

Client Resolution

To fix or automate the display resolution for an XFCE guest using LightDM inside virt-manager (QEMU/KVM), you generally need to address two distinct parts: the LightDM login screen and the XFCE user desktop session.

Step 1: Install Spice Guest Tools

This enables Auto-Resizing for your desktop environment to automatically match your virt-manager window size, you must have the guest agent installed and running inside the virtual machine.

```
# apt install spice-vdagent qemu-guest-agent
# systemctl enable --now spice-vdagentd
```

- In your virt-manager window menu on the host, make sure **View > Scale Display > Auto resize VM with window** is checked. Note: XFCE sometimes requires you to manually pull a corner of the window or toggle Fullscreen (F11) once after logging in to trigger the first dynamic resize.
- On the client menu go to **settings > Display** and set the proper resolution

Step 2: Fix LightDM Login Screen Resolution

The LightDM login screen loads before your XFCE session profile, which often makes it fallback to a tiny default resolution (like 800×600). You can force it to a specific size using xrandr. Find out the display output name of your virtual monitor. Run this in a terminal inside the VM:

```
xrandr
```

Look for the connected device name. In virt-manager, it is usually Virtual-1 (or Virtual-0, VGA-1). Open the LightDM configuration file:

```
# nano /etc/lightdm/lightdm.conf
```

Scroll down or search (Ctrl + W) for the **[Seat:]* section. Look for the **display-setup-script** line. Uncomment it (remove the #) and add your targeted xrandr command. For example, to force a 1920×1080 resolution: `... [Seat:~] ... display-setup-script=xrandr -output Virtual-1 -mode 1920×1080` (Replace Virtual-1 with your actual output name and 1920×1080 with your desired target resolution). Save file and restart the client.**

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