

CREATE SYSTEM ICONS ON THE LINUX DESKTOP

We've already discussed adding icons from the K-menu. But icons such as "My Computer", "Trash" and "Printers" don't appear in that menu.

Most recent switchers to Linux will want to use graphical methods to create icons. Here we describe how to create those icons for the KDE desktop without using the command line.

The three basic steps to add them to your desktop are these:

1. Create a text file on the desktop.
2. Edit the text file and enter such information as the program to run, the icon to use, and the title of the icon.
3. Save the text file.

You repeat those same 3 steps for each icon. The content of the text file is what varies for each icon.

Creating The Icons

Let's start with the My Computer icon. In Windows, the My Computer icon opens the Windows Explorer, showing your hard drive(s) and removable drive(s). File management under KDE is normally accomplished using Konqueror. There are other file managers for KDE, but we will use Konqueror for our example.

1. Right-click on an empty space on your KDE desktop.
2. Select **Create New, Text File**.
3. In the "Enter text filename" field, type My Computer.desktop and click **OK**. A new icon labeled "My Computer" appears on your desktop.
4. Right-click the new generic icon and select **Open With**.
5. Choose any text editor--Kate is good choice. (You can simply type "kate" in the **Open With** field to save some time.)
6. Click **OK** and your empty text file will open in Kate.
7. Type the following into the file and then save it.

```
[Desktop Entry]
Encoding=UTF-8
Icon=tux
```

```
Name=My Computer
OnlyShowIn=KDE;
Type=Link
URL=media:/
```

This will create an icon named My Computer, using the Tux penguin icon. The new launcher opens Konqueror showing your hard drive(s) and any mounted removable media.

Here are the file names and the text to copy and paste into your text files for some other "system" icons:

File name: Home.desktop

```
[Desktop Entry]
Encoding=UTF-8
Icon=folder_home
Name=Home
OnlyShowIn=KDE;
Type=Link
URL=/home
```

File name: Printers.desktop

```
[Desktop Entry]
Exec=kjobviewer --all --show %i %m
Icon=kjobviewer
Name=Printers
Terminal=false
Type=Application
X-DCOP-ServiceType=Unique
X-KDE-StartupNotify=true
```

File name: Trash.desktop

```
[Desktop Entry]
Type=Link
URL=trash:/
Encoding=UTF-8
Icon=trashcan_full
```

EmptyIcon=trashcan_empty
Name=Trash
Comment=Contains removed files

Source : <http://goinglinux.com/articles/SystemIcons.html>