How to move minimize, maximize, close button to left hand side or right hand side of title bar on Ubuntu or Debian

Ubuntu 10.10 changes the default position of minimize, maximize and close buttons to the left hand side of title bar. After I am used to it, I found it is pretty good especially for large wide screens, and I want to apply it to my Debian system.

I found this video clip on YouTube gives a visual description of how to move minimize, maximize, close, and menu button left or right for Ubuntu. I tried it on my Debian system and it also works.

Here is the procedure:

1. Start gconf-editor

   $ gconf-editor

2. Edit following key

   /apps/metacity/general/button_layout

   Following is my favorite setting.

   close,minimize,maximize,close:menu

You can change it to any order as you like. Anything on the left of the colon mark(:) will show on the left side of a title bar. You can also put every button left or right by put the colon mark at the end or the beginning of the value string.