30 things to do after installing Manjaro

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jl4nyEA-F-o

Test mirrors and choose the fastest one

```
$ sudo pacman-mirrors -f 0 && sudo pacman -Syy
```

It's a good idea to run it from time to time (e.g. once a month).

Automatic date and time

Manjaro Settings Manager --> Time and Date. Here, tick "Set time and date automatically".

Reduce swappiness

Current swappiness value:

```
$ cat /proc/sys/vm/swappiness
```

The default is 60.

Arch docs: https://wiki.archlinux.org/title/Swap#Swappiness

To change its value to 10:

```
$ sudo vim /etc/sysctl.d/100-manjaro.conf
```

And add the following line:

```
vm.swappiness = 10
```

Reboot and you're done.

Enable firewall

Start --> *Firewall configuration*, then switch it on (enable).

This is a frontend for UFW. If you want to manage your firewall manually, check this out: https://github.com/jabbalaci/DigitalOceanNotes/blob/master/ubuntu_16_04.md#security-2 .

Install fonts

```
$ yay ttf-ms-fonts
$ yay ttf-hack
$ yay ttf-nerd-fonts-hack-complete-git    # for unicode
characters in terminal
$ yay nerd-fonts-noto-sans-mono
$ yay nerd-fonts-terminus
$ yay ttf-google-fonts
```

`ttf-nerd-fonts-hack-complete-git` is a patched version of `ttf-hack`. Install both.

Enable TRIM for SSD

```
# check status
$ systemctl status fstrim.timer

# start and enable
$ systemctl start fstrim.timer
$ systemctl enable fstrim.timer

# check again
$ systemctl status fstrim.timer
```

What is this? Read about it here: https://idealssd.com/beginners-guide/what-is-ssd-trim/

Install Redshift

It adjusts your screen color.

```
$ yay redshift
```

Launch it: *Start --> Redshift*

It requires the *Geoclue Demo Agent*. Enable it among the startup applications.

Default temperature values (see `man redshift`):

1. day: 6500K
2. night: 4500K

The night value (4500K) was too red for me. Here is how to change it. Create the file `~/.config/redshift.conf` and add the following lines in it:

```
[redshift]
temp-day=6500
temp-night=5100
```

Stop Redshift and restart it.

Clipboard manager settings

It's called Clipman. It's a good idea to increase the history. The default value is 15. Change it to 30, for instance.

Left click --> *Clipman settings...*

Improve the Start menu

Right click --> *Properties*, then:

1. *Appearance* tab, *Position categories next to panel button*
2. *Behavior* tab, *Switch categories by hovering*

Change desktop themes

On my home machine, I have the following settings. Open the Settings Manager, then...

- Appearance: Adapta-Eta. Packages: `adapta-maia-theme` and `adapta-gtk-theme`
- Icons: Papirus-Maia
- Window Manager: Adapta-Maia
- Mouse and Touchpad: Theme: DMZ (White)

Test your microphone

Start --> PulseAudio Volume Control, then...

- Input devices. Here you can check your microphone.

How to test your webcam? See the video above.

Clean the system

Install bleachbit . It's similar to Windows' CCleaner.

Check for errors

What services failed to start?

```
$ systemctl --failed
```

If Qt applications look ugly

"*VLC* and *VirtualBox* are Qt-based applications, while XFCE is based upon the GTK widget toolkit.

Make sure that you have `qt5ct` and `kvantum-qt5` installed — they're both in the main repository if they're not on your system already —and then you can tweak the *look & feel* of Qt-based applications.

`kvantum-qt5` — listed in your menu as *Kvantum Manager* — is a theme engine based upon scalable vector graphics, in which you can load special *Kvantum* themes. There are several such themes in the repository, such as `kvantum-matcha` , and others can be downloaded from store.kde.org" ([source](https://))

Start --> Settings Manager --> Kvantum Manager. Then, *Change/Delete Theme*. I chose `KvAdapta`, then "Use This Theme". It's a nice light theme.

Konsole: highlight the current tab in green

See https://ubuntuincident.wordpress.com/2016/09/19/konsole-highlight-the-current-tab/ .

`konsole.css`:

```css
QTabBar::tab:selected {
    background: lightgreen;
    color: black;
    font: bold;
}
```

MC: go to parent directory with Backspace

See https://ubuntuincident.wordpress.com/2014/11/16/midnight-commander-go-to-parent-directory-with-backspace/ .

In short:

```
$ cd
$ ln -s ~/.config/mc .mc
$ cd .mc
$ cp /etc/mc/mc.keymap .
$ vim mc.keymap
```

Add this line:

```
CdParentSmart = backspace
```

MC: remember directories on the left and right sides when you quit

See https://ubuntuincident.wordpress.com/2015/08/21/midnight-commander-remember-directories-on-the-left-and-right-sides-when-you-quit/ .

In short:

```
Menu->Options->Panel options...
[x] Auto save panels setup
```

KDE apps: increase font size

KeePassXC is a KDE app., and the font size was too small. Inside the app., I couldn't change the font size.

Solution: install `qt5ct`, launch it, and there you can change the font size.

XFCE tray: allow reorder of items

Right click --> Panel --> Panel Preferences...

Here, select the tab Items and click on Window Buttons. At the bottom, click on the hamburger icon (Edit...). For sorting order, specify "None, allow drag-and-drop".

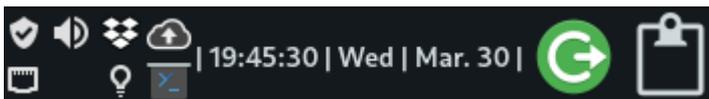Here, for window grouping, you can specify "Never".

Set ZSH as your default shell

```
chsh -s $(which zsh)
```

Then, **log out** of your computer and log back in.

Clock: set custom format

Screenshot:

Setting:

```
| %H:%M:%S | %a | %b. %-d |
```

It's also good:

```
|  %Y. %b. %-d | %A | %H:%M:%S |
```

AUR make package: improve compression time

See here: https://wiki.archlinux.org/title/makepkg#Improving_compile_times

In short: edit `/etc/makepkg.conf` and modify these lines:

```
MAKEFLAGS="-j$(($(nproc)+1))"

COMPRESSGZ=(pigz -c -f -n)
COMPRESSBZ2=(pbzip2 -c -f)
COMPRESSXZ=(xz -c -z --threads=0 -)
COMPRESSZST=(zstd -c -z -q -)
COMPRESSLRZ=(lrzip -q)
COMPRESSLZO=(lzop -q)
COMPRESSZ=(compress -c -f)
COMPRESSLZ4=(lz4 -q)
COMPRESSLZ=(lzip -c -f)
COMPRESSZST=(zstd -c -z -q --threads=0 -)
```

Make sure that the necessary packages are installed: `lrzip`, `lzop`, `lzip`, `pigz`, `pbzip2`, `ncompress`, etc.

Enable parallel downloading in pacman / yay

See here: https://ostechnix.com/enable-parallel-downloading-in-pacman-in-arch-linux/

In short: edit `/etc/pacman.conf` and modify / add this line:

```
# Misc options
ParallelDownloads = 40
```

Enable colors in pacman / yay

Edit `/etc/pacman.conf` and modify / add this line:

```
Color
```

Normally, it's in comment. Just uncomment it.

Launch nvim when calling vi or vim

I think nvim is better than vim. If you want to use the command `vim` or `vi`, but actually you want to call `nvim`, install the following package:

```
$ yay -S neovim-symlinks
```

It'll create the vi and vim symlinks pointing on nvim.

Install Java 17 and set it as default

```
$ yay -S jdk17-openjdk
```

Then:

```
$ archlinux-java help
...
$ archlinux-java status
Available Java environments:
  java-17-openjdk
  java-8-openjdk (default)
$ sudo archlinux-java set java-17-openjdk
$ archlinux-java status
Available Java environments:
  java-17-openjdk (default)
  java-8-openjdk
```
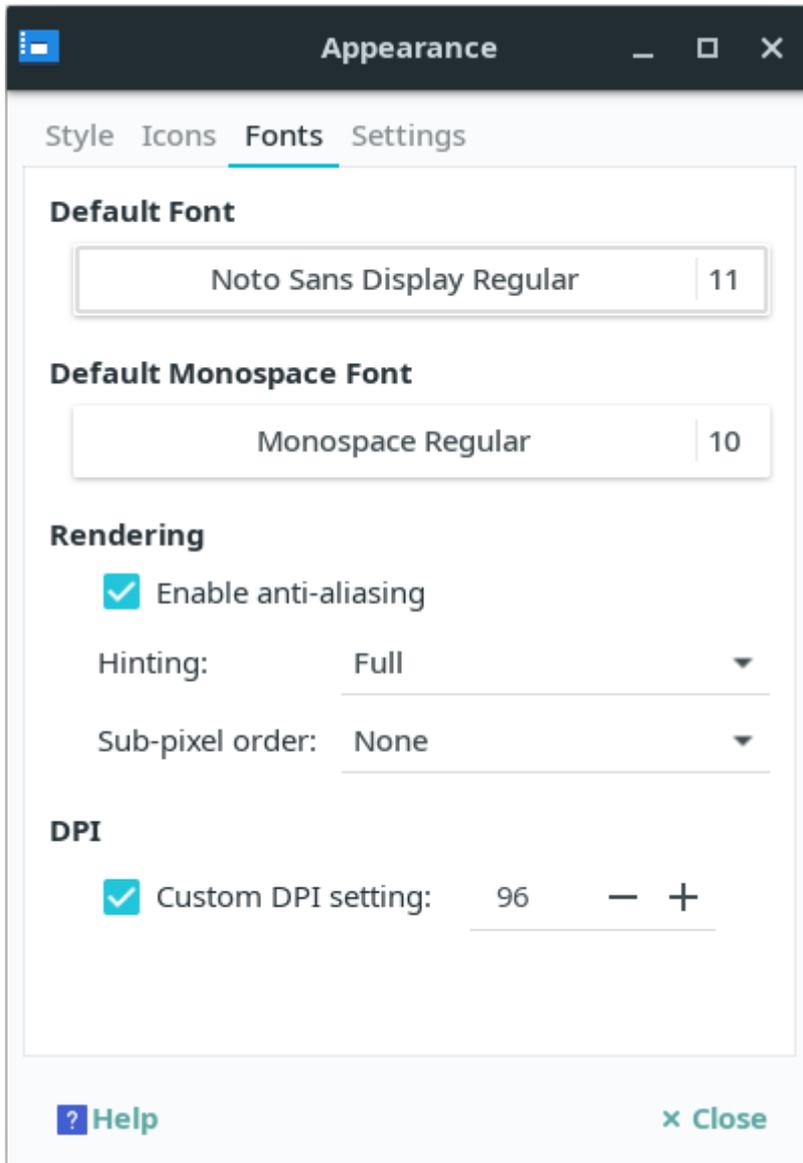
Show Unicode characters (emojis) correctly

After a fresh install, emojis didn't appear correctly. I managed to solve it the following way.

Install some fonts:

```
$ sudo pacman -S ttf-dejavu
$ sudo pacman -S noto-fonts
$ sudo pacman -S noto-fonts-emoji
$ sudo pacman -S noto-fonts-cjk
```

Then *Start* -> *Appearance*, tab *Fonts*

The font can stay the same, but change its size (from 10 to 11, for example). In this case, I think the font (whose new version was installed just before) is reloaded.

Restart the machine and it should be OK now. If you want, you can set the font size back to 10.

How to test it:

- visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKTYPGouEtU

- the title should look like this:

⚲ CALIFORNIA
⚡ Berlin • 🏊 Take My Breath Away • 👩 Jennifer Connelly • 🚀 Tom Cruise • ✈️ Top Gun: Maverick