

Xorg documentation

This contains some documentation about what I know on Xorg¹.

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1 Disabling ctrl-alt-backspace and other annoying key sequences

`Ctrl-alt-backspace` is supposed to kill the X server. This can be annoying, especially when the display is supposed to be locked :-)

`Ctrl-alt-f1` is supposed to switch to virtual terminal 1. There is no real reason one would ever want to do this when using an X server.

To disable those bindings, modify the “ServerFlags” section in `/etc/X11/xorg.conf` as follows:

```
Section "ServerFlags"
    Option "DontZap" "true"
    Option "DontVTSwitch" "true"
    # ...
EndSection
```

2 Taking a screenshot

To take a screenshot, use `import` from ImageMagick². The program takes the name of the output file as argument. To take a snapshot in ten seconds, run:

```
$ sleep 10 && import myscreen.png
```

¹<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xorg>

²<http://www.imagemagick.org/script/index.php>

then drag the mouse over the region of the screen you want in the screenshot. Those instructions come from this linux screenshot howto³

3 Xscreensaver configuration

xscreensaver⁴ is the “standard” Linux screensaving utility. This is how I configured it on my laptop.

I had to add something like `xscreensaver &` in my `.xinitrc` so that it is launched with the X server. To configure it, just run `xscreensaver-demo` . To do some special action, use `xscreensaver-command`, e.g `xscreensaver-command -lock` locks the screen.

4 X over SSH with Xnest

Assume you want to run GNOME⁵ remotely, but you want to continue working on your window manager at the same time. The solution is to run it in a separate window using `Xnest`. To do that, first start `Xnest` on display `:1`:

```
$ Xnest -ac -geometry 1024x550 :1
```

Then set your display, ssh to the remote host and launch gnome:

```
$ DISPLAY=:1 ssh -X luser@example.com gnome-session
```

³<http://tips.webdesign10.com/how-to-take-a-screenshot-on-ubuntu-linux>

⁴<http://www.jwz.org/xscreensaver/>

⁵<http://www.gnome.org/>