Modify Menu Entries

I modified the default skin `Estuary` so I can customize the main menu items. To do this in a maintainable way I first copied the add-on folder from a Kodi Windows installation and then made the necessary changes. Menu entry names, to which favorite if any it points to, and the Menu entry icon are defined in the language strings which makes it easier to modify.

1. Install Kodi on a Windows machine and copy folder `C:\Program Files\Kodi\addons\skin.estuary` to a new location
2. Modify file `addon.xml` 2nd line (bco is my short name)

   ```
   <addon id="skin.estuary.bco" version="4.0.0" name="Estuary bco"
   provider-name="phil65, Ichabod Fletchman, bco">
   ```

   Rename folder `skin.estuary` to the id you changed in `addon.xml`, in this example `skin.estuary.bco`. Do not include the version of Kodi in the folder name, so you can update later when a new Kodi version will become available.

3. Modify file `xml/Home.xml` where you make the changes for the menu entries. To do this we substitute a menu item we will not use in our Kodi installation, for example `Games` or `Music videos`
   1. Find `31162` which is the language message id of the games widget and comment out the surrounding `<include content="ImageWidget">` (enclose between <!-- and -->)
   2. Find `<content>` and comment out all items, then copy the ones you want in your menu in the sequence you want them to appear
   3. If you want to add a menu entry to a group of movies, for example all *Cartoons*, add an item for a movie set, all items of that set will appear when you click that menu entry

      ```
      <item>
          <label>$LOCALIZE[31711]</label>
          <property name="menu_id">$NUMBER[17000]</property>
      <onclick>ActivateWindow(10025,&amp;quot;videodb://movies/sets/$LOCALIZ
      E[31712]/?setid=$LOCALIZE[31721]&amp;quot;,return)</onclick>
          <thumb>icons/sidemenu/$LOCALIZE[31713]</thumb>
          <property name="id">games</property>
          <visible>!Skin.HasSetting(HomeMenuNoGamesButton)</visible>
      </item>
      ```

      Note that I use language strings to reference to the name of the menu entry, the movie set it points to, and the icon to use

   4. If you want to add a menu entry for an addon, for example a *Radio* addon, add an item to open that addon

      ```
      <item>
          <label>$LOCALIZE[31721]</label>
          <property name="menu_id">$NUMBER[17000]</property>
          <onclick>RunAddon(plugin.audio.radio_de)</onclick>
          <thumb>icons/sidemenu/$LOCALIZE[31723]</thumb>
          <property name="id">games</property>
          <visible>!Skin.HasSetting(HomeMenuNoGamesButton)</visible>
      ```

```
</item>
```

4. Enter the corresponding language strings in `language/resource.language.en_gb/strings.po` right after the initial comments starting on line 5

```
# modified by bco, 26.03.2024
# modify string text and movie set id number below which depends on
Kodi installed on each client
#
msgid ""
msgstr ""

msgctxt "#31711"
msgid "Cartoons"
msgstr ""

msgctxt "#31712"
msgid "343"
msgstr ""

msgctxt "#31713"
msgid "videos.png"
msgstr ""

msgctxt "#31721"
msgid "Radio"
msgstr ""

msgctxt "#31722"
msgid ""
msgstr ""

msgctxt "#31723"
msgid "radio.png"
msgstr ""
```

   Add corresponding translations to all languages you will need in your Kodi installations

5. Zip folder `skin.estuary.bco` and install it in *Kodi –> Settings –> Add-ons –> Install from zip file*

Favorite IDs

- For my Kodi clients I have added the favorite IDs in a table below which makes it easier to upgrade Estuary for a new version of Kodi. Find the IDs by opening file *Settings –> File manager –> Profile directory –> favorites.xml*. Sometimes you cannot read the numbers on an entry, in which case select `favorites.xml` then use the context menu and select copy which copies the file to the path selected on the right hand side, for example a network path.
- Check before the upgrade in *Settings –> Add-ons –> My add-ons –> Look and feel –> Skin*

whether any themes need to be uninstalled prior to installing a new one.

Client	Room	Cartoons	Thai movies	Billiard	Concerts	3D	Trickfilme	Radio
Asklepios	Living Hua Hin	**401**	8	10	9	76	18	yes
Aquarius	Study Hua Hin	**343**	7	1	8	64	371	yes
Aquarius	Library Hua Hin	**343**	7	1	8	64	371	yes
Artemis	Billiard Hua Hin	343	7	**1**	8	64	371	yes
Minerva	Prachin Buri	352	**7**	1	9	68	366	yes
x	Flims	x	x	x	x	x	x	yes

Bold number = visible menu entry

Links

- Modify Estuary & install
- Default OS mappings

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https://wiki.condrau.com/kodi:estuary21?rev=1713177975

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