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1 Accessibility

1.1 Introduction

This module is designed to help users who have difficulty hearing audible cues, or who have difficulty using a keyboard.

The module is divided into two tabs: [Bell](#) and [Keyboard](#).

1.1.1 Bell

This panel is divided into an Audible Bell section and a Visible Bell section.

The top check box labeled Use System Bell, determines whether the normal System bell rings. If this option is disabled, the System bell will be silenced.

The next check box down can be used to play a different sound whenever the system bell is triggered. To activate, place a mark in the check box labeled Use customized bell, and enter the complete pathname to the sound file in the text box labeled Sound to Play. If you want, you can select the Browse button to navigate through your filesystem to find the exact file.

For those users who have difficulty hearing the System bell, or those users who have a silent computer, KDE offers the *visible bell*. This provides a visual signal (inverting the screen or flashing a color across it) when the system bell would normally sound.

To use the visible bell, first place a mark in the check box labeled Use visible bell.

You can then select between Invert screen, or Flash screen. If you select Invert screen, all colors on the screen will be reversed. If you choose Flash screen, you can choose the color by clicking the button to the right of the Flash screen selection.

The slider bar can be used to adjust the duration of the visible bell. The default value is 500ms, or half a second.

1.1.2 Keyboard

There are three sections to this panel.

Use Sticky Keys If this option is enabled, you can press and release the **Shift**, **Alt** or **Ctrl** keys, and then press another key to get a key combo (example: Ctrl+Alt+Del could be done with **Ctrl** then **Alt** then **Del**).

Also in this section is a check box labeled Lock Sticky Keys. If this check box is enabled, the **Alt**, **Ctrl** and **Shift** keys stay 'selected' until you 'de-selected' them.

As an example:

With Lock Sticky Keys disabled: If you press the **Shift** key then press the **F** key, the computer interprets this as Shift+F. Now if you type a **P**, the computer interprets this as the letter p (no shift).

With Lock Sticky Keys enabled: If you press the **Shift** key *twice* then press the **F** key, the computer interprets this as Shift+F. Now if you type a **p**, the computer interprets this as the letter P (Shift+P). To de-select the **Shift** key, press it again.

Slow keys If this option is enabled, you must hold the key down for a specified length of time (adjustable with the slider) before the keystroke will be accepted. This helps prevent accidental key strokes.

Bounce keys If this option is enabled, you must wait for a specified length of time (configurable with the slider) before the next key press can be accepted. This prevents accidental multiple key strokes.