

Re: Eye Candy (was Re: Beryl -- can it be installed with apt-get / synaptic?)

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Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/alt.os.linux/2007-05/msg00181.html>

- *From:* Stefan Patric <tootek2@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 06 May 2007 19:01:32 GMT
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On Wed, 02 May 2007 13:35:45 -0500, Michael Fierro wrote:

On 2007-05-01, Stefan Patric <tootek2@xxxxxxxxxx> rambled on thusly:

For what little really useful features Beryl, et al, adds to the desktop, and what hardware is required to make it run smoothly, the trade offs are simply not justifiable in my book. However, I'm sure there are many who will disagree, simply because it's "...way COOL!" As long as I have my choice NOT to use it...

Hehehehe.... you do realize those are some of the same arguments that people made (and some still make) regarding the switch from using the console to using a desktop environment...

But those arguments are not necessarily invalid even today. That doesn't mean that I think GUIs should be abolished. I use it more than I do the terminal. (I switched to Linux from the Amiga. So, a GUI has been my predominate computer interface for 20+ years.) But what little more unique new features Beryl has over the standard GUIs, features that I have no need for at the present, are not significant enough for me to switch.

For me, it was an easy choice to make. My system already met the hardware requirements. I just needed to install and enable beryl. And once I did that, I found some of the features too invaluable not to use. For example, truly transparent windows, the improved task switcher, and the window zoom feature.

Features I have no need for. I setup Beryl on my "testing" system just to play with it over several days. Nothing there that was really useful or advantageous enough to entice me into switching.

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But, as with everything else in Linux, it is one's decision on whether to run beryl or not. If any distro ever enables it by default, you just need to remove the beryl package and you're fine.

Currently, there is still that choice, but sometime in the future and not that far away, I predict, the 2D GUI will fade into history, and 3D will be the standard. Perhaps, by then, it will be oriented more to function and less to flash. Right now, I consider the 3D GUI more a toy than a useful tool.

Stef

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