

How to Install Cinnamon Themes

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This post assumes that you already have the [Cinnamon](#) shell installed on your computer and you want to install new Cinnamon themes for your personal use rather than for global use.

If you do not already have a `~/themes` subdirectory, you need to create it. The default permissions are fine.

You can either use the Cinnamon Settings tool (*Menu->Preferences->Cinnamon Settings*) to preview, select and download a new theme, or you can download a theme directly from [here](#).

Themes files are compressed and packaged as a single *zip* file. Move the downloaded zipped theme file to `~/themes` and unzip it. A new subdirectory named after the theme will be created. For example, if you download the *Smooth Mint* theme, a subdirectory called `~/themes/SmoothMint` is created. Within that subdirectory, a subdirectory called *cinnamon* is created and this is the subdirectory that contains all of the actual theme files. For example, here is what is created for the *SmoothMint* theme.

```
[SmoothMint]$ ls -R
.:
cinnamon

./cinnamon:
calendar-arrow-left.svg  panel-button-border.svg
calendar-arrow-right.svg panel-button-highlight-narrow.svg
calendar-today.svg      panel-button-highlight-wide.svg
cinnamon.css            player-paused.svg
cinnamon.css~           player-playing.svg
cinnamon.css.old        player-stopped.svg
close.svg               process-working.svg
close-window.png       running-indicator.svg
close-window.svg        scroll-hhandle.svg
corner-ripple-ltr.png  scroll-vhandle.svg
corner-ripple-rtl.png  source-button-border.svg
dash-placeholder.svg   thumbnail-generic.png
filter-selected-ltr.svg thumbnail.png
filter-selected-rtl.svg toggle-off-intl.svg
gdm.css                 toggle-off-us.svg
menuold.png             toggle-on-intl.svg
menu.png                toggle-on-us.svg
overview-hover.png     ws-switch-arrow-down.svg
overview.png            ws-switch-arrow-up.svg
panel-border.svg
[SmoothMint]$
```

You can then use the Cinnamon Settings tool to select the new theme. Once selected, the new theme is immediately visible; there is no need to log off and log back in again.