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LightDM is a cross-desktop Display Manager. It was built as a relatively light-weight and highly customizable alternative to [GDM](#). It's developed at Canonical by  [Robert Ancell](#) and all  [contributors are required to assign the their copyright to Canonical](#) through a [WikiPedia: Contributor License Agreement](#) that allows proprietarization.

- No Gnome dependencies
- Uses webkit to render themes
- Supports Gtk and Qt
- Highly customizable ( [basic](#) gtk theme,  [unity](#) theme in Ubuntu Precise)

LightDM was introduced in **Wheezy**, it's stable enough for use also in **Jessie** and **Sid**.

To install lightdm in Wheezy, run as [root](#)

```
aptitude install lightdm
```

Configuration

LightDM configuration file is found at **/etc/lightdm**

/lightdm.conf. Making a backup of the original configuration file is recommended.

To change the current default Display Manager, run

```
dpkg-reconfigure lightdm
```

If you're new to LightDM, it's recommended to have GDM, slim or another Display Manager installed as a backup.

Enable autologin

Look up these lines in lightdm configuration file, uncomment them and customize to your preference.

```
[SeatDefaults]
#autologin-user=
#autologin-user-timeout=0
```

Change the greeter's background

Debian's LightDM GTK greeter is configured in `/etc/lightdm/lightdm-gtk-greeter.conf`. There, we find that the background image points to `/usr/share/images/desktop-base/desktop-background`, which is a symlink managed by [update-alternatives](#).

So, to change the greeter's background, the best way is to find some images that you like from `/usr/share/images/desktop-base/`, then use `update-alternatives` to change the desktop-background group:

```
update-alternatives --config desktop-background
```

See also

- [DebianPkg: lightdm](#) - Debian packages
- [DisplayManager](#)
- LightDM at [freedesktop.org](#), [Launchpad](#)

[CategoryBootProcess](#)