https://docs.slackware.com/howtos:window_managers:keyboard_layout_in_xfce

 Note: Also you can set your keyboard layouts manually, by:

setxkbmap -option grp:switch,grp:alt_shift_toggle

https://bugs.gentoo.org/557102

Bug 557102 - xfce-base/xfce4-settings-4.12.0: keyboard layout has no effect

Status: UNCONFIRMED
Reported: 2015-08-09 09:15 UTC by Rabbe Fogelholm
Modified: 2021-03-26 11:44 UTC (History)

 Rabbe Fogelholm 2015-08-09 09:15:57 UTC

Specifying a non-default keyboard layout (Swedish in my case) does not work.

I have used the Applications->Settings->Keyboard dialog to try and specify the keyboard layout. Under the Layout tab I untick the "System defaults" box. I then leave the "Keyboard model" as "Generic 104/key PC" and select "Swedish" for the "Keyboard layout". Since I don't use other keyboards I also delete the default entry (US English I think it was).

Having closed the dialog there is no immediate effect: When I type some characters in a newly opened xterm I can see that XFCE still assumes I have a US English keyboard.

Terminating the desktop and starting it again does not help. If I open the Keybord dialog and look at the settings it says Swedish. However, XFCE still assumes I have a US English keyboard layout.

These findings are made on a recently installed system. I have not installed a display manager; I use 'startx'.

I have not done any tweaks of the xorg.conf file. The motherboard has ATI Radeon and I use the closed-source ati-drivers-15.7 package from the x11 overlay. I will attach the 'equery list -f ".*"' output for reference.

Probably not significant, but anyway: I have keymap="sv-latin1" in /etc/conf.d/keymaps and typing in a console window works correctly with my Swedisk keyboard.

>   Rabbe Fogelholm 2015-08-09 20:32:18 UTC

I have found a workaround: Emerge x11-apps/setxkbmap and modify ~/.xinitrc to contain this:

    setxkbmap se
    exec startxfce4

I tried to check if the presence of the setxkbmap package would also make it possible to specify the keyboard via the XFCE "Keyboard" dialog, but this does not seem to be the

case.

It worked for me to set and switch between many different keymaps. Did you set a key combo to swap the layout? Can you try maybe using the panel plugin to set the layout to Swedish? Adding a new language to the keyboard settings list did not switch to it automatically, you might have to actually switch it before you remove the old language.

What do you have under Settings -> Settings Editor -> keyboard-layout?

Tomasz Golinski 2021-03-26 11:44:58 UTC

The bug still seems to be present. I'm affected by it on one of my machines with a fresh Gentoo install. I'm using Xorg with Xfce (xfce-settings-4.16.0) without DM, just starting it with startxfce4.

Changing layout in settings manager doesn't change anything. Value of "Settings -> Settings Editor -> keyboard-layout" is updated but doesn't work. I have to use setxkbmap each time I restart X.

https://forum.xfce.org/viewtopic.php?id=14734

21/02/16 I now can report that this problem has resolved itself! The only thing I did was go into Keyboard Settings in the Keyboard Layout plugin and change the order of the two languages. Upon doing that, I can switch between the two at will with the mouse on the panel as always. I do not know what happened, but the issue is resolved for me. Thanks.

7-14-21: What worked this time was to set to system defaults in keyboard settings, then reboot and reset off system defaults. This worked on both my desktop pc and a laptop with xubuntu installed on it.

https://unix.stackexchange.com/questions/596055/cant-switch-keyboard-layout-in-xfce

I have added a new keyboard layout in keyboard settings. I have added the language applet to my toolbar as well. Pressing Win+Space does not change anything.

I also added the corresponding language packages in the language and locale settings.

It does nothing. Even in the keyboard settings in "Manjaro settings manager", testing the layout also fails. It types in English.

> Indian Kannada layout does not work on my computer either.

I found a topic that seems similar: https://forum.manjaro.org/t/kde-unable-to-set-keyboard-layout-to-indian/

From this topic, looks like many Indian layouts got broken with one recent update in Manjaro:

Indian language variants of the keyboard layout have stopped working after this update.

Please take a look at this post.

After playing with installing / uninstalling of KDE/GNOME/Mate I got a situation, where I can't switch keyboards in Xfce4 at all.

Applet is configured normally

Unfortunately, if I press specified shortcut (Ctrl-Shift) nothing happens (neither indicator changes, nor input changes). Also if I press indicator by mouse, it changes, but input doesn't change.

> Not a direct solution but a workabout with the same result. In Debian and derivatives like Ubuntu, you can set the keyboard layout, shortcut to switch layouts, etc using this command:

sudo dpkg-reconfigure keyboard-configuration

After setting the keyboard there, you should check use system defaults on the xfce4 Settings -> Keyboard (upper left tick box on the screen shot you posted). Then I believe you'll be able to switch layouts and it should also be displayed correctly on your panel.

Added bonus, setting keyboard this way you can have multiple layouts and switching on console-framebuffer also, not only X.

>   a bit odd that dpkg-reconfigure keyboard-configuration does not give you any interactive menu to choose keyboards. I've just tested it in an Ubuntu 18.04 LTS VM and it works fine.

Nevertheless, I'm sending you the produced /etc/default/keyboard file. I used the same settings as the ones on your screenshot. Copy-paste in your /etc/default/keyboard file, removing everything else. Set use system defaults, reboot your computer and it should work.

/etc/default/keyboard

XKBMODEL="pc105"
XKBLAYOUT="us,ru"
XKBVARIANT=",typewriter"
XKBOPTIONS="grp:ctrl_shift_toggle,grp_led:scroll"

BACKSPACE="guess"

>   didn't help. If I set use system defaults then the layout controls turn grayed and I can't specify layouts anymore. What are system defaults and how to control layouts in this case? –
Dims
Sep 7 2020 at 9:33
System defaults are set using sudo dpkg-reconfigure keyboard-configuration or by manually editing /etc/default/keyboard file. Did you run the reconfigure first, before

checking to use system defaults? –
Krackout
Sep 7 2020 at 10:56
sudo dpkg-reconfigure keyboard-configuration just does some output into console, it doesn't ask me, which layouts to use and by which key to switch between them –
Dims
Sep 7 2020 at 22:51
@Dims I added the configuration file /etc/default/keyboard produced by dpkg-reconfigure keyboard-configuration in my answer. Try this if you like. –
Krackout
Sep 8 2020 at 5:42

>   The above method worked for me, but only if I selected remove the language options from the configuration file, and unchecked system defaults after dpkg-reconfigure.

>   Actually, for me worked just enabling Use system defaults and then disabling it again in the xfce4 Settings -> Keyboard (upper left tick box on the screen shot you posted). No any additional package installations needed. Just click the switch couple of times and layout switching starts working.

>

You can also edit /etc/default/keyboard manually, here's an example:

KEYBOARD CONFIGURATION FILE

Consult the keyboard(5) manual page.

XKBMODEL="pc105"
XKBLAYOUT="us,de,fr,ua,ru"
XKBVARIANT=""
XKBOPTIONS="grp:alt_shift_toggle"

BACKSPACE="guess"

XKBMODEL is a keyboard model variable (look at a /usr/share/X11/xkb/rules/base.lst (plain text) or /usr/share/X11/xkb/rules/base.xml (XML) for a full list);

XKBLAYOUT variable contains a list of used layouts;

"grp:alt_shift_toggle" sets a layout switching key combination (+).

To apply new settings, restarting the keyboard-setup service should suffice, otherwise you can try to restart kernel input system via udev:

#service keyboard-setup restart

#udevadm trigger --subsystem-match=input --action=change

How to set keyboard layout in initramfs

The appropriate section of /etc/initramfs-tools/initramfs.conf needs to be changed to have a localized keyboard layout at boot time:

#
KEYMAP: [y | n]
#

Load a keymap during the initramfs stage.
#

KEYMAP=y

Apply changes:

#update-initramfs -u

https://wiki.debian.org/Keyboard

https://fitzcarraldoblog.wordpress.com/2012/12/29/selecting-different-keyboard-layouts-in-xfce/

December 29, 2012 3 Comments

One of my laptops running Xfce has a British English keyboard. However, I write in Portuguese and Spanish as well and so I need to be able to switch keyboard layouts. Therefore I added the three keyboard layouts by clicking on 'Applications Menu' on the Xfce Panel, selecting 'Settings' > 'Keyboard' and clicking on the 'Layout' tab. I also created the file /etc/X11/xorg.conf.d/00-keyboard.conf containing the following:
Section "InputClass"
    Identifier "keyboard"
    MatchIsKeyboard "yes"
    Option "XkbLayout" "gb,br,es"
    Option "XkbVariant" ""
    Option "XkbOptions" "grp:alt_shift_toggle"
EndSection

As you can probably guess from the XkbOptions option I specified, pressing Alt-Shift enables me to toggle between the keyboard layouts declared in the XkbLayout option ('gb' = British keyboard layout; 'br' = Brazilian Portuguese keyboard layout; 'es' = Spanish keyboard layout). This works fine but I could not tell at a glance which keyboard layout was selected, without typing some text and seeing the result. It would be nice to see an icon on the Panel indicating which keyboard layout is currently selected, in the same way as is possible in KDE and GNOME. It turns out that Xfce has a plugin that does precisely this: Keyboard Layouts, which is available by installing the package xfce4-xkb-plugin. I installed it, right-clicked on the Panel and selected 'Panel' > 'Add New Items…' > 'Keyboard Layouts' to display the plugin's icon on the Panel. Right-clicking on it and selecting 'Properties' allows you to configure the plugin, and I selected 'Show layout as: image' so that a flag indicating the current keyboard layout is displayed on the Panel, as shown in the snapshot below.

>   I can either use the keyboard shortcut Alt-Shift to toggle between the three keyboard layouts (in which case the flag changes on the Panel), or I can click on the Keyboard Layouts icon on the Panel and select the desired layout from there instead, as shown in the snapshot below.

https://superuser.com/questions/1200953/xfce-keyboard-layout-panel-plugin-gets-stuck

I use the xfce "Keyboard Layouts" panel plugin to switch between english and french layouts. Sometimes it gets stuck and clicking the button and alt-shift stops working. The only fix I have found is to open the keyboard settings and under the layouts tab, click one of the layouts and click the up/down button. The weird thing is it only happens on my

laptop and not my desktop. Has anyone else experienced this?

>

I had a similar issue which was resolved by this:

> Remove the hole file fcitx in ~/.config.
> Uncheck auto-start fcitx.
> Reboot.

I think that fcitx missed up with the xfce settings. Now xfce-settings will be set correctly.

https://forum.endeavouros.com/t/keyboard-layout-doesnt-switch/14480

Hi, couple of days ago I clean installed EOS using offline installer but for some reason, when i add keyboard layouts it doesnt work, shows in setting but i cant change it (i tried xfce applet, and keyboard bind i defined)

the only way i can make it work is using these commands

setxkbmap -layout us,ir
setxkbmap -option 'grp:alt_shift_toggle'

>   Are you trying to set it to US? Turn on system defaults toggle at the top right work?

>   default is US, im trying to add ir/persian.   yea it does

>   If you toggle the switch on top right (Use system defaults), and back again it should then work as expected.

>   i said that worked because when i add other layouts with command, and i switch to default system, only US works.   >>>> i had to logout once, its working now

>   I have also encountered this bug, and toggling the "Use system defaults" on and then back off worked with no need to logout/login.

But I think this should be fixed so that it's unnecessary to do this additional arcane step… It works as expected in Manjaro…