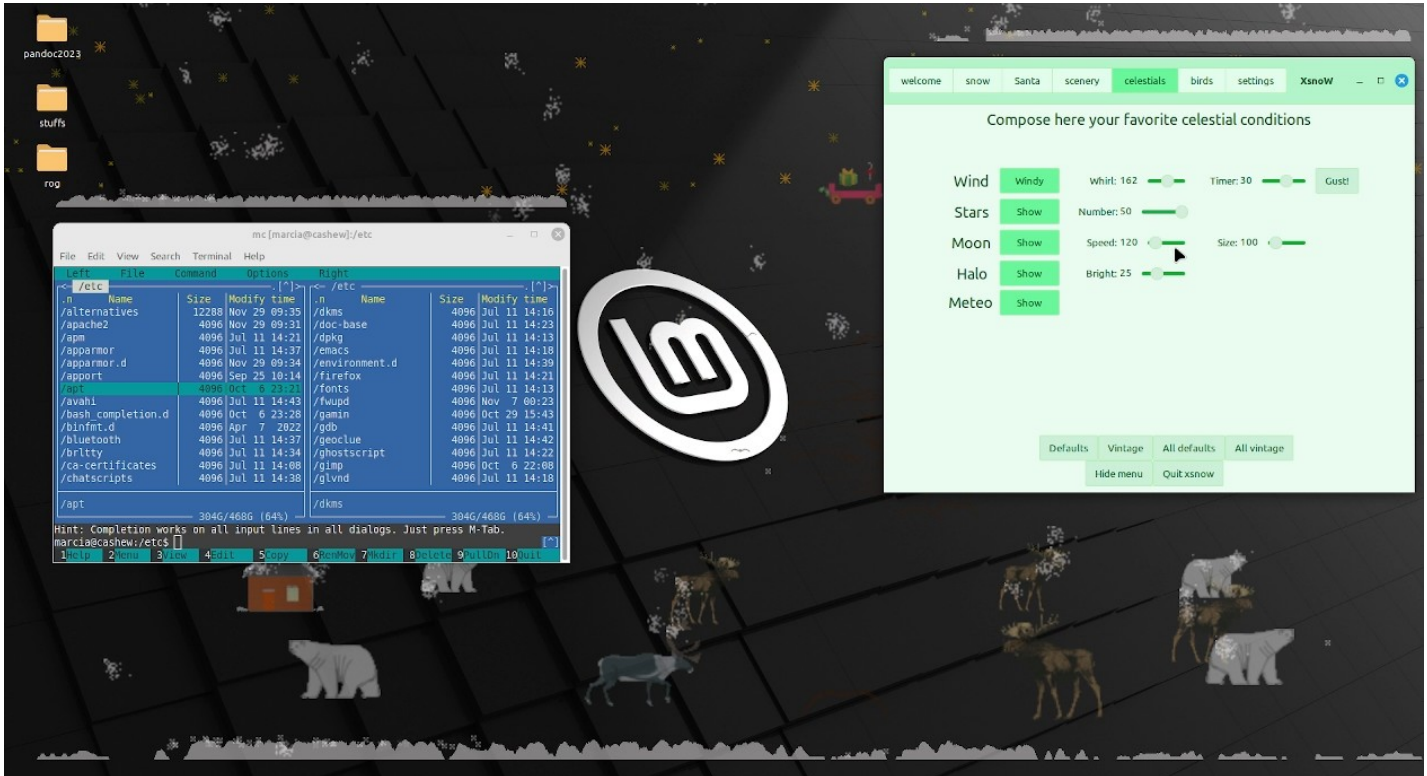


# How to Install and Customize xsnow on Linux

Holiday cheer on the desktop



## What is xsnow?

The application, xsnow, drops snowflakes on your desktop leaving snowfall on open applications, displays an animated Santa and is easily customized using this GUI application.

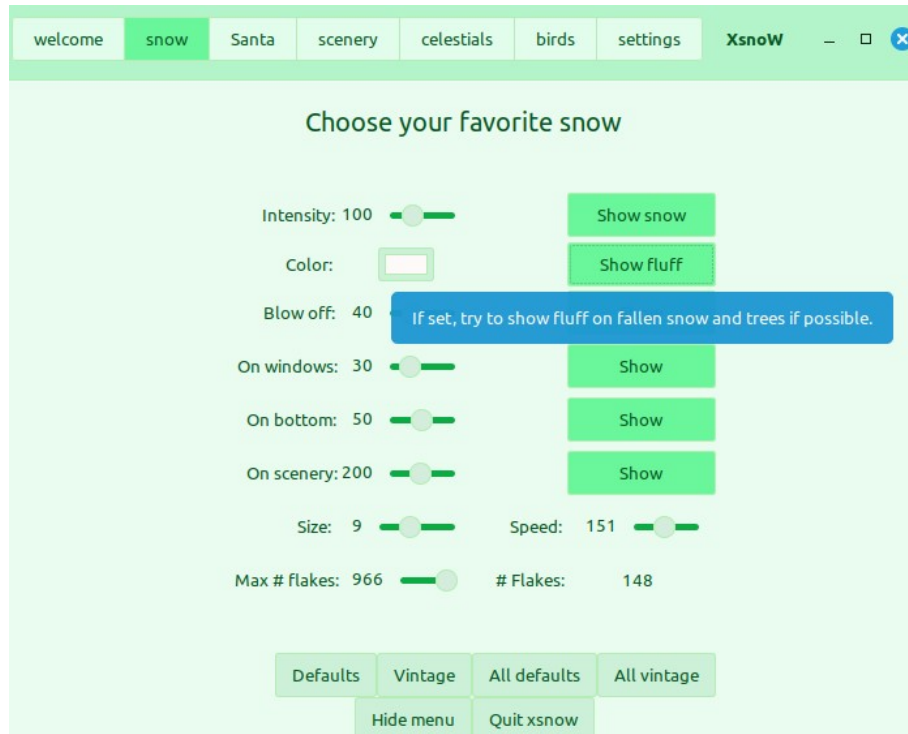
This is a port of a 1980s MacIntosh application. Versions after 2.0 for Linux are considered free software.

There are several screens available to customize the experience. There are mouseover guidance messages with information about the options. The mouseover message is detailed in describing the options.

## What options are available for customization?

Each menu option includes several options to enhance the experience to your personal preferences.

The options include customization for snow, Santa, scenery, celestial, birds, and settings.



## Which Window Manager/Desktop Environments can I use xsnow with?

- GNOME
- KDE
- FVWM
- TWM
- XFCE
- LXDE
- OPENBOX

## How can I install xsnow?

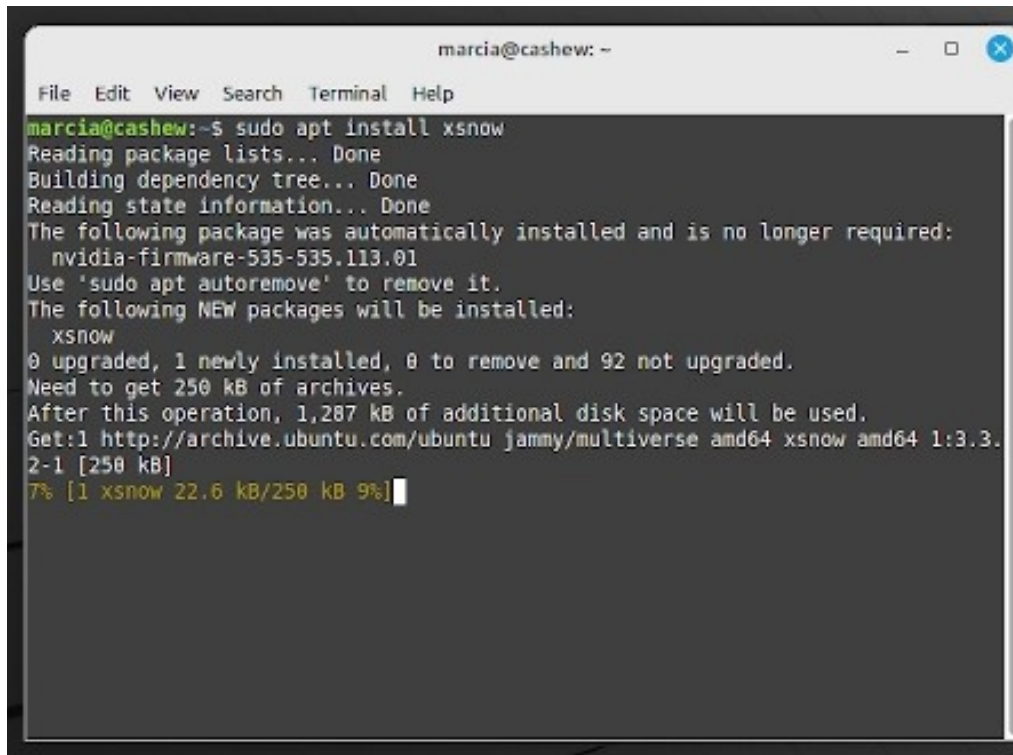
xsnow is included in the repos for Mint, Debian, Ubuntu, SuSe and Arch.

The application with dependencies can be installed at the command line using the apt command.

Open a terminal window.

Type the command:

```
sudo apt install xsnow
```

A terminal window titled 'marcia@cashew: ~' showing the command 'sudo apt install xsnow' and its output. The output indicates that the package is being installed, with a progress bar at the bottom showing 7% completion. The terminal text is as follows:

```
marcia@cashew:~$ sudo apt install xsnow
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following package was automatically installed and is no longer required:
 nvidia-firmware-535-535.113.01
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove it.
The following NEW packages will be installed:
 xsnow
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 0 to remove and 92 not upgraded.
Need to get 250 kB of archives.
After this operation, 1,287 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Get:1 http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/multiverse amd64 xsnow amd64 1:3.3.2-1 [250 kB]
7% [1 xsnow 22.6 kB/250 kB 9%]
```

Note: The xsnow application can also be downloaded and installed from source on Sourceforge.

Sourceforge: <https://sourceforge.net/projects/xsnow/>

Packages for different distros are found here:

Debian: <https://packages.debian.org/bookworm/amd64/xsnow/download>

SuSe: <https://packagehub.suse.com/packages/xsnow/>

Raspbian: <https://www.ratrabbit.nl/ratrabbit/xsnow/>

RPM: [https://rpmfind.net/linux/RPM/openmandriva/cooker/x86\\_64/main/release/xsnow-3.7.6-1.x86\\_64.html](https://rpmfind.net/linux/RPM/openmandriva/cooker/x86_64/main/release/xsnow-3.7.6-1.x86_64.html)

Arch: <https://aur.archlinux.org/packages/xsnow>

## How can I customize the options.

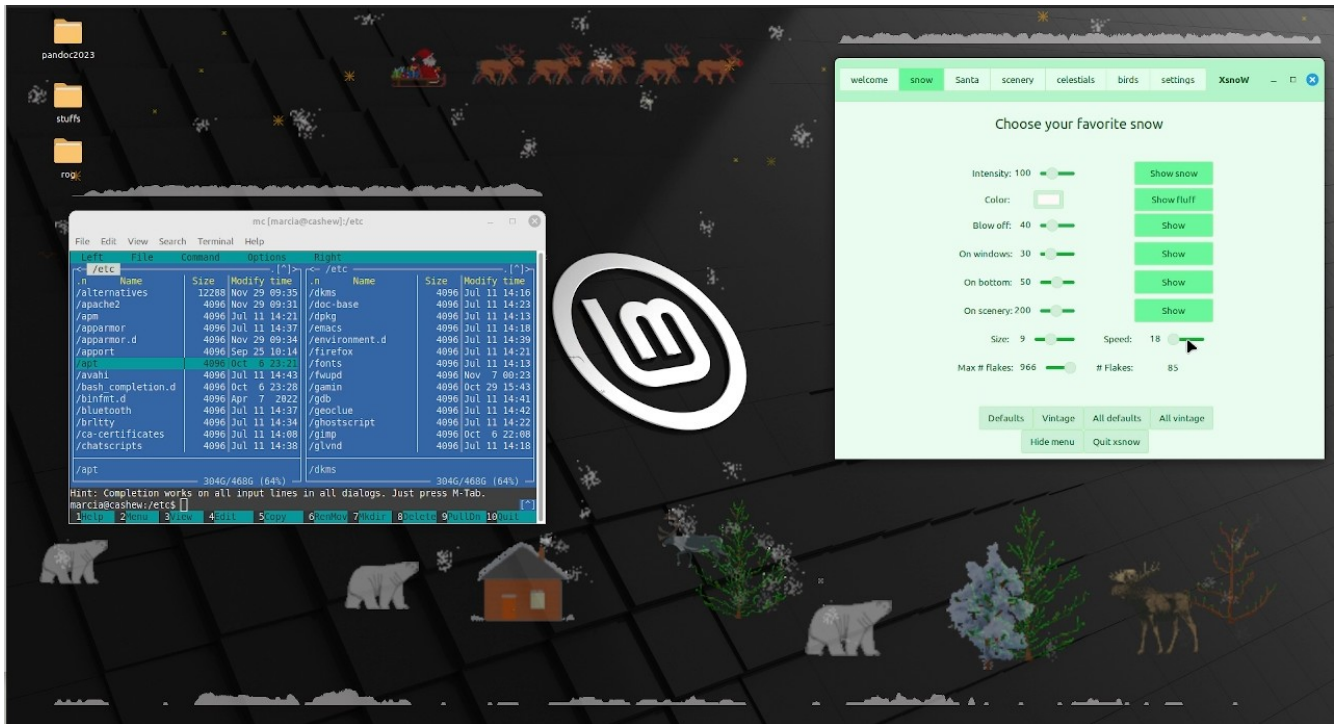
This simple GUI offers graphical and mouseover guidance for each option. In each option screen, you can return to defaults, vintage and hide the menu.

## Snow

Set the color of the snowflakes, the size and where the snow lands.

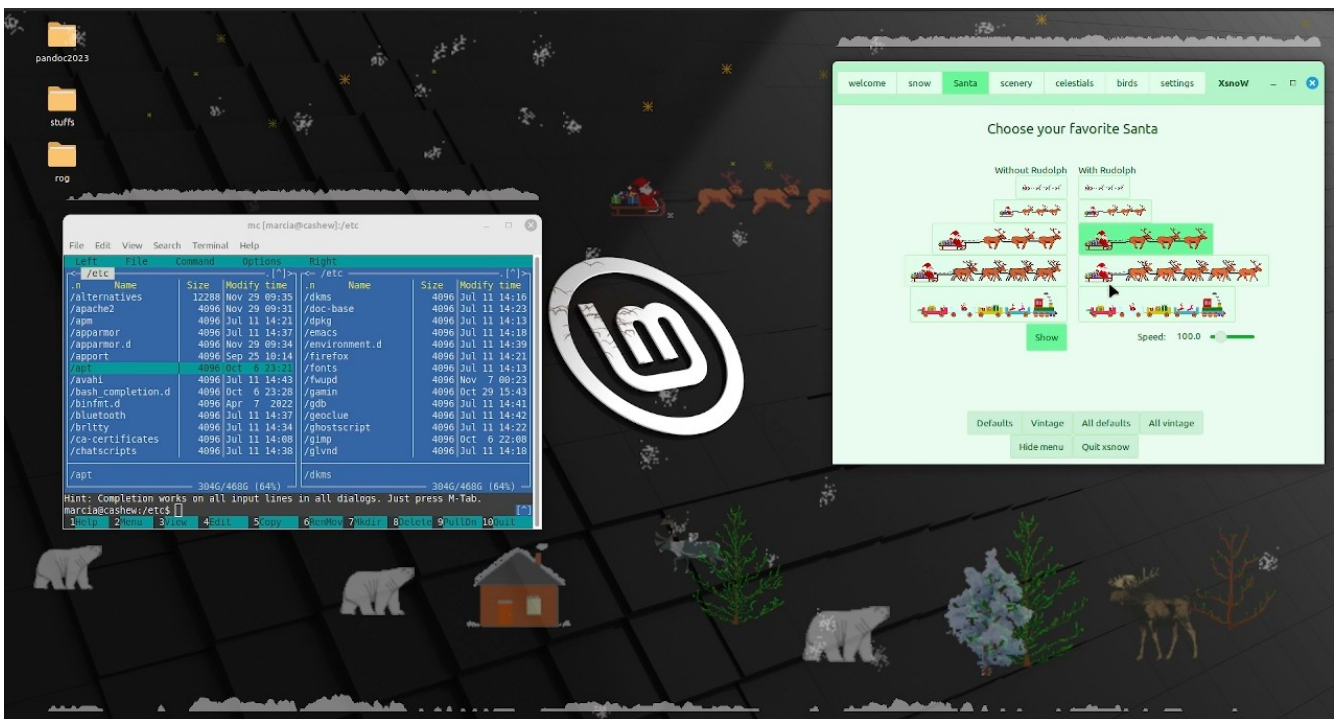
The snow options include the following.

- intensity
- color
- blow off
- on windows
- on bottom
- on scenery
- size
- max flakes



## Santa

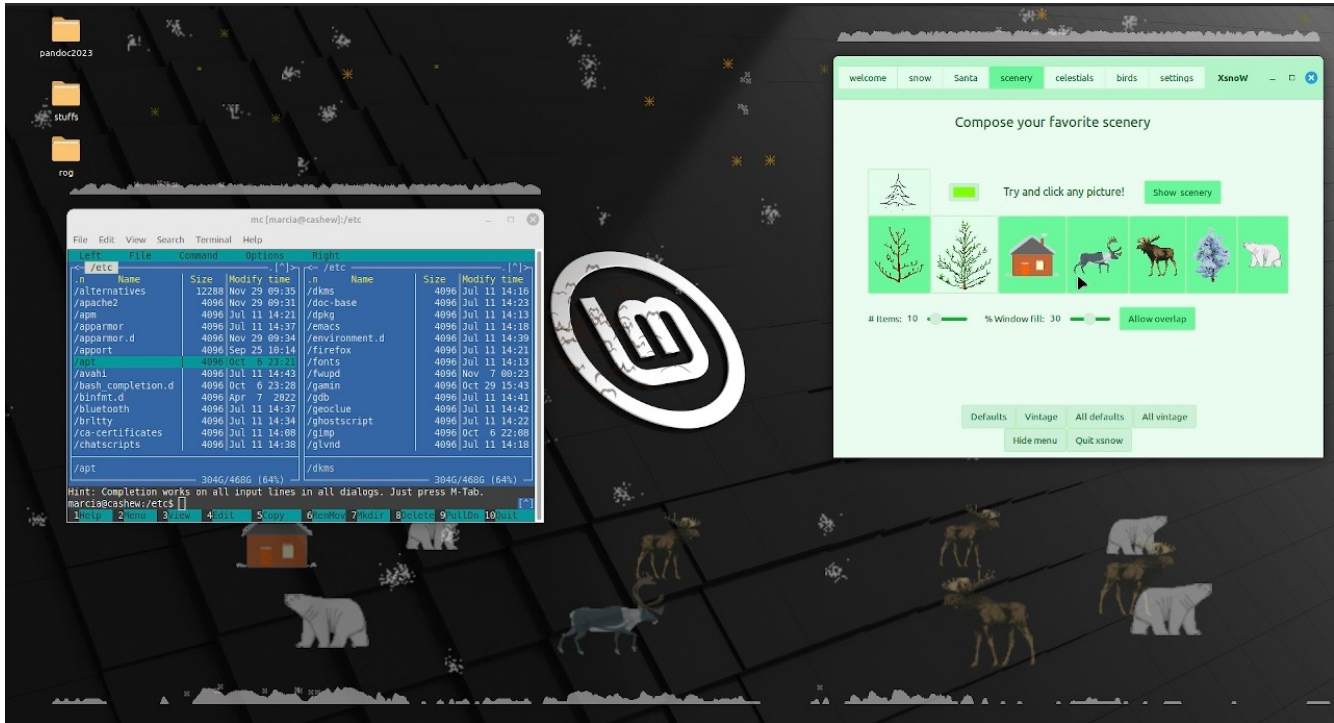
The different Santa options include reindeer and sleigh with or without Rudolph. There is a train option as well.





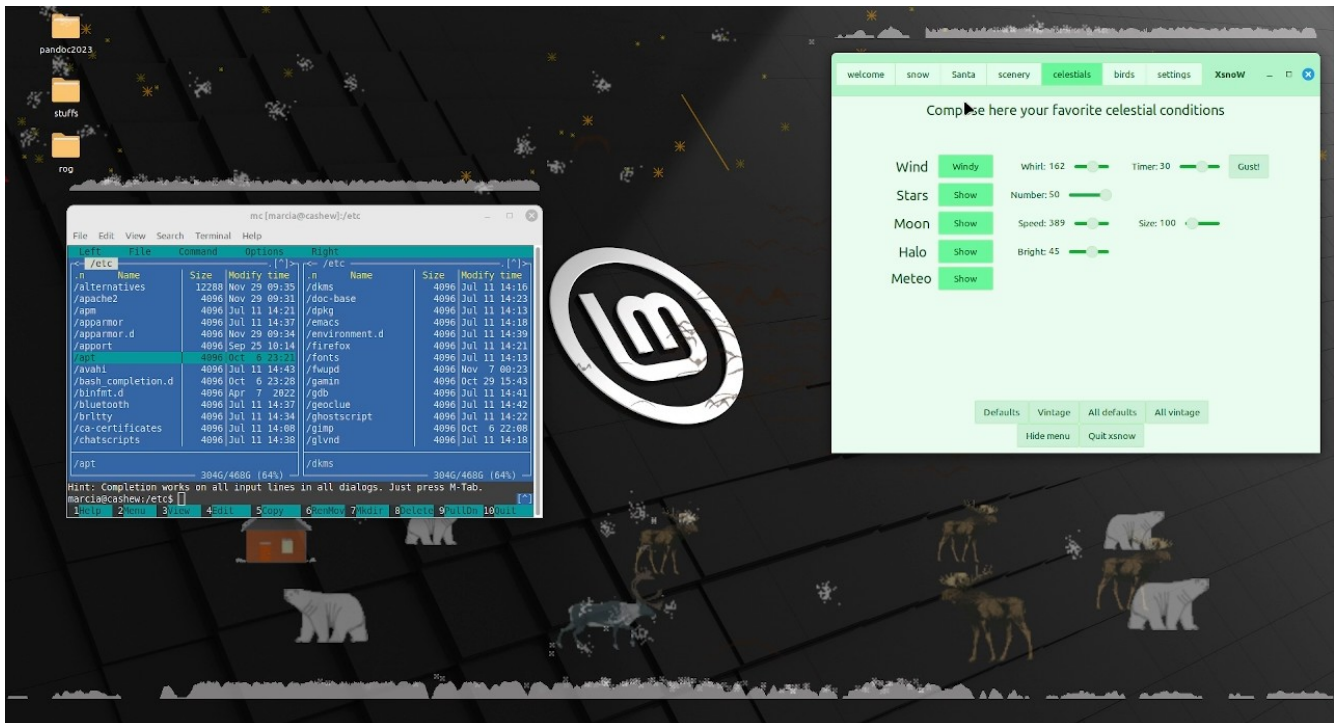
# scenery

There are several scenes to choose from. Some scenery options include trees, house, reindeer and polar bear.



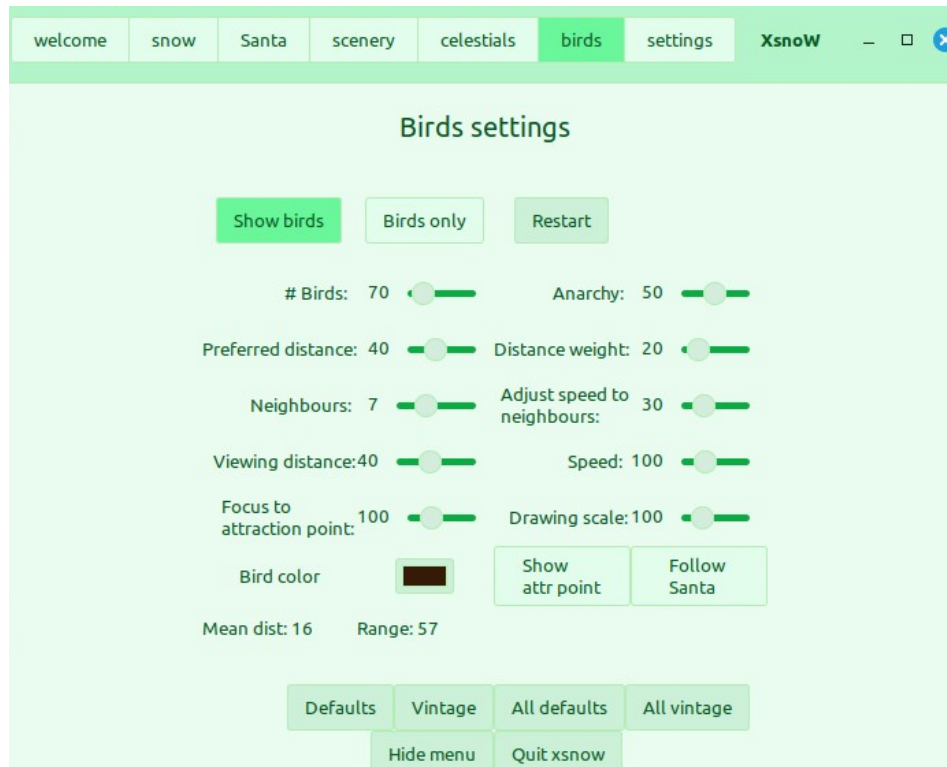
# celestial

If you would like to add stars or a moon, use the celestial option. The options available here are Wind, Stars, Moon, Halo, and Meteors.



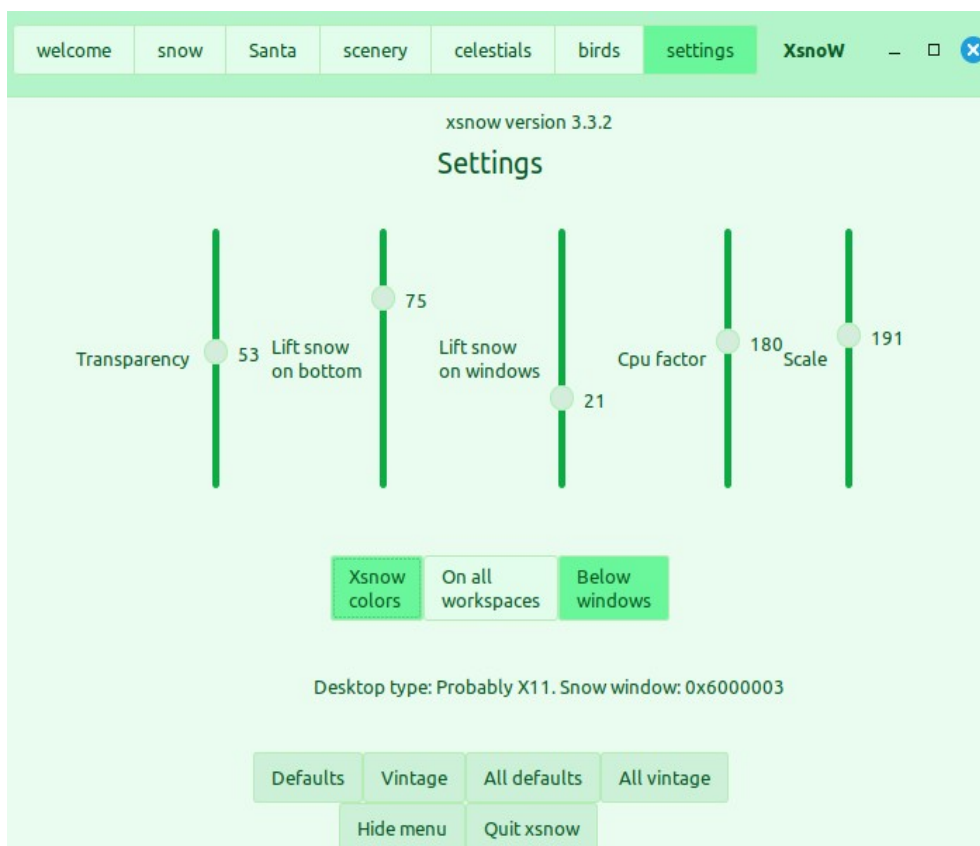
## birds

You can add birds to the experience. Here you can select to show birds, birds only, amount of birds, distance, neighbors, viewing distance, focus to attraction point and the color of the birds.



## settings

In the settings screen, you will find the version of xsnow along with options for transparency, lift snow on bottom, lift snow on windows, cpu factor and scale.



The option for colors is available as well as setting the snow below windows.

One important option is **on all workspaces**.

If you do not see the snow falling immediately after installing xsnow, select **On all workspaces**.

## How to Remove xsnow

To remove xsnow from the system, open a terminal and type:

```
sudo apt purge xsnow
```

xsnow includes many customizations for a personalized holiday desktop experience. This is just one of several fun tools you can use to enhance the user experience.