



## Media Guide

### Executive Summary

Stardock DeskScapes™ is a program that allows users of Microsoft Windows® to have animated wallpapers on their desktop.

DeskScapes supports three different types of animated wallpapers:

- 1) Looping high-definition video wallpapers. These are called **Normal Dreams**.
- 2) Low resource layered animations. These are called **Hybrid Dreams**.
- 3) Dynamic animated wallpapers – animated wallpaper that is generated on-the-fly using 3D graphics. These are known as **Dynamic Dreams**.
- 4) Deskscapes also supports applying static wallpapers

DeskScapes delivers a new animated wallpaper format (.DREAM) so that users looking for animated wallpaper can quickly find them through searches. .DREAM files support all 3 types of animated wallpaper and can embed author information as part of the file as well.

DeskScapes allows the application of effects onto all the wallpaper types to allow users to customize their desktops to fit their personal needs.

DeskScapes is free. Users can create their own .DREAM files using another free Stardock program, Stardock DreamMaker.

Users can download hundreds of free animated wallpapers at <http://dream.wincustomize.com>

The product home page is <http://www.stardock.com/products/deskscapes>

## DeskScapes in action

Once installed, users can download hundreds of free .DREAM files from <http://dream.wincustomize.com> (the site Microsoft's WindowsUltimate.com points to in order to get more animated wallpapers).

As previously mentioned, DeskScapes supports 3 types of .DREAM files – high-definition video loops, hybrid animations, and dynamic dreams. Below we'll discuss the differences:

### High-Definition video-based wallpapers (Normal Dreams)

The most common type of animated wallpaper are video files. These are typically in .WMV or .MPEG format and then packaged as a .DREAM file. In this case, the only benefit that DeskScapes provides over Windows DreamScenes is that author information is displayed.

Playing a video does use up some CPU since the video has to be decoded. But these are also relatively easy to create.

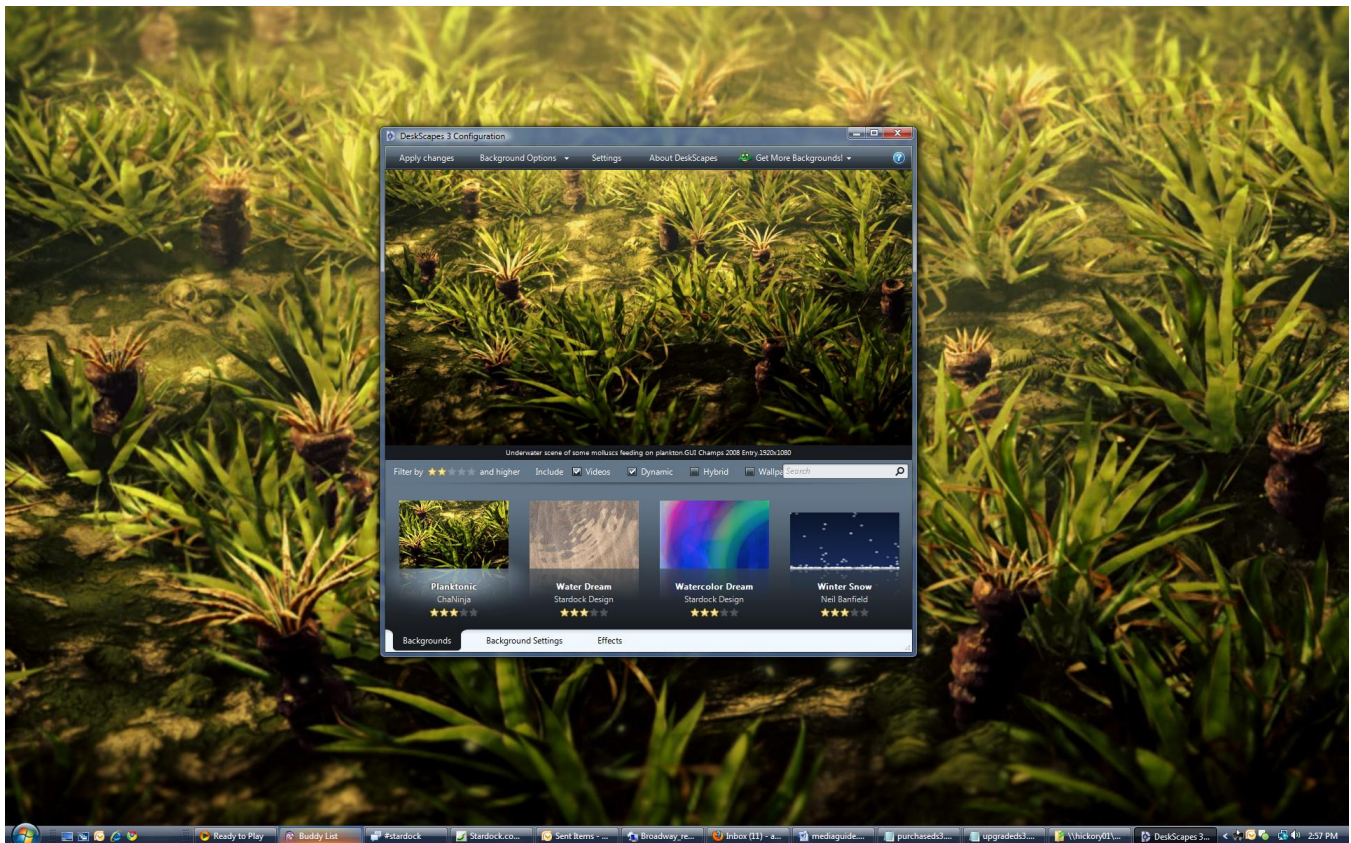


Figure 1: A well done video-based Dream can make an excellent animated wallpaper

## Hybrid wallpapers that layer animation

Similar to the above, DeskScapes supports animated wallpapers that have layered animation and static images that produce extremely low resource demands.

## Dynamically generated 3D animated wallpapers (Dynamic Dreams)

The last type of animated wallpaper is generated on the fly. Since these are, in essence, Direct3D applications as wallpapers, they can, literally, be anything.

**The advantage of Dynamic Dreams is that they use virtually no CPU.** They're done completely on the video card.

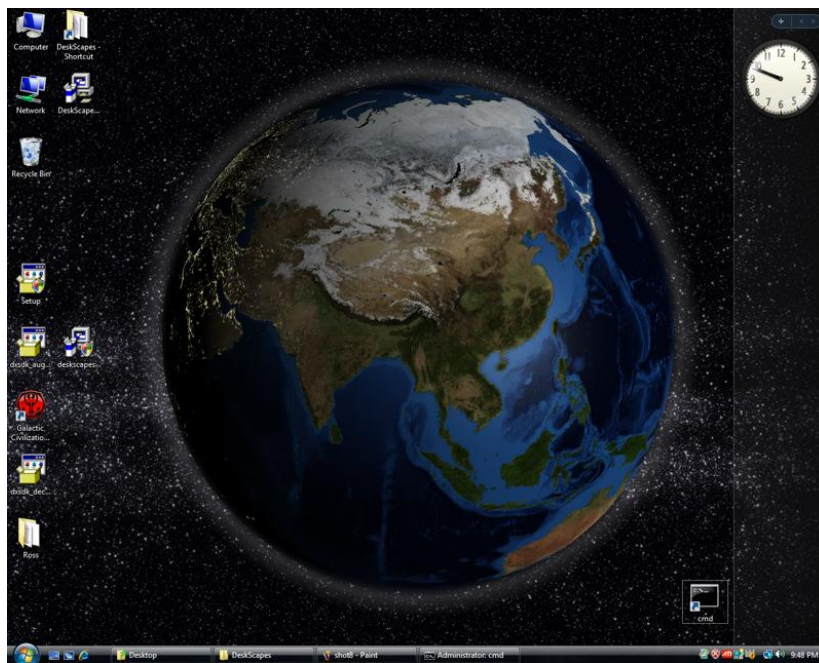


Figure 3: The Desktop Earth dynamic dream rotates in real-time and is shaded based on the time of day and the surface changes based on the time of year. It uses less than 3% CPU on a typical system.

## Effects

DeskScapes effects allow image manipulation to occur on the layer above the wallpapers. Colors, blurs, tiling, and mirroring are some of the many effects available.

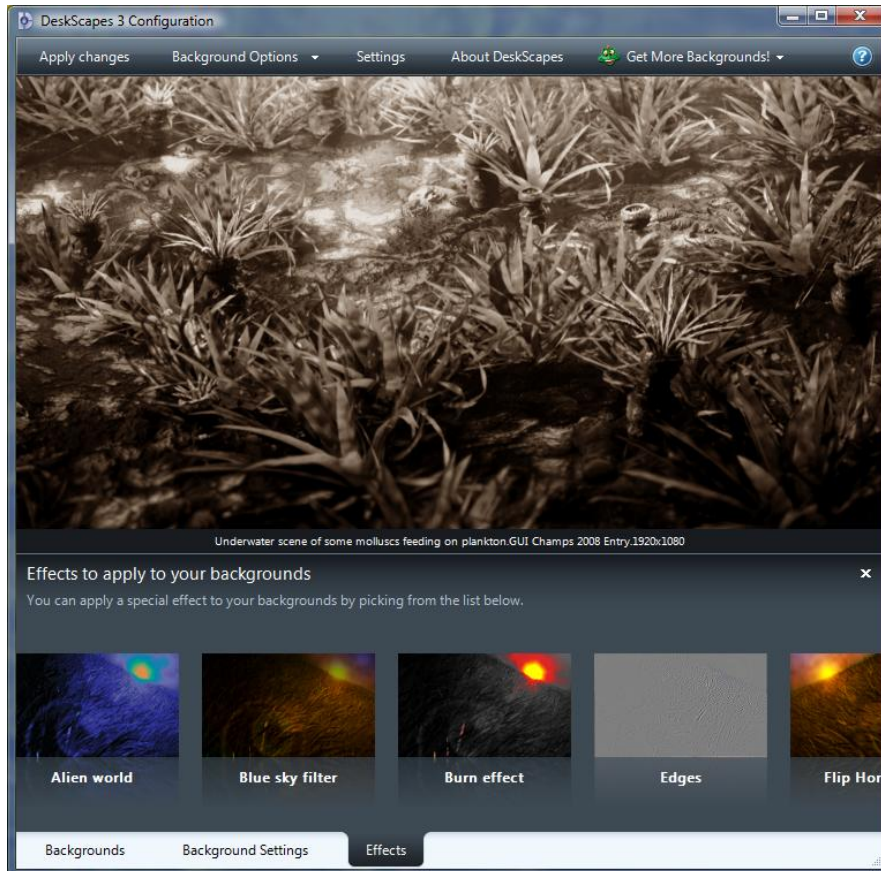


Figure 4: Sepia is just one of the many effects that can be applied to either video or static backgrounds to customize your desktop.

## Getting DeskScapes

DeskScapes is freeware. It requires Windows Vista Ultimate.

**Download it and more animated wallpapers at:** <http://dream.wincustomize.com>

It is also part of Stardock's Object Desktop suite of desktop enhancements which includes WindowBlinds, IconPackager, DesktopX and more.

Users of Object Desktop get additional animated wallpaper content that is not available for the general public.