

The KIconEdit Handbook

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Abstract

KIconEdit is designed to help create icons for KDE using the standard icon palette.

Chapter 1

Introduction

KIconEdit is designed to help create icons for KDE using the standard icon palette.

I hope you will find this program somehow useful and I would appreciate any suggestions and comments.

—Thomas Tanghus tanghus@earthling.net

Chapter 2

Onscreen Fundamentals

In this section will be briefly described the Icon Editor user interface.

The Icon Editor window is separated in five areas: main toolbar, tools toolbar, statusbar, color palette and the grid, where you paint the icon.

2.1 Main Toolbar

New Create a new icon. If the current file has been modified you will be asked if you want to save the changes. After that a dialog will open where you can choose to create the icon from scratch or from a template.

Open Open an existing icon file.

Save Save the currently open icon.

Print Print the icon.

Undo Undo the last action

Redo Redo the last action undone. If no actions have been undone, this action is disabled.

Cut Cuts out the entire icon and put it onto the clipboard.

Copy Copies the entire icon to the clipboard.

Paste Paste the contents of the clipboard as a new image (if the clipboard contains a valid icon).

Zoom, Zoom In, Zoom Out Zoom to predefined zoom factor, zoom in or zoom out.

Resize Resize icon to width X height.

GrayScale Gray scale the icon image. This may create colors not conformant to the KDE icon palette.

Show Grid Toggle grid on/off.

2.2 Tools Toolbar

This toolbar contains the tools you can use to manipulate the icon.

Freehand Draw free hand.

Color Picker Doesn't change the icon but changes the current drawcolor to the color clicked on.

Rectangle Draw a rectangle.

Filled Rectangle Draw a filled rectangle.

Circle Draw a circle.

Filled Circle Draw a filled circle.

Ellipse Draw an ellipse

Filled Ellipse Draw a filled ellipse (almost the same thing as drawing a circle.)

Spray Draws a random dotted pattern like a spraycan.

Flood Fill Fill an area with the current color.

Line Draw a line.

Eraser (Transparent) Draw transparent (invisible).

Rectangular Selection, Circular Selection Select (mark) a part of the icon.

2.3 Grid

The grid is where you manipulate the icon contents.

2.4 Statusbar

The status bar keeps you informed of current operations. From left to right, it tells you the x,y coordinates of the pixel you are working on, the size of the current canvas, the zoom factor, and the current number of colors in the icon.

Chapter 3

The Menu Entries

3.1 The File Menu

The following functions are available from the File menu:

- File → New (Ctrl+N)** Lets you create a new icon, either from a template or by specifying the size.
- File → New Window** Open a new Icon Editor window.
- File → Open... (Ctrl+O)** Open an existing icon file.
- File → Open Recent** Displays a list of recently opened icons to choose from.
- File → Save (Ctrl+S)** Save the currently open icon.
- File → Save As...** Save the currently open icon under a new name.
- File → Print... (Ctrl+P)** Print the icon
- File → Close (Ctrl+W)** Close KIconEdit.

3.2 The Edit Menu

The Edit menu contains the following entries:

- Edit → Undo (Ctrl+Z)** Undo the last action
- Edit → Redo (Ctrl+Shift+Z)** Redo the last action undone. If no actions have been undone, this action is disabled.
- Edit → Cut (Ctrl+X)** Cuts out the entire icon and put it onto the clipboard.
- Edit → Copy (Ctrl+C)** Copies the entire icon to the clipboard.

Edit → **Paste (Ctrl+V)** Paste the contents of the clipboard (if the clipboard contains a valid icon).

Edit → **Paste as New** Paste the contents of the clipboard as a new image into a new Icon Editor window (if the clipboard contains a valid icon).

Edit → **Clear** Clear the grid and fill it with transparent color.

Edit → **Select All (Ctrl+A)** Marks the entire icon as selected.

Edit → **Resize...** Resize icon to width X height.

Edit → **GrayScale** Gray scale the icon image. This may create colors not conformant to the KDE icon palette.

3.3 The View Menu

View → **Zoom In (Ctrl++)** Magnify the view of the icon.

View → **Zoom Out (Ctrl+-)** Shrink the view icon to a smaller screen size

View → **Zoom** Zoom to a predefined zoom factor

3.4 The Tools Menu

Tools → **Freehand** Draw free hand.

Tools → **Color Picker** Select a color from the screen to use as the foreground color.

Tools → **Rectangle** Draw a rectangle.

Tools → **Filled Rectangle** Draw a filled rectangle.

Tools → **Circle** Draw a circle.

Tools → **Filled Circle** Draw a filled circle.

Tools → **Ellipse** Draw an ellipse

Tools → **Filled Ellipse** Draw a filled ellipse (almost the same thing as drawing a circle.)

Tools → **Spray** Draws a random dotted pattern like a spraycan.

Tools → **Flood Fill** Fill an area with the current color.

Tools → **Line** Draw a line.

Tools → **Eraser (Transparent)** Draw transparent (invisible).

Tools → **Rectangular Selection**, **Tools** → **Circular Selection** Select (mark) a part of the icon.

3.5 The Settings Menu

Settings → **Toolbars** Toggle on and off the display of the toolbars.

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

Settings → **Show/Hide Grid** Toggle on and off the grid.

Settings → **Configure Shortcuts...** Opens a dialog where you can customize KIconEdit's keyboard shortcuts.

Settings → **Configure KIconEdit...** Opens the KIconEdit [configuration dialog](#), described separately.

3.6 The Help Menu

Help → **KIconEdit Handbook (F1)** Invokes the KDE Help system starting at the KIconEdit 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 KIconEdit 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 KIconEdit** This will display version and author information.

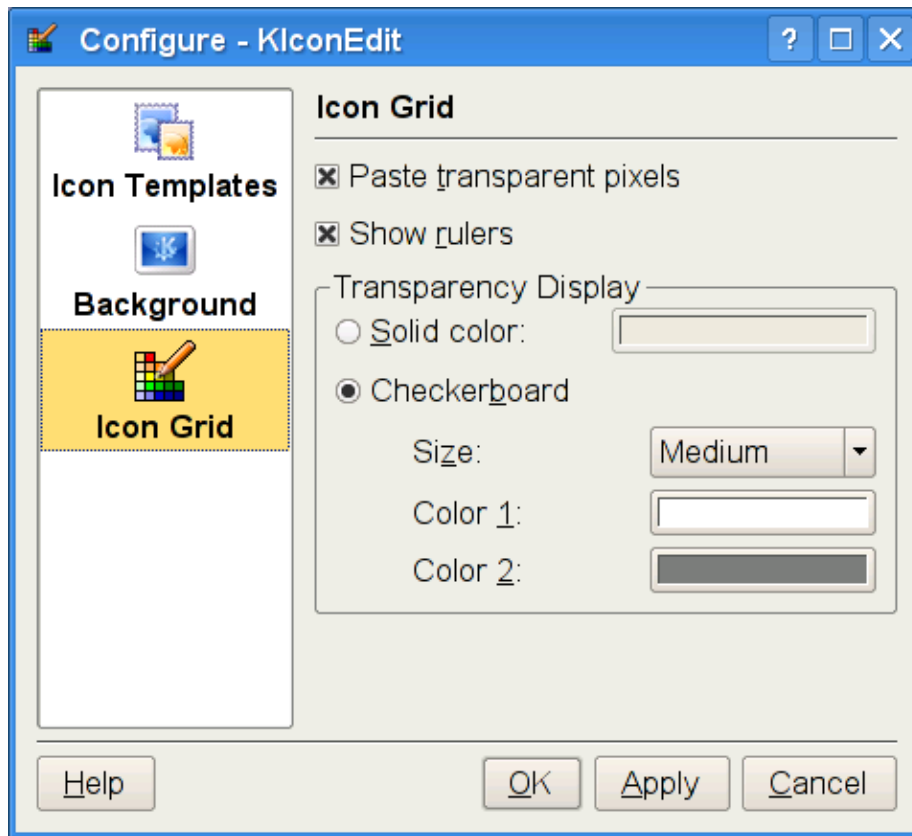
Help → **About KDE** This displays the KDE version and other basic information.

Chapter 4

Configuration

4.1 Configuring KIconEdit

Selecting the Settings → Configure KIconEdit... menu item will open a configuration dialog with the tree tabs Icon Templates, Background and Icon Grid.



4.1.1 The Icon Templates Tab

Add..., Edit... and Remove the templates for Standard File, Source File, Compressed File etc..

4.1.2 The Background Tab

Select to Use color or to Use pixmap as background. A Preview of your choice is displayed.

4.1.3 The Icon Grid Tab

Select to Paste transparent pixels or Show rulers and set a Solid Color or a Checkerboard as Transparency Display. You can set the Checkerboard Size: to Small, Medium or Large and choose Color 1: and Color 2: of the checkerboard.

Chapter 5

Credits and Licenses

KIconEdit

Program copyright Thomas Tanghus tanghus@kde.org

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Appendix A

Installation

A.1 How to obtain KIconEdit

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

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

A.2 Compilation and Installation

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.