

Kubuntu, XRandR and TV-OUT

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Published January 3, 2006

Citation

Willighagen, E. (2006). Kubuntu, XRandR and TV-OUT. In *chem-bla-ics*. chem-bla-ics. <https://doi.org/10.59350/s0ftg-ppb65>

Keywords

Kde, Linux

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chem-bla-ics

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!