

The KColorEdit Handbook

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Abstract

KColorEdit is a palette files editor. It can be used for editing color palettes and for color choosing and naming.

Chapter 1

Introduction

KColorEdit is a palette files editor. It can be used for editing color palettes and for color choosing and naming.

Chapter 2

File operations

2.1 About palette files

The palette files installed by KDE can be either system-wide or the user ones. The latter are in your private KDE configuration folders, and they are named Custom Colors and Recent Colors.

In KColorEdit, you may open all of these palettes, as well as palettes in arbitrary files.

2.2 Opening a file

In the Open File dialog, you may choose from a list of installed palettes, or browse folders for files.

Chapter 3

Editing

3.1 Cursor

The cursor is visible as a line in the palette view. It can be moved by clicking on an area beside a color.

The cursor has the following functions:

- It points to the color after it. The color, if any, is described below the palette view. You may edit its name there.
- It can be used to make a selection. A selection can be made by clicking on an area beside a color, so to move the cursor there, and by moving the mouse then with the left mouse button pressed.
- If the At cursor check-box near the Add Color button is checked, a color from the color chooser is put at the cursor. The color is either inserted or it overwrites another one, depending on whether the Overwrite mode is chosen. The mode can be chosen by checking the Overwrite check-box, that is next to the At cursor one.

3.2 Selection

A selection, that can be made as it was written in the previous section, can be used with the copy, cut and paste operations.

3.3 Clipboard format

KColorEdit uses the following format for clipboard data: for each color three numbers for red, green and blue components, respectively, and an optional

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color name, followed by a new line character if there is another color. Therefore, if for example three numbers are in the clipboard, they can be pasted by KColorEdit as a color.

Chapter 4

Selecting a color from an RGB space

A color can be selected from an RGB space in KColorEdit in the following ways:

- By editing the HSV or RGB components.
- By selecting a color from color gradient panels. In the left one, two from HSV components can be selected, and in the right one, the third one. The third component can be chosen by clicking on one of the buttons labeled H:, S: and V:. The one component panel display colors with the other two components equal to these selected in the two components panel. The two components panel may display colors with the third component fixed, or, if the Variable check-box is set, with a value equal to the one selected in the one component panel. In the Replace mode, the color selected in panels replaces the output one instantly, and in the Change: mode it modifies the output color after each click, or a mouse move while a mouse button is pressed. Therefore, in the latter mode the color selected in the gradient panels may be different from the output color. To synchronize the colors, the Synchronize button can be used.

Chapter 5

Drag and drop

The palette colors and the color selection output color can be dragged with a mouse.

Chapter 6

Menu Reference

6.1 The File Menu

File → New (Ctrl+N) Start a new palette in the current window.

File → New Window Open a new window

File → Open (Ctrl+O) Open a saved palette.

File → Open Recent Reopen a palette that you have recently been editing.

File → Save (Ctrl+S) Save the currently open palette.

File → Save As... Save the currently open palette with a new name.

File → Close (Ctrl+W) Close the current KColorEdit window

File → Quit (Ctrl+Q) Quit KColorEdit.

6.2 The Edit Menu

Edit → Cut (Ctrl+X) Cut the currently selected color to the clipboard.

Edit → Copy (Ctrl+C) Copy the currently selected color to the clipboard.

Edit → Paste (Ctrl+V) Paste a color from the clipboard.

6.3 The Color Menu

Color → **From Palette** Find the color currently selected in the palette, in the color selector on the left.

Color → **From Screen** Pick a color from anywhere on the screen, and find it in the color selector on the left.

6.4 The Settings Menu

Settings → **Hide/Show Toolbar** Toggle on and off the toolbar icons.

Settings → **Hide/Show Statusbar** Toggle on and off the status bar.

Settings → **Hide/Show Color Names** If the currently open palette has color name, display them alongside the colors.

Settings → **Configure Shortcuts...** Configure the keyboard keys you use to access the different actions.

Settings → **Configure Toolbars...** Configure the items you want to put in the toolbar

6.5 The Help Menu

Help → **KColorEdit Handbook (F1)** Invokes the KDE Help system starting at the KColorEdit help pages. (this document).

Help → **What's This? (Shift+F1)** Changes the mouse cursor to a combination arrow and question mark. Clicking on items within KColorEdit will open a help window (if one exists for the particular item) explaining the item's function.

Help → **Report Bug...** Opens the Bug report dialog where you can report a bug or request a 'wishlist' feature.

Help → **Switch Application Language...** Opens a dialog where you can edit the Primary language and Fallback language for this application.

Help → **About KColorEdit** This will display version and author information.

Help → **About KDE** This displays the KDE version and other basic information.

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Credits and Licenses

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Appendix A

Installation

KColorEdit is part of the KDE project <http://www.kde.org/> .

KColorEdit can be found in the kdegraphics package on <ftp://ftp.kde.org/pub/kde/> , the main FTP site of the KDE project.

For detailed information on how to compile and install KDE applications see [Building KDE4 From Source](#)

Since KDE uses **cmake** you should have no trouble compiling it. Should you run into problems please report them to the KDE mailing lists.