

MANUAL
TUXTXT



Manual

Version 1.74

TUXTXT

Manual version 1.74

© Thomas Loewe 2003 / © Roland Meier 2004
Docs © Wim Dewijngaert 2004

Comments are welcome on <http://forum.tuxbox.org/forum>

The latest version of this manual can always be downloaded from <http://www.tuxtxt.com>

Table of Contents

WHAT IS TUXTXT?.....	1
WHAT IS TELETXT?	2
KEYS	3
BROWSING WITH THE COLORED KEYS.....	7
CONFIGURATION MENU	9
CONFIGURATION FILE.....	11
KNOWN BUGS.....	13
TO DO.....	13

What is TuxTxt?

Tuxtxt is a software teletext decoder for DBOX2 (Nokia, Sagem & Philips) and Dreambox DVB receivers, written by Thomas Loewe. In September 2004, his work was continued by Roland Meier, who included lots of new features.



Most hardware decoders build in modern television sets have limited capacities. They often do not cache all the pages, which makes zapping from one page to another a slow process. Furthermore, a ‘text & tv’ mode is mostly unavailable. With Tuxtxt these limitations belong to the past. Tuxtxt reads all teletext pages in one big buffer, which makes it very easy to browse through the entire content. You can even consult a teletext service that is

on the same DVB stream, but not on the currently selected television station.

Tuxtxt can be activated in the “Plugins” menu, or by pressing the TEXT button on the remote control while you are in TV mode. The software is currently available in German, English, French and Dutch.



Work is still being done on TuxTxt at this time, which means that the software is not stable. Most parts of the TuxTxt software are in beta or even alpha testing, and features are added and removed day by day. Don't make use of TuxTxt if you're not willing to live with these limitations.

What is teletext?

Teletext is a simple and easy to use information service broadcast by numerous TV stations, providing information such as weather forecasts, news, subtitles and more. The ability to send simple text and graphics as part of a television signal was discovered by BBC engineers in the mid 1970's.

Teletext data is broadcast in the so called VBI (Vertical Blanking Interval) space - hidden room on top of a television picture that's not visible on a television set.

As the Teletext information is outside the viewable area of the television picture, a special decoder (like Tuxtxt) is required to display the Teletext page on a TV set.

The limited amount of information that can be carried in the VBI means that it's impossible to send all teletext pages at once to your television. They are broadcast one after one, which means you'll have to wait a number of seconds before the page of your choice will appear on the screen. Tuxtxt helps reducing this waiting time because it keeps all pages in one big buffer. Once all pages have been broadcast, access to them is immediate.

Teletext is a function that is not available in the US or Canada. Teletext only works in countries that have PAL and SECAM television systems.

Keys

Key	Function
DREAMBOX: Dream DBOX2: D-BOX	Brings up a configuration menu, in which you can change some parameters (see below).
Up/Down	Jump to the next/previous teletext page.
Left/Right	Jump to the next/previous sub page of the current page.
1...8	To select a certain page number. Every page number consists out of 3 numbers.
0	Go to the previous page (only when entered as the first digit).
9	Loops through your favorite pages list (only when entered as the first digit). To compose a list of favorite pages, use the configuration menu (see below).
DREAMBOX: INFO DBOX2: ?	Shows hidden contents (on certain pages, usually for games).
OK	Enters page catching mode. To select a page number from the current page, use the cursor keys to select a number and press [OK] to go to the selected page. LAME (on Dreambox) or EXIT (on DBOX2) exits the page catching mode.
MUTE	Activates the mixed text/picture mode. If you press MUTE once, you'll see the television picture. If you press MUTE once more, the teletext image and the television picture are shown transparently. The amount of transparency can be defined in the config file (see below). If you press MUTE a third time, teletext returns. For DBOX2 users only: in this

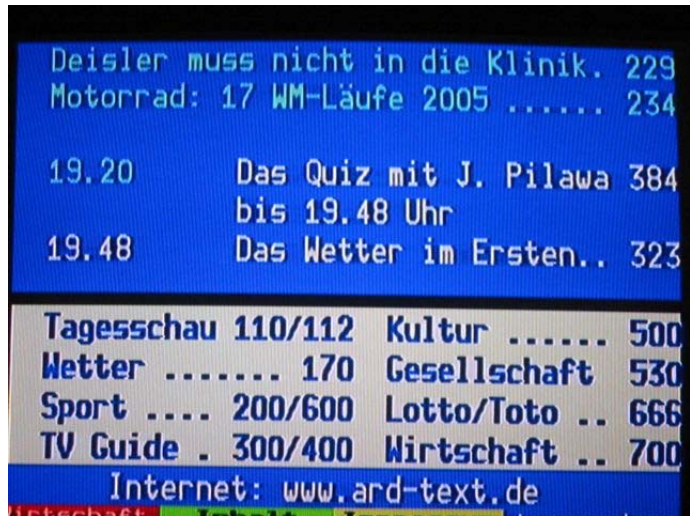
mode, pressing ? activates the SCART input. This mode can be quit by pressing any key. If you quit by pressing the ? key, the SCART audio keeps being output to the TV.



DREAMBOX: Vol + Double height. Pressing this key once zooms in on the upper half.
DBOX2: +



Pressing this key again zooms in on the lower half.



DREAMBOX: Vol - Shows teletext, the TOP contents (if available) and the current video image at the same time. If you've activated 16:9 mode, pressing the same key a second time removes the TOP contents. This only works on Dreambox machines. If you press the same key again, teletext returns as normal.

In 4:3 mode only the following text/picture mode is possible:



In 16:9 mode, two kind of visualizations are possible:

T U X T X T



DREAMBOX: INFO Show hidden text.
DBOX2: ?

DREAMBOX: LAME Exits TuxText.
 or STANDBY
DBOX2: EXIT or
 HOME

Browsing with the colored keys

At the bottom of each Teletext page there are four colored buttons. They relate to the red, green, yellow and blue buttons on your remote control.

By pressing the corresponding colored button on your remote control you will be automatically be taken to that page.



Red/Blue Jumps to the previous or next available magazine (set of 100 pages).

Green/Yellow Jumps to the current page + 10 or the current page + 20.

When you have just opened the teletext application, you might see changes in the numbers on the colored shortcut buttons. This is normal, as Tuxtxt is showing only the pages currently present in its buffers.

T U X T X T

When the television station broadcasts a so called TOP table (Table Of Pages), after a while the numbers in the four colored regions are replaced with words.



Red/Blue/Green/Yellow Jumps to pre-selected pages for easier navigation. Red jumps to block-1, Blue to section+1, Green to section+2 and Yellow to block+1.

When the secret HEX mode is activated (see configuration menu), the Red button jumps to the next hex page.



FLOF/Fastext is currently not supported, although most teletext providers use this system.

Configuration menu

By pressing the DREAM (Dreambox) or DBOX (DBOX2) key, you can enter the configuration menu.

Item	Function
1. Favorites	Enables administration of your favorite pages. Default values are 100 and 303. Maximum 10 page numbers can be added. Pages can be selected with the cursor keys, the page shown with OK, the order can be changed with volume up/down, and OK appends the current page (if none is selected) or deletes the selected page.
2. Teletext selection	Lets you select which teletext service from the current transponder you would like to see. Pressing the ? (DBOX2) or INFO (Dreambox) key activates the secret HEX view mode. A question mark is displayed to show you it is activated.
3. Standard mode	Lets you swap between 4:3 and 16:9 for the standard modus.
4. Text/TV mode	Lets you swap between 4:3 and 16:9 for the text & image modus.
5. Brightness	Dims or brightens the colors of the font on the screen.
6. National characterset	Let's you select one of the different G0 character sets. Current possibilities are Czech/Slovak, English, Estonian, French, German, Italian, Lettish/Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese/Spanish, Rumanian, Serbian/Croatian/Slovenian, Swedish/Finnish/Hungarian and Turkish. You can also turn on the automatic recognition of the language.

7. Language

Let's you select one of the different user interface languages. You can select between German, English, French and Dutch.

By pressing the corresponding numbers or jumping around with the [ARROW DOWN] and [ARROW UP] keys, configuration items can be selected. Values can be changed with [ARROW LEFT] and [ARROW RIGHT]. With OK the selection can be confirmed.

The configuration menu can be left by pressing LAME or DREAM on the Dreambox and DBOX or HOME on the DBOX2.

Configuration file

All the configuration parameters (and even more) are written to a file called “tuxtxt.conf”, which can be found in the config directory. The structure of this file is as follows:

ScreenMode16x9Normal	0 =off, 1 = on
ScreenMode16x9Divided	0 =off, 1 = on
ColorDimmed	0 = don't reduce brightness, 1 = reduce brightness
MenuLanguage	0 = German, 1 = English, 2 = French, 3 = Dutch
AutoNational	0 = automatic character set recognition on, 1 = automatic character set recognition off
NationalSubset	0 = Czech/Slovak, 1 = English, 2 = Estonian, 3 = French, 4 = German, 5 = Italian, 6 = Lettish/Lithuanian, 7 = Polish, 8 = Portuguese/Spanish, 9 = Rumanian, 10 = Serbian/Croatian/Slovenian, 11 = Swedish/Finnish/Hungarian, 12 = Turkish
SwapUpDown	0 = no swapping of up/down keys, 1 = swap up/down keys (only when browsing through the buffered pages)
ShowHexPages	0 = don't show hex pages, 1= show hex pages

T U X T X T

OverlayTransparency	Amount of transparency in mixed text/tv mode. Default value is 3000. If you want full transparency, use FFFF.
---------------------	---

Known bugs

- The secret HEX mode only works when split screen (text & picture) is activated.

To do

- There is no automatic selection between fixed or scalable fonts depending on what's installed at this time.