

Kubuntu, XRandR and TV-OUT



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Abstract

One of the things I had not fully figured out up to today, was how to configure my Kubuntu system to easily view DVDs on our TV, using my NVIDIA's TV-OUT. I've seen xorg.conf files that define a X11 server for the monitor and a second for the TV, and files that use TwinView. Now, I did not really like the way first option worked, so tried the second.

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One of the things I had not fully figured out up to today, was how to configure my [Kubuntu](#) system to easily view DVDs on our TV, using my [NVIDIA's](#) TV-OUT. I've seen xorg.conf files that define a X11 server for the monitor and a second for the TV, and files that use TwinView. Now, I did not really like the way first option worked, so tried the second.

Unfortunately, I had to reconfigure and restart my X11 each time my kids wanted to see [Bob the Builder](#). I already knew about [XRandR](#), and today finally had a look at it again, and got it to work without much trouble this time. (Lesson: if something does not work, let it rest and try again half a year later.)

For the googlers, this is what my [xorg.conf](#) Screen section now looks like:

```
Section "Screen"
    Identifier "Default Screen"
    Device      "NVIDIA Corporation NV18 [GeForce4 MX 4000 AGP 8x]"
    Monitor     "Hansol H711"
    DefaultDepth 24
    Option      "TwinView" "on"
    Option      "TwinViewOrientation" "clone"
    Option      "SecondMonitorHorizSync"      "30-50"
    Option      "SecondMonitorVertRefresh"    "60"
    Option      "MetaModes" "1280x1024,1280x1024;1024x768,1024x768"
    Option      "TVStandard" "PAL-B"
    Option      "TVOutFormat" "SVIDEO"
    Option      "ConnectedMonitor" "crt, tv"
    SubSection  "Display"
        Depth    24
        Modes     "1280x1024" "1024x768" "832x624" "800x600" "720x400" "640x480"
    EndSubSection
EndSection
```

And now, to switch resolution, I can just do:

```
sudo xrandr -s 1
# watch DVD
sudo xrandr -s 0
```

PS. Happy new year!