

howto serialize tasks in .xsession

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2004-02/5172.html>

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Date: 02/29/04

Date: Sat, 28 Feb 2004 15:50:17 -0800

To: debian-user@lists.debian.org

I run a hybrid desktop: gnome-control-center is installed, but not metacity. Fluxbox is my WM; but I remove gnome-session as a Session Manager so I have No Session Manager. Here is my .xsession:

```
#!/bin/sh
ARGS="--hide-menubar --window-with-profile=Default"
#gnome-control-center
gnome-settings-daemon --oaf-activate-iid=OAFIID:GNOME_SettingsDaemon --oaf-ior-fd=21 &
xscreensaver -nosplash &
kdeinit &
gbuffy &
#xmms &
gnome-terminal $ARGS --geometry=80x25+1+22 &
gnome-terminal $ARGS --geometry=95x25+582+22 &
gnome-terminal $ARGS --geometry=80x40+1+418 &
gnome-terminal $ARGS --geometry=95x40+582+418 &
exec fluxbox
```

As you can see, I used to run gnome-control-center synchronously, and would double-click the Font applet, which would "wake up" the Gnome settings and make themes and junk work. But I noticed what it runs is gnome-settings-daemon so I just run that directly.

The problem is I have to run gnome-settings-daemon, gbuffy, and gnome-terminal all in the background, because only the final task (exec fluxbox) can block.

The problem is if gbuffy or gnome-terminal starts before gnome-settings-daemon, themes and various gnome-ish things are broken. It's a classic race conditions.

How can I serialize the tasks? Remember, none can block. gnome-settings-daemon doesn't return.

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