

XFCE

Menus

On Debian XFCE the most common locations for storing .desktop entries are:

- /usr/share/applications/
- ~/.local/share/applications
- /usr/local/share/applications

Themes

In Debian with XFCE, theme files for the graphical interface are stored in system-wide locations.

System-Wide Themes

```
GTK Themes: /usr/share/themes
Icon Themes: /usr/share/icons
Window Manager (xfwm4) Themes: /usr/share/themes
```

Per-User Themes

```
GTK Themes [modern]: ~/.local/share/themes
GTK Themes [legacy]: ~/.themes
Icon Themes: ~/.local/share/icons or ~/.icons
Window Manager (xfwm4) Themes: ~/.local/share/themes/
```

How to Install a New Theme

Download: the theme file from a source like xfce-look.org. Extract: the theme's downloaded archive. Copy: the extracted theme folder (which contains folders like gtk-3.0 for GTK themes or xfwm4 for window manager themes) into one of the user-specific directories mentioned above, such as ~/.local/share/themes/ for GTK/window themes or ~/.local/share/icons/ for icon themes. Select: the new theme by opening Menu > Settings > Appearance and choosing your theme from the Style or Icons tabs.

Theme per application

Select an explicit theme for an application:

```
env GTK_THEME=Adwaita:dark simple-scan
env GTK_THEME=Nordic-darker simple-scan
env GTK_THEME=Shades-of-gray-Orange simple-scan
```

```
env GTK2_RC_FILES="/usr/share/themes/Ambiance/gtk-2.0/gtkrc" firefox
```

Newer versions of firefox use GTK3. Another way to overrule default thema from within Firefox:

In Firefox URL bar enter about:config.

1. Create new String value with name widget.content.gtk-theme-override (Right click > new > String)
2. Set value to Adwaita:light (if your distribution does not use GNOME desktop, you should use a name of light GTK theme which is installed on your PC)
3. Restart browser

Links

- <http://wiki.xfce.org/howto/customize-menu>
- <https://wiki.debian.org/Xfce>

From:

<https://wiki.oscardegroot.nl/> - HomeWiki

Permanent link:

<https://wiki.oscardegroot.nl/doku.php?id=linux:apps:xfce&rev=1788458441>

Last update: **2026/09/03 18:00**

