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## LuCI Essentials


### Installing LuCI on uHTTPd

This installs the essentials of the Web User Interface LuCI. See `opkg update && opkg list luci-*` for all available packages to administer OpenWrt through LuCI.

```
opkg update
opkg install luci
```

or

```
opkg install luci-ssl # enable https for luci
```



In case you are not familiar with a w CLI, check out [command-line HELP](#) and/or [opkg](#)

#### Native Language Support

The basic LuCI web user interface is in English. However, it is being actively translated into many languages by volunteers. See <http://18n.luci.subsignal.org/pootle/> and get involved! For a list of available packages, do

```
opkg list | grep luci-i18n-
```

You will see a list of the available language packages. To install your native language, do e.g.

```
opkg install luci-i18n-hungarian
```

You can also install language packs utilizing the WebInterface and you can install multiple LuCI language packs at the same time and switch between them in the LuCI-WebInterface or by editing the file → </etc/config/luci>

#### Start and Enable the web server (uHTTPd)

The web server software **uHTTPd** is a dependency of the LuCI package and is automatically installed when you install LuCI. After installation the web server is **not running!** You need to manually start the web server. You should also *enable* the web server, so that it automatically starts up whenever you reboot the router. The first command below starts the web server, the second enables it across reboots.

```
/etc/init.d/uhttpd start
/etc/init.d/uhttpd enable
```

Now you should be able to connect to the web server serving LuCI at <http://192.168.1.1>.

#### Details

LuCI is installed as a 'meta package' which installs several other packages by having these defined as a dependency. Notably, it installs the **uHTTPd** web server, configured for use with LuCI. The dependent packages are the following (see [the LuCI technical reference](#) for more information):

- uhttpd
- uhttpd-mod-ubus
- luci-mod-admin-full
- luci-theme-bootstrap
- luci-app-firewall
- luci-proto-core
- luci-proto-ppp
- libiwinfo-lua

In case you want to use uHTTPd for the web interface there is little configuration necessary as uHTTPd is configured with CGI to make LuCI work with the Lua interpreter. By default this is organised as follows. By default `/www` is the standard document root. Thus, by requesting this docroot (by pointing your browser to the devices IP address) an index file such as `index.html` is searched for (per uHTTPd settings). The file `/www/index.html` (installed with LuCI) is prepared such that when requested, it redirects you to `/cgi-bin/luci`, which is the default CGI gateway for LuCI. This is just a script, which basically calls Lua at `/usr/bin/lua`. uhttpd is configured by default to load pages as CGI in the `/cgi-bin` path, and thus starts serving these pages with the `/cgi-bin/luci` script.

It is also possible to run LuCI with Lua as an embedded process. uhttpd supports this; see the corresponding section of the [uHTTPd Web Server Configuration](#) article on the UCI configuration of uhttpd.

#### Configuration

The default web server software uhttpd is configured in the file </etc/config/uhttpd>.

The LuCI web interface is configured in the file </etc/config/luci>.

#### LuCI on other web servers

→ [http.overview](#)

#### LuCI on lighttpd

→ [luci.on.lighttpd](#)

#### LuCI on nginx

- [Luci on nginx](#) is not possible as nginx does not support plain cgi.
- <https://forum.openwrt.org/viewtopic.php?id=65760>

#### LuCI on ...

#### Minimalistic offline installation

Download and transfer (e.g. using SCP) the packages listed below to your OpenWrt router onto the RAM disk in `/tmp/luci-offline-packages`

```
mkdir -p /tmp/luci-offline-packages; cd /tmp/luci-offline-packages
```

- liblua
- lua
- libluci-lua
- libubus
- libubus-lua
- uhttpd
- rpcd
- luci-base
- luci-lib-ip
- luci-lib-nixio
- luci-theme-bootstrap
- luci-mod-admin-full
- luci-lib-jsonc

and install them with:

```
opkg install /tmp/luci-offline-packages/*.ipk; done
```

Or use this script bellow. Note, the script assumes you have internet access through the router where you are installing Luci. If you do not, then you will need to either manually download required .ipk packages, or run the script in two parts. First part till the last Done statement to be executed when connected to Internet.:

```
#!/bin/sh
#assumes the user has egrep, wget, ssh, and scp

# Change this to match your router
architecture="bcm63xx"

# These should be fine unless you've changed something
user="root"
ip_address="192.168.1.1"

url="https://downloads.openwrt.org/snapshots/trunk/${architecture}/generic/packages/"
tmpdir="/tmp/luci-offline"
packages_base="liblua lua libluci-lua libubus libubus-lua uhttpd rpcd"
packages_luci="luci-base luci-lib-ip luci-lib-nixio luci-theme-bootstrap luci-mod-admin-full luci-lib-jsonc"

mkdir "$tmpdir"
cd "$tmpdir"

wget -N --quiet "${url}base/Packages"
for pkg in $packages_base; do
    pkgfile="$(egrep -oe " ${pkg}_" Packages | tail -c +2)"
    pkgurl="${url}base/${pkgfile}"
    wget -N --quiet "$pkgurl"
done

wget -N --quiet "${url}luci/Packages"
for pkg in $packages_luci; do
    pkgfile="$(egrep -oe " ${pkg}_" Packages | tail -c +2)"
    pkgurl="${url}luci/${pkgfile}"
    wget -N --quiet "$pkgurl"
done

wget -N --quiet "${url}luci"
for pkg in $packages_luci; do
    pkgfile="$(egrep -oe " ${pkg}_" Packages | tail -c +2)"
    pkgurl="${url}luci/${pkgfile}"
    wget -N --quiet "$pkgurl"
done

ssh "${user}@${ip_address}" mkdir -p /tmp/luci-offline-packages
scp *.ipk "${user}@${ip_address}":/tmp/luci-offline-packages
ssh "${user}@${ip_address}" opkg install /tmp/luci-offline-packages/*.ipk
ssh "${user}@${ip_address}" rm -rf /tmp/luci-offline-packages/

ssh "${user}@${ip_address}" /etc/init.d/uhttpd start
ssh "${user}@${ip_address}" /etc/init.d/uhttpd enable

cd
rm -rf "$tmpdir"
```

#### Miscellaneous

##### Secure access to luci webserver

If you want to configure Luci webserver for secure access, [read the explanation here](#).

#### Troubleshooting

- LuCI is developed at Github: <https://github.com/openwrt/luci>
- Please file LuCI specific bugs at the [LuCI issue tracker](#)
- LuCIs old web-presence at [LuCI website](#)

#### Notes

[LuCI Technical Reference](#)

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