

Re: how to start X service

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/RedHat/2005-11/0384.html>

From: Nilesh Vaghela (nileshj.vaghela_at_gmail.com)

Date: 11/19/05

Date: Sat, 19 Nov 2005 17:24:19 +0530

To: General Red Hat Linux discussion list <redhat-list@redhat.com>

Might be helpful to you.

http://www.faqs.org/docs/lmag/lmag_xwindows.html

4.3.6 Can I have multiple sessions of X running at the same time?

Yes, you can. When you issue the first `startx` command on your system, it opens the first X-session on the default display 0. The second X-session must be opened on a different display. For example, this will open a second X-session on the display 1:

```
startx -- :1
```

You can have up to 6 concurrent X sessions. Use `<Ctrl><Alt><F7>` to switch to display 0, `<Ctrl><Alt><F8>` to second screen, etc. up to `<Ctrl><Alt><F12>`. Try `man startx` if you need more info.

In a similar fashion, you can open another bare X-server session without a window manager. This will open one on display 2:

```
xinit -- :2
```

On this bare-bone X-display I can run a different windows manager (so as to have two different ones running at the same time) by typing in the X-terminal window one of these (see the previous answer for more details):

```
startkde
gnome-session
xfce
afterstep
AnotherLevel
fvwm2
fvwm
```

4.3.7 Can my sister have second GUI login prompt so she does not have to kill my X-session to start hers?

To enable several concurrent GUI logins on different local consoles under RedHat (RedHat uses program `gdm` for graphical logins), I had to edit the

RedHat: Re: how to start X service

file: /etc/X11/gdm/gdm.conf . I have the following entry at the end of this file to enable 4 login terminals <Ctrl><Alt><F7> to <Ctrl><Alt><F10>:

```
[servers]
3=/usr/bin/X11/X vt10
2=/usr/bin/X11/X vt9
1=/usr/bin/X11/X vt8
0=/usr/bin/X11/X vt7
```

Having four GUI lets me run KDE and GNOME at the same time on one computer with two GUI terminals spare, so my sister can login despite my having screensavers with password-protection.

To enable several concurrent GUI logins on different local consoles under Mandrake (Mandrake uses kdm for graphical logins), I had to modify two files: /etc/X11/xdm/Xservers to include something like:

```
:0 local /usr/X11R6/bin/X :0
:1 local /usr/X11R6/bin/X :1
:2 local /usr/X11R6/bin/X :2
```

and /etc/X11/xdm/xdm-config to copy all the settings for display 0 to display 1 and 2 so that it includes this:

```
DisplayManager._0.authorize: true
DisplayManager._1.authorize: true
DisplayManager._2.authorize: true
DisplayManager._0.setup: /etc/X11/xdm/Xsetup_0
DisplayManager._0.startup: /etc/X11/xdm/GiveConsole
DisplayManager._0.reset: /etc/X11/xdm/TakeConsole
DisplayManager._1.setup: /etc/X11/xdm/Xsetup_0
DisplayManager._1.startup: /etc/X11/xdm/GiveConsole
DisplayManager._1.reset: /etc/X11/xdm/TakeConsole
DisplayManager._2.setup: /etc/X11/xdm/Xsetup_0
DisplayManager._2.startup: /etc/X11/xdm/GiveConsole
DisplayManager._2.reset: /etc/X11/xdm/TakeConsole
```

This enables me to run gnome and kde at the same time on a single computer with the third GUI terminal spare.

4.3.8 How to X-window remotely?

– Start X-server on the local machine, e.g.

```
xinit
```

– From the x-terminal give the remote machine the permission to display on your local screen:

```
xhost name_of_the_remote_server
```

RedHat: Re: how to start X service

In the really secure environment of my house, I could even give all servers the permission to display on my screen using (don't do it when connected to the Internet):

xhost +

– Telnet the remote server.

– Start an X-program on the remote server directing the display on your local screen, for example, you may start a window manager:

```
startkde –display local_machine_name:0.0 &
```

The symbol "&" puts the command in the background, so that your telnet window is still available to you.

The 0.0 means "display zero, screen 0", which is your first screen on the first display and makes sense since you can have many concurrent sessions of X running on your computer with Linux.

You don't have to specify the "–display" option if your environment variable DISPLAY specifies the correct location on your current terminal, which is the case on my systems by default, but not on everybody else's as I am told. You can check your DISPLAY setting using:

```
echo $DISPLAY
```

– After I finish my remote X session, I restore the access control to my X-server using:

```
xhost –name_of_the_remote_server
```

or

```
xhost –
```

Example. This sequence of commands will run Netscape on the remote machine called marie, directing the display to the X-server with X-windows manager which runs on the local machine hacker:

```
startx
xhost marie
telnet marie
[login]
netscape –display hacker:0.0 &
[do my stuff]
[logout]
xhost –marie
```

In principle, you can run a program on any computer on the network, and display the output on any other (not necessarily the one you are sitting at).

RedHat: Re: how to start X service

I use remote X-windowing a lot to run fat programs (kde, Word Perfect 8, and Netscape) on a slim machine (486-33, 8 MB mem) which would not be able to run those by itself. It is also a convenient and fast way to work with files on a remote system for which the nfs mount is not set up.

X-windows was designed to run remotely over the network. Remote X-windowing is a very powerful tool, on top of being quite a pleasant experience. Try it out.

You can even run a program on a remote Linux (or any Unix) computer and redirect the display to a local MS Windows machine if you install an X-windowing program for MS Windows. For a good overview of choices, see: http://www.linuxworld.com/linuxworld/lw-2000-09/lw-09-legacy_1.html

Nilesh

--

redhat-list mailing list
unsubscribe <mailto:redhat-list-request@redhat.com?subject=unsubscribe>
<https://www.redhat.com/mailman/listinfo/redhat-list>