

KDE User Guide

This chapter will introduce the new appearance and basic operating of Asianux 2.0.

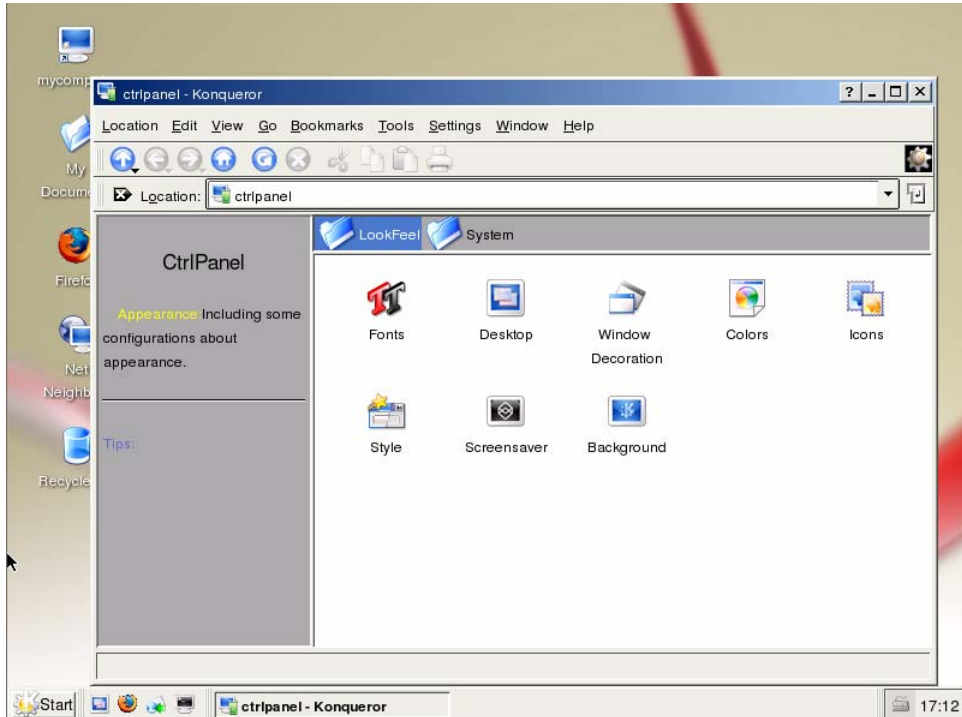
1. Desktop System

Asianux 2.0 uses the latest stable KDE 3.2.1 as standard desktop environment. With a great deal of work done in such aspects as screen designing, structure layout, Chinese localization, and functioning enhancement to optimize and integrate and promote quality, the entire desktop is fresh with complete, harmonious and uniform environment.

Since desktop environment allows flexible configuration, all quoted contents of this chapter and later chapters use default environment.

1.1 Brief introduction to KDE

The figure below shows a typical KDE desktop interface of Asianux 2.0:



A typical desktop interface

The center section of the screen is known as desktop, where many icons are placed, such as "**my computer**", "**Net neighbour**", "**FireFox**", and "**Recycle Bin**". Desktop is also where most tasks are performed. The long bar located at the bottom of the screen is called "**panel**", where you can start applications or switch between active applications.

1.2 Desktop components

1.2.1 Mouse

Most people use right hand to operate the mouse, which is known as right-hand mouse. The mouse has three keys: left, middle and right keys respectively from left to right. Linux system supports three-key mouse. There are three ways to operate the mouse.

Click: press and then release one key







Double click: twice press one key quickly

Drag : point to an item, press and hold down the mouse key as you move the mouse, and then release the key when the item reaches the destination.

In the following context, left key is default unless otherwise specified.

1.2.2 Desktop

The desktop is user's working area, where icons of files and applications that users want to conveniently access to are displayed. Double clicking an icon will run the corresponding applications or open a file. Desktop icon allows you to proceed with your work more conveniently, and you can drag, add and delete a desktop icon.

My document		Contains document, music and pictures frequently used or collected by users.
My computer		By double clicking this icon, you will see its content, including floppy disk, CD-ROM, Windows system partitions, connective network driver, control panel, user master catalog, etc.
Trash		Where deleted files are temporarily stored.
Browser		Used to start neotype Mozilla Firefox browser
E-mail		Start up kontakt personal information management program
Network neighbor		Used to conveniently visit network shared resource on the LAN.

1.2.3 Panel

The figure below is KDE panel (kpanel), which includes start menu button, frequently used applications and desktop applet icons, and taskbar that display currently running applications.







When you settle the mouse on an icon for a few seconds, a yellow pop-up prompt box will appear, displaying the description of this icon's function.



KDE panel

- **Start menu button**  : it is equivalent to  button in windows. Click this icon and the

cascade system main menu will pop up.

- **Display desktop button**  : Clicking this icon will minimize all active windows on the desktop. This icon brings easy and convenient access to a desktop icon.
- **Terminal program button**  : Clicking this button to start up konsole terminal.
- **Browser button**  : Clicking this button will start up Mozilla Web browser.
- **E-mail button**  : Clicking this button will start up contact personal information management program.
- **Input method icon**  : Clicking this icon will bring out input method selection menu, where you can select an input method.
- **Clock**  : It displays current time, and you can customize display style according to needs.
- **Taskbar**

Taskbar displays currently running program or opened documents. Clicking one item on the taskbar will stretch out or minimize the selected program. You can also maximize, minimize or shut down active window by right clicking corresponding item.

➤ **Add panel program**

1. Click right key on application icon on panel, select “panel menu→add” in shortcut menu, select the application options that to be added in the menu of next level.
2. Click right key on blank area on panel, select “Add” in shortcut menu, select the application options that to be added in the menu of next level.

➤ **Move and delete panel program**

Click right key on the relevant icon on panel, select “move XXX icon” in shortcut menu, this can move the icons on panel optionally; select “delete XXX icon”, can make the relevant application icon disappear from panel (XXX means the name of application).

Users can customize the display location、 size and style of the panel neatly. This includes hiding the panel、 change the size and color of the panel and change its action mode by hand or by self-motion.



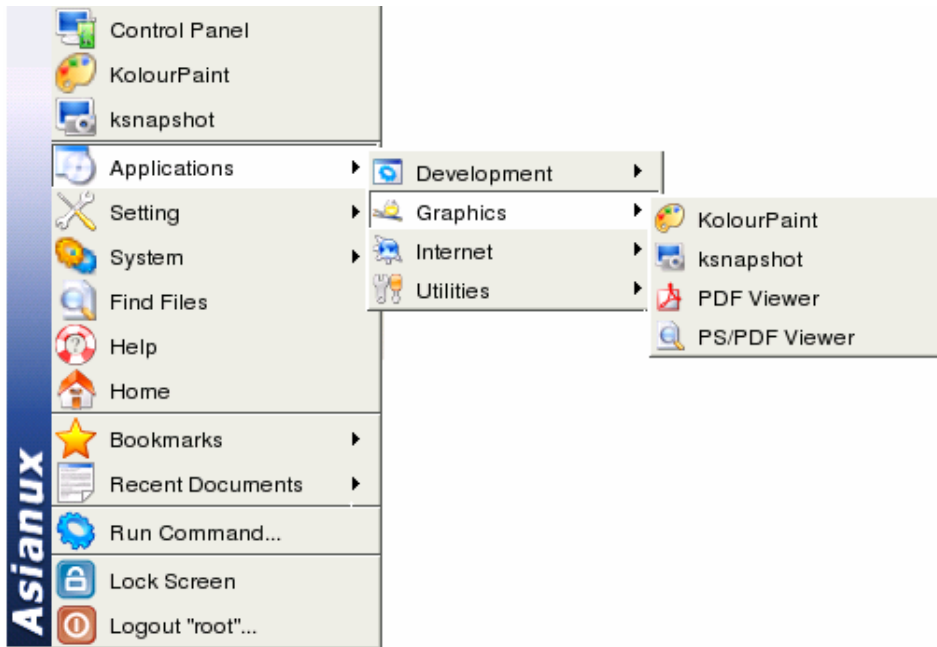
To change the defaulted configuration of the panel, click right key on bland area on the panel and select “panel configuring” .

1.3 Menu usage

KDE desktop offers many convenient menus for users, including the following types:


- **System menu**











Clicking start menu button from the panel or using <Alt+F1> shortcut will bring out cascade system main menu. This is the most convenient path to launch applications.



Desktop System Menu

The main menu includes the following options and their functions are described in the table below.

Items	Description
 Applications	Display the list of applications and utilities started by users

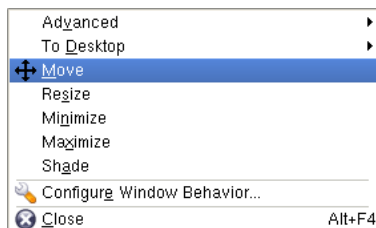
 Management tools	Include system management tools and network service configuring tools.
 System	Start up control panel, configure system component
 Help	Start up KDE help center
 Find files or computers	Search files from the system or host computer from the network
 Home	Open resource manager, and position to current user master directory
 Bookmark	Display and edit bookmark
 Recent documents	Display the list of recently visited documents.
 Run command	Input command name or path name, start applications or open a directory
 Lock screen	Lock the screen when you temporarily leave the computer.
 Logout	Shutdown dialog box will appear and prompt user how to finish operation.

Functions of main menu

Some additional system applications are not presented in main menu, and they can be added to the main menu through customization; some other system management and development tools are usually run from command line.

- **Control menu**

Almost all windows offer control menu (as shown below) to perform the such operations as restoring, moving, maximizing or minimizing windows, changing window style as well as closing window. Corresponding shortcut menu is <ALT+F3>.

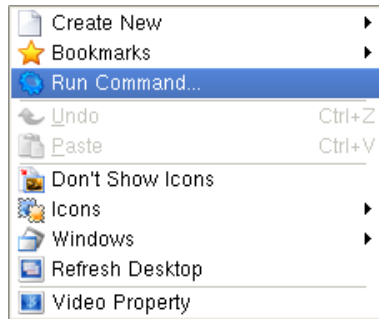


- **Window menu**

Users who have ever used Windows are very familiar with window menu. This kind of menu item is used to reflect the functions and executable operations of the applications. Common menu items include "file", "edit", "view", "option", "setup", "help", etc., and every menu item contains many submenu items.

- **Shortcut menu**

- 1、 Right clicking at any position on desktop background will bring out system shortcut menu, through which you can perform many routine tasks such as creating a new folder, running command, arranging desktop outlook, etc.



System Shortcut Menu

- 2、 Right clicking an icon will bring out corresponding icon shortcut menu. You can use this menu to perform operation on corresponding applications or documents.



Icon Shortcut Menu

In the above graphic examples, there are several types of menu items, each representing different implication:

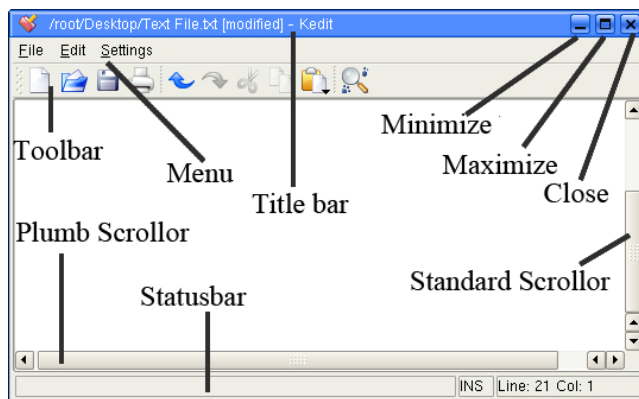
1. A menu item followed with a trigon (▶) means that this menu item contains submenu;
2. A menu item followed with suspension periods (⋯) means that a dialog box will appear after this

item is selected and further configuration is required.

3. Menu item that is grayed out means no corresponding operations of this menu item can be executed at present.

1.4 Window operation

In KDE desktop environment, most operations are performed in the window, and a typical window is shown in the figure below. Usage and meaning of all components are quite obvious.



Window

- **Adjust window display mode**

1. To resize the window, move the mouse pointer until it reaches window edge or corner, and then drag with mouse.
2. Double click window's title bar to maximize the window, and double click again to restore to its pervious size.
3. Drag window's title bar to move the window to a new location;
4. Press window minimize button to minimized window into an icon; press window maximize button to enlarge the windows to cover the entire desktop, and click the window to restore to its previous size.

5. Press shutdown button of the window or use shortcut <ALT+F4> to close the window.

- **Switch between windows**

1. If you can see the window, directly click window's title bar to activate it as current window.

2. Press <Alt+Tab>, and you can switch between multiple windows.

3. Click the window icon from toolbar, and corresponding window will be activated.

Click mouse middle key to open window list menu, and when you select corresponding window task, corresponding application window will be activated.

1.5 Application startup

The following ways are generally used to start applications under KDE environment.

1. Click applications icon on the panel;

2. Double-click applications icon on the desktop.

3. Select applications you want to launch from system main menu and its submenu.

4. Use shortcut <Alt+F2>, or select "**run command...**" from main menu, and then input applications name in the opened window.

5. Browse file system in file manager, and run the applications after finding it.

1.6 KDE shortcut

KDE shortcut

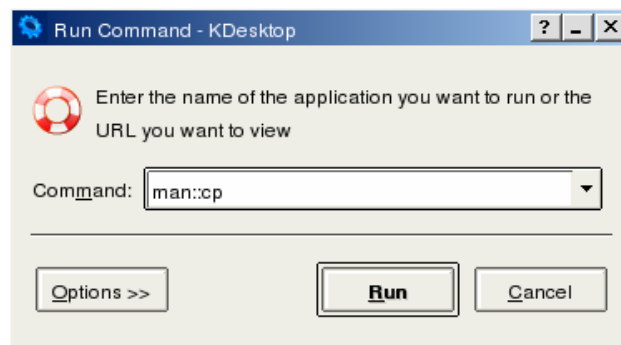
Shortcut	Corresponding functions
<Alt+Tab>	Switch between applications started.
<Ctrl+Tab>	Switch between virtual desktops

<Alt+F1>	Pop up system main menu
<Alt+F2>	Pop up run command window, and execute input command
<Alt+F3>	Pop up control menu of current focused window
<Alt+F4>	Shut down current working window
<Alt+F5>	Display windows list
<Ctrl+Alt+Fn>	Switch between consoles
<Ctrl+Alt+Backspace>	Kill your current X session
<Alt+ left mouse button >	Freely move applications window
<Alt+right mouse button>	Resize the window

2. Using Command from Desktop

2.1 Running a command

If you just want to run one command, use shortcut <Alt+F2>, or select "**run command...**" from system main menu to open a command line input window.




Run Command Dialog Box

It can not only remember command names you input previously, but open corresponding webpage by

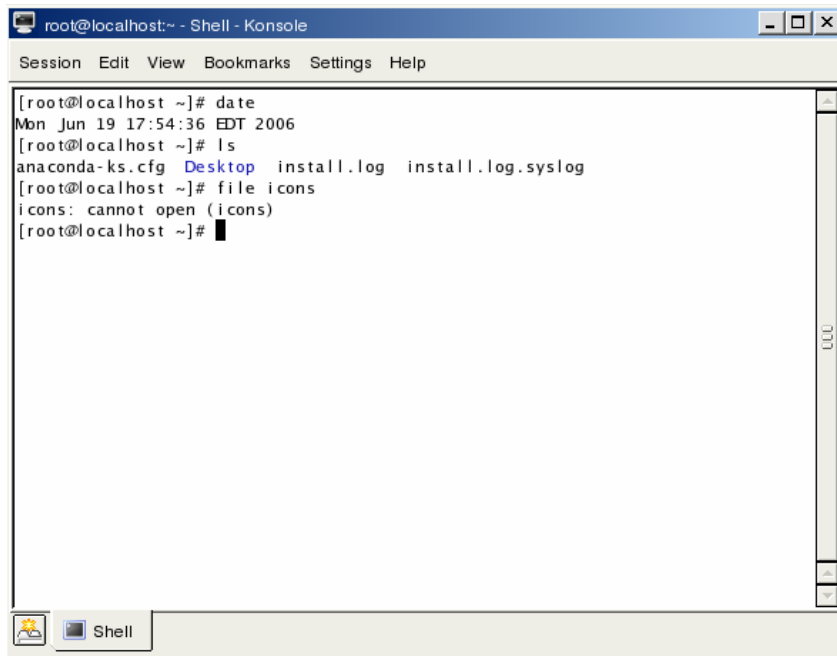
entering URL address, or display system manual page by typing **man: command**.

2.2 Usage of system terminal

Under desktop environment, you can access to traditional command line interface through terminal applications. Here is the method to start command line terminal: select "Applications→ Utilities

→ Konsole " from system main menu, or double-click **the Konsole icon**  on desktop.

The figure below is **Konsole** terminal application window, where you can type in shell command to rapidly accomplish your task.



```
root@localhost:~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
[root@localhost ~]# date
Mon Jun 19 17:54:36 EDT 2006
[root@localhost ~]# ls
anaconda-ks.cfg Desktop install.log install.log.syslog
[root@localhost ~]# file icons
icons: cannot open (icons)
[root@localhost ~]#
```

Work with Terminals

To exit terminal applications, click "close" button at the right upper corner of the window, or type "exit" at shell prompt, or press shortcut <Ctrl+D>.



Terminal application is similar to command prompt program under windows system, but it is more powerful. For more information about command line operation, please refer to: [《System management manual of Asianux 2.0》](#)

