
pyewmh Documentation

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Contents:

The ewmh python module

This module intends to provide an implementation of Extended Window Manager Hints, based on the Xlib modules for python.

See the freedesktop.org [specification](#) for more information.

EWMH class

class ewmh.ewmh.**EWMH** (*_display=None, root=None*)

This class provides the ability to get and set properties defined by the EWMH spec.

Each property can be accessed in two ways. For example, to get the active window:

```
win = ewmh.getActiveWindow()
# or: win = ewmh.getProperty('_NET_ACTIVE_WINDOW')
```

Similarly, to set the active window:

```
ewmh.setActiveWindow(myWindow)
# or: ewmh.setProperty('_NET_ACTIVE_WINDOW', myWindow)
```

When a property is written, don't forget to really send the notification by flushing requests:

```
ewmh.display.flush()
```

Parameters

- **_display** – the display to use. If not given, Xlib.display.Display() is used.
- **root** – the root window to use. If not given, self.display.screen().root is used.

NET_WM_ACTIONS = ('_NET_WM_ACTION_MOVE', '_NET_WM_ACTION_RESIZE', '_NET_WM_ACTION_M'

List of strings representing all known window actions.

NET_WM_STATES = ('_NET_WM_STATE_MODAL', '_NET_WM_STATE_STICKY', '_NET_WM_STATE_MAXI

List of strings representing all known window states.

NET_WM_WINDOW_TYPES = ('_NET_WM_WINDOW_TYPE_DESKTOP', '_NET_WM_WINDOW_TYPE_DOCK

List of strings representing all known window types.

getActiveWindow()

Get the current active (toplevel) window or None (property `_NET_ACTIVE_WINDOW`)

Returns Window object or None

getClientList()

Get the list of windows maintained by the window manager for the property `_NET_CLIENT_LIST`.

Returns list of Window objects

getClientListStacking()

Get the list of windows maintained by the window manager for the property `_NET_CLIENT_LIST_STACKING`.

Returns list of Window objects

getCurrentDesktop()

Get the current desktop number (property `_NET_CURRENT_DESKTOP`)

Returns int

getDesktopGeometry()

Get the desktop geometry (property `_NET_DESKTOP_GEOMETRY`) as an array of two integers [width, height].

Returns [int, int]

getDesktopViewPort()

Get the current viewports of each desktop as a list of [x, y] representing the top left corner (property `_NET_DESKTOP_VIEWPORT`).

Returns list of [int, int]

getNumberOfDesktops()

Get the number of desktops (property `_NET_NUMBER_OF_DESKTOPS`).

Returns int

getProperty(prop, *args, **kwargs)

Get the value of a property. See the corresponding method for the required arguments. For example, for the property `_NET_WM_STATE`, look for [getWindowState\(\)](#)

getReadableProperties()

Get all the readable properties' names

getShowingDesktop()

Get the value of "showing the desktop" mode of the window manager (property `_NET_SHOWING_DESKTOP`). 1 means the mode is activated, and 0 means deactivated.

Returns int

getWindowAllowedActions(win, str=False)

Get the list of allowed actions for the given window (property `_NET_WM_ALLOWED_ACTIONS`).

Parameters

- **win** – the window object
- **str** – True to get a list of string allowed actions instead of int

Returns list of (int|str)

getWindowDesktop(win)

Get the current desktop number of the given window (property `_NET_WM_DESKTOP`).

Parameters *win* – the window object

Returns int

getWmName (*win*)

Get the property `_NET_WM_NAME` for the given window as a string.

Parameters *win* – the window object

Returns str

getWmPid (*win*)

Get the pid of the application associated to the given window (property `_NET_WM_PID`)

Parameters *win* – the window object

getWmState (*win*, *str=False*)

Get the list of states of the given window (property `_NET_WM_STATE`).

Parameters

- *win* – the window object
- *str* – True to get a list of string states instead of int

Returns list of (intlstr)

getWmVisibleName (*win*)

Get the property `_NET_WM_VISIBLE_NAME` for the given window as a string.

Parameters *win* – the window object

Returns str

getWmWindowType (*win*, *str=False*)

Get the list of window types of the given window (property `_NET_WM_WINDOW_TYPE`).

Parameters

- *win* – the window object
- *str* – True to get a list of string types instead of int

Returns list of (intlstr)

getWorkArea ()

Get the work area for each desktop (property `_NET_WORKAREA`) as a list of [x, y, width, height]

Returns a list of [int, int, int, int]

getWritableProperties ()

Get all the writable properties names

setActiveWindow (*win*)

Set the given window active (property `_NET_ACTIVE_WINDOW`)

Parameters *win* – the window object

setCloseWindow (*win*)

Close the given window (property `_NET_CLOSE_WINDOW`)

Parameters *win* – the window object

setCurrentDesktop (*i*)

Set the current desktop (property `_NET_CURRENT_DESKTOP`).

Parameters *i* – the desired desktop number

setDesktopGeometry (*w*, *h*)

Set the desktop geometry (property `_NET_DESKTOP_GEOMETRY`)

Parameters

- *w* – desktop width
- *h* – desktop height

setDesktopViewport (*w*, *h*)

Set the viewport size of the current desktop (property `_NET_DESKTOP_VIEWPORT`)

Parameters

- **w** – desktop width
- **h** – desktop height

setMoveResizeWindow (*win*, *gravity=0*, *x=None*, *y=None*, *w=None*, *h=None*)

Set the property `_NET_MOVERESIZE_WINDOW` to move or resize the given window. Flags are automatically calculated if *x*, *y*, *w* or *h* are defined.

Parameters

- **win** – the window object
- **gravity** – gravity (one of the `Xlib.X.*Gravity` constant or 0)
- **x** – int or None
- **y** – int or None
- **w** – int or None
- **h** – int or None

setNumberOfDesktops (*nb*)

Set the number of desktops (property `_NET_NUMBER_OF_DESKTOPS`).

Parameters **nb** – the number of desired desktops

setProperty (*prop*, **args*, ***kwargs*)

Set the value of a property by sending an event on the root window. See the corresponding method for the required arguments. For example, for the property `_NET_WM_STATE`, look for `setWmState()`

setShowingDesktop (*show*)

Set/unset the mode Showing desktop (property `_NET_SHOWING_DESKTOP`)

Parameters **show** – 1 to set the desktop mode, else 0

setWmDesktop (*win*, *i*)

Move the window to the desired desktop by changing the property `_NET_WM_DESKTOP`.

Parameters

- **win** – the window object
- **i** – desired desktop number

setWmName (*win*, *name*)

Set the property `_NET_WM_NAME`

Parameters

- **win** – the window object
- **name** – desired name

setWmState (*win*, *action*, *state*, *state2=0*)

Set/unset one or two state(s) for the given window (property `_NET_WM_STATE`).

Parameters

- **win** – the window object
- **action** – 0 to remove, 1 to add or 2 to toggle state(s)
- **state** (int or str (see [NET_WM_STATES](#))) – a state
- **state2** (int or str (see [NET_WM_STATES](#))) – a state or 0

setWmVisibleName (*win*, *name*)

Set the property `_NET_WM_VISIBLE_NAME`

Parameters

- **win** – the window object
- **name** – desired visible name

Examples

These examples are tested on gnome.

Exemple to set the active window in fullscreen mode:

```
from ewmh import EWMH
ewmh = EWMH()

# get the active window
win = ewmh.getActiveWindow()

# list all possible names states:
# print EWMH.NET_WM_STATES

# set the state on win
ewmh.setWmState(win, 1, '_NET_WM_STATE_FULLSCREEN')

# flush request
ewmh.display.flush()
```

Exemple to move every iceweasel windows on desktop 2:

```
from ewmh import EWMH
ewmh = EWMH()

# get every displayed windows
wins = ewmh.getClientList()

# get every iceweasel windows, by looking their class name:
icewins = filter(lambda w: w.get_wm_class()[1] == 'Iceweasel', wins)

# move them to desktop 2 (desktop numbering starts from 0):
for w in icewins:
    ewmh.setWmDesktop(w, 1)

# flush requests
ewmh.display.flush()
```

Example trying to close every windows on desktop 2:

```
from ewmh import EWMH
ewmh = EWMH()

# get every displayed windows on desktop 2:
wins = filter(lambda w: ewmh.getWmDesktop(w) == 1, ewmh.getClientList())

# trying to close them:
for w in wins:
    ewmh.setCloseWindow(w)

# flush requests
ewmh.display.flush()
```


CHAPTER 2

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