

Ozzy's Place

Logitech iTouch Keyboard in Mandrake 9.0/9.1

I've just recently switched my desktop from Windows to Linux (Mandrake 9.0/9.1) and have spent the last while getting my wonky hardware working the way I want it to. The biggest task was getting my Logitech iTouch keyboard's extra keys working.

There is a daemon called 'lineakd' with a nice graphical configuration utility 'klineakdconfig' that is supposed to do this for you, but I've found a LOT of problems with it. It's not as flexible as this method, and it causes some other apps to go into fits. So, if you have the time and patience, this is the way to go IMHO

If you're using Mandrake 9.0 you'll need a mixer program called 'aumix' which should be on your CD (If you're using Mandrake 9.1 you don't need it at all).

You'll have to go through the several steps I've outlined on this page in sequence but at the end I think you'll have all the keys working that you want and have learned a bit about Linux and KDE both are good I think you'll agree.

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Mapping your new keys

Most of the extra keys for 'internet keyboards' are already mapped in Mandrake 9 and work with no further intervention. The exception to this are the three 'volume keys'. These are mapped incorrectly so we have to take the following step to set them straight.

Create a file called .xmodmaprc in your home directory if you don't already have one and put the following lines in it:

```
keycode 159 =  
keycode 160 = XF86AudioMute  
keycode 171 =  
keycode 174 = XF86AudioLowerVolume  
keycode 173 =  
keycode 176 = XF86AudioRaiseVolume
```

Loading your new keys

Now you have to get xmodmap to load these when Xstarts. So go to your ~/.kde/Autostart directory and place the following script in it (call it what you like):

```
#!/bin/sh  
xmodmap ~/.xmodmaprc
```

This loads your custom keyboard mappings.

Getting Hotkeys

Let's create the hotkeys themselves; these need to be mapped correctly in the system. Go to the `~/kde/share/config` directory and create a file called `khotkeysrc`. In this file we're going to tell the system what to do when we press one of the buttons. Now... I'm using `kscd`, the default cd player that comes with Mandrake 9... this won't work with any other. I hand wrote this file, the best way to setup things that appear in your KMenu is to use 'kmenuedit' and set the hotkeys. The file should look like this (Mandrake 9.1 uses the green lines):

```
[Main]
Num_Sections=14
Version=1

#CD Player - Previous track

[Section1]
MenuEntry=false
Name=CD_Prev
Run=dcop kscd default previous
Run=dcop kscd-`/sbin/pidof kscd` default previous
Shortcut=XF86AudioPrev

#Volume up

[Section10]
MenuEntry=false
Name=Volume_Up
Run=dcop kmix Mixer0 increaseVolume
Run=aumix -v +10
Shortcut=XF86AudioRaiseVolume

#KDE Help Center

[Section11]
MenuEntry=true
Name=K Menu - Documentation/Help.desktop
Run=mdk/Read documentation/Help.desktop
Shortcut=XF86Search

#Evolution Mail Client

[Section12]
MenuEntry=true
Name=K Menu - Networking/Mail/Evolution.desktop
Run=Networking/Mail/Evolution.desktop
Shortcut=XF86Mail

#K Menu

[Section13]
MenuEntry=false
Name=K Menu Open
Run=dcop kicker kicker popupKMenu 1
Shortcut=Super_L
```

#K Menu

```
[Section14]
MenuEntry=false
Name=K Menu Open1
Run=dcop kicker kicker popupKMenu 1
Shortcut=Super_R
```

#Volume Down

```
[Section2]
MenuEntry=false
Name=Volume_down
Run=aumix dcop kmix Mixer0 decreaseVolume
Run=aumix -v -10
Shortcut=XF86AudioLowerVolume
```

#Mute

```
[Section3]
MenuEntry=false
Name=Main_Mute
Run=/usr/local/bin/aumute
Shortcut=XF86AudioMute
```

#Mozilla

```
[Section4]
MenuEntry=true
Name=K Menu - Networking/WWW/Mozilla.desktop
Run=Networking/WWW/Mozilla.desktop
Shortcut=XF86HomePage
```

#CD Player - Play

```
[Section5]
MenuEntry=false
Name=CD_OPEN
Run=dcop kscd default play
Run=dcop kscd-`/sbin/pidof kscd` default play
Shortcut=XF86AudioPlay
```

#CD Player - Next Track

```
[Section6]
MenuEntry=false
Name=CD_Next
Run=dcop kscd default next
Run=dcop kscd-`/sbin/pidof kscd` default next
Shortcut=XF86AudioNext
```

#KDE Control Center

```
[Section7]
MenuEntry=true
Name=K Menu - KControl.desktop
Run=mdk/Administer your system/KControl.desktop
Shortcut=XF86Start
```

#CD Player - Stop

```
[Section8]
MenuEntry=false
Name=CD_Pause
Run=dcop kscd previous stop
Run=dcop kscd-`/sbin/pidof kscd` previous stop
Shortcut=XF86AudioStop
```

```
#Lock Desktop
```

```
[Section9]
MenuEntry=false
Name=screensaver
Run=dcop kdesktop KScreensaverIface lock
Shortcut=XF86Standby
```

The Mute script

Now for CD muting you'll want to use a small script like the one below with aumix. Put the script in /usr/local/bin.

```
#!/bin/sh

VOL=`aumix -q | grep vol | gawk '{ print $3 }'`
if [ $VOL != "0" ]
then
    aumix -S
    aumix -v 0
else
    aumix -L > /dev/null
fi
```

If you're using Mandrake 9.1 use this script

```
#!/bin/sh

MUTE=`dcop kmix Mixer0 mute 0`
if [ "$MUTE" = "false" ]
then
    dcop kmix Mixer0 setMute 0, on
else
    dcop kmix Mixer0 setMute 0, off
fi
```

If you've done your work diligently then you'll have mute and volume control, working CD navigation keys, a 'lock desktop' key, application hotkeys and a key to open the K Menu.

Enjoy Linux