

Gnome hang on logout / kill.

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I am running Gnome 2.20.3 on a Gentoo machine. I just recently updated from a previous version of Gnome (I do not remember what the previous version was but it was at least 4 or 5 months old). I do not use a graphical log in. I am not logging in to a remote machine, this is all local.

Since updating, when I kill the X server with Ctrl+Alt+Bkspc, or when I log out properly via System -> Log Out, everything disappears (including the mouse cursor) except for the desktop background, and then it gets stuck. I know the machine is not completely hung, because if I press Ctrl+Alt+Del the system will shut down properly and reboot — although the desktop background will remain on the screen until the reboot actually happens. When it is in this state, I can't switch to text terminals, or do anything at all (including Ctrl+Alt+Bkspc). I've given it at least 5 minutes to exit but it does not (I remember having issues logging out with the old version where gconfd or something would stay running for a long time after the gnome desktop ended — I do not know if this is related; that didn't cause me problems logging out but it did cause me problems if I tried to restart gnome again too quickly before gconfd had died).

This problem happens 100% of the time. It does not seem to be a general X problem, because I can use other desktops and window managers (and just X by itself) with no issues. This problem did not happen at all before I updated Gnome.

I am not familiar enough with Gnome to know where to start looking. What I found on Google either didn't match my description or was a problem with remote connections. Nothing in /var/log or my user dir jumped out at me either. What is a good starting point for investigating? Please let me know if you need any other system information, I'm not sure what is relevant.

Thanks,
Jason

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