

Plymouth - Installing and Configuring Boot Screen on Debian

By default Debian Distribution doesn't come with a boot screen, but just bunch of debug messages on booting. I know I run a server-like distribution, but I like using it as a Desktop PC, Linux is Linux right?

□ And there comes Plymouth

Plymouth presents a graphic animation (also known as bootsplash) while the boot process is occurring in the background. It is designed to be used with the Direct Rendering Manager (DRM) modesetting drivers.

Installation

Plymouth is available on the default Debian Repository, install using APT

```
$ sudo apt install plymouth plymouth-themes
```

Configuration

Graphics Card

I need to add modesetting for your graphics card by editing `/etc/initramfs-tools/modules` and add these lines

For Intel Graphic Cards

```
# KMS
intel_agp
drm
i915 modeset=1
```

For Nouveau (nVidia) Graphic Cards

```
# KMS
drm
nouveau modeset=1
```

For ATI Graphic Cards

```
# KMS
```

```
drm
radeon modeset=1
```

Bootloader

My default bootloader is grub2, I am going to edit /etc/default/grub

I have to tell grub our default screen resolution, on booting, modules and drivers are not loaded yet. I can fetch our screen resolution by typing:

```
$ xdpinfo | grep dimensions
dimensions:      1366x768 pixels (361x203 millimeters)
```

Here my resolution is 1366×768. I am going to find the line #GRUB_GFXMODE=640×480 in /etc/default/grub , uncomment the line and add in my resolution. Making it

```
GRUB_GFXMODE=1366x768
```

Search for this line GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT=„quiet“ and change it to:

```
GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT="quiet splash"
```

Finally, update my grub configuration

```
$ sudo update-grub2
```

Themes

On installing, I installed plymouth-themes package, this installs some default Plymouth themes. To view installed themes, type:

```
$ sudo plymouth-set-default-theme -l
details
fade-in
glow
script
solar
spinfinity
spinner
text
tribar
```

Selecting a default theme from the list of available theme above

```
$ sudo plymouth-set-default-theme -R glow
```

Then reboot to see effect.

Manual Theme Install

We are not only limited to themes Plymouth provided, I can install a custom theme. Download a theme and move the folder to `/usr/share/plymouth/themes` and still list and select the theme from the example above.

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