

Gentoo – Framebuffer Splash Image

If you are tired of staring at a black console screen on your Gentoo box you can trick it out a bit using Gensplash. Gensplash or “fbcondecor” allows you to use different background images, fonts and colors to decorate your console so you don’t have the standard black background and white text. It also allows you to have nice boot and shutdown screens. (Think of the boot process and console on the install CD).

First we have to configure the kernel to support the framebuffer devices. You will need the following options enabled in your kernel config:

Next we need to setup some use flags in `/etc/portage/package.use`:

Then we need to unmask and install the necessary packages:

Now start the fbcondecor service and add it to the default runlevel:

Then create an initrid image and add it’s entry to `grub.conf`.
Note: themes are located in `/etc/splash`.

`grub.conf` example:

Grub Notes:

- `splash=verbose` – means you will see text scroll by, set to `silent` to just see a fancy progress bar. (Depends on

theme)

- `fadein` – will fade into the framebuffer on boot
- `theme:theme_name` – the theme you are using
- `video=vesafb:mtrr:3,ywrap` – vesa framebuffer options
- `vga=0x361` – The resolution supported by your video card in hex. Set to `Auto` to see a list of supported resolutions and their codes for your monitor, experiment, then set it to the one that works.
- `CONSOLE=/dev/tty1` – what console do we start the framebuffer on

Reboot and behold the wonders of your new framebuffer!