

# Dual Monitors

Known to work on Slackware 14.1 and XFCE

If you are running XFCE and your secondary monitor isn't working, check and make sure it's enabled in XFCE's SETTINGS:

SETTINGS > SETTING MANAGER > DISPLAY > display name in column on left > USE THIS OUTPUT

## Mirror Monitors

By default, XFCE (the WM I use) seems to do this by default.

## Extend Desktop To Second Monitor

To extend the desktop to a second monitor (as opposed to mirror the desktop), you need to use `xrandr` to move the desk top over X number of pixels. Where X = your LEFT monitor's X resolution.

1) Make sure your video card's output is being 'seen' by the system and get the output names:

```
xrandr -q
```

( Make note of the name of your secondary monitor. )

2) Move the secondary monitor over to the right

```
xrandr --output HDMI-0 --pos 1024x0 # to move the VGA screen 1024 pixels to the right.
```

EXAMPLE: Here's my machine. DVI-I-2 is my LEFT monitor and HDMI-0 is my RIGHT monitor.

```
[arfon@darkstar ~]$ xrandr -q
Screen 0: minimum 8 x 8, current 1920 x 1080, maximum 16384 x 16384
DVI-I-0 disconnected (normal left inverted right x axis y axis)
DVI-I-1 disconnected (normal left inverted right x axis y axis)
DVI-I-2 connected 1920x1080+0+0 (normal left inverted right x axis y axis)
598mm x 336mm
  1920x1080    60.0*+
  1680x1050    60.0
  1440x900     59.9
  1280x1024    75.0    60.0
  1280x960     60.0
  1280x800     59.8
  1280x720     60.0
```

```
1152x864      75.0
1024x768      75.0      70.1      60.0
800x600       75.0      72.2      60.3      56.2
640x480       75.0      72.8      59.9
HDMI-0 connected primary 1920x1080+0+0 (normal left inverted right x axis y axis) 521mm x 293mm
1920x1080     60.0*+    59.9      60.1      60.0
1440x480      60.1
1280x720      60.0      59.9
1024x768      75.0      70.1      60.0
800x600       75.0      60.3
720x480       59.9      60.1
640x480       75.0      59.9      59.9
DVI-I-3 disconnected (normal left inverted right x axis y axis)
[arfon@darkstar ~]$ xrandr --output HDMI-0 --pos 1920x0
```

## Cool Switching Scripts

Here's a script I wrote to toggle between extended dual monitors and a single monitor-

```
#!/bin/bash
vPRIMARYMONITOR="DVI-I-0" # <--- CHANGE THIS. Find using "xrandr -q"
vLOC="--right" # <--- Change this if you want the second monitor in another
position. CHOICES: --above --below --left --right
vEXT=$(xrandr -q | grep " connected" | grep -v $vPRIMARYMONITOR | awk
'{print $1}' | head -n 1 )
vOnOff=$(xrandr -q | grep $vEXT | sed 's/primary//g' | awk '{print $3}' | sed
's/[0-9]*x[0-9]*+[0-9]*+[0-9]*/ON/g' )
[ "$vOnOff" != "ON" ] && vOnOff="OFF"
if [ "$vOnOff" = "OFF" ]; then
    /usr/bin/xrandr --output $vEXT --auto $vLOC $vPRIMARYMONITOR
else
    /usr/bin/xrandr --output $vEXT --off
fi
```

Script to toggle a mirrored monitor-

```
#!/bin/bash
vPRIMARYMONITOR="DVI-I-0" # <--- CHANGE THIS. Find using "xrandr -q"
vEXT=$(xrandr -q | grep " connected" | grep -v $vPRIMARYMONITOR | awk
'{print $1}' | head -n 1 )
vOnOff=$(xrandr -q | grep $vEXT | sed 's/primary//g' | awk '{print $3}' | sed
's/[0-9]*x[0-9]*+[0-9]*+[0-9]*/ON/g' )
[ "$vOnOff" != "ON" ] && vOnOff="OFF"
if [ "$vOnOff" = "OFF" ]; then
    /usr/bin/xrandr --output $vEXT --auto
else
    /usr/bin/xrandr --output $vEXT --off
```

fi

## Sources

- Originally written by [arfon](#)

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