idiot

[▶ QUOTE](#)

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