SPINS

different people. different tastes. different Fedoras.

What is a Spin/Remix?

The Fedora community makes tailored Linux distributions available as officially endorsed flavors (called spins), or unofficial configurations that may or may not use Fedora software (called remixes). Users can create Fedora installations with specific software focusing on specific use-cases such as security tools, scientific applications, or design and multi-media development.

What is a Kickstart?

Kickstart files contain a customizable list of programs and applications to install on a spin/remix. Further customizations can range from setting the default wallpaper and aesthetics, to customizing the settings of various applications, to even changing the user's home environment.
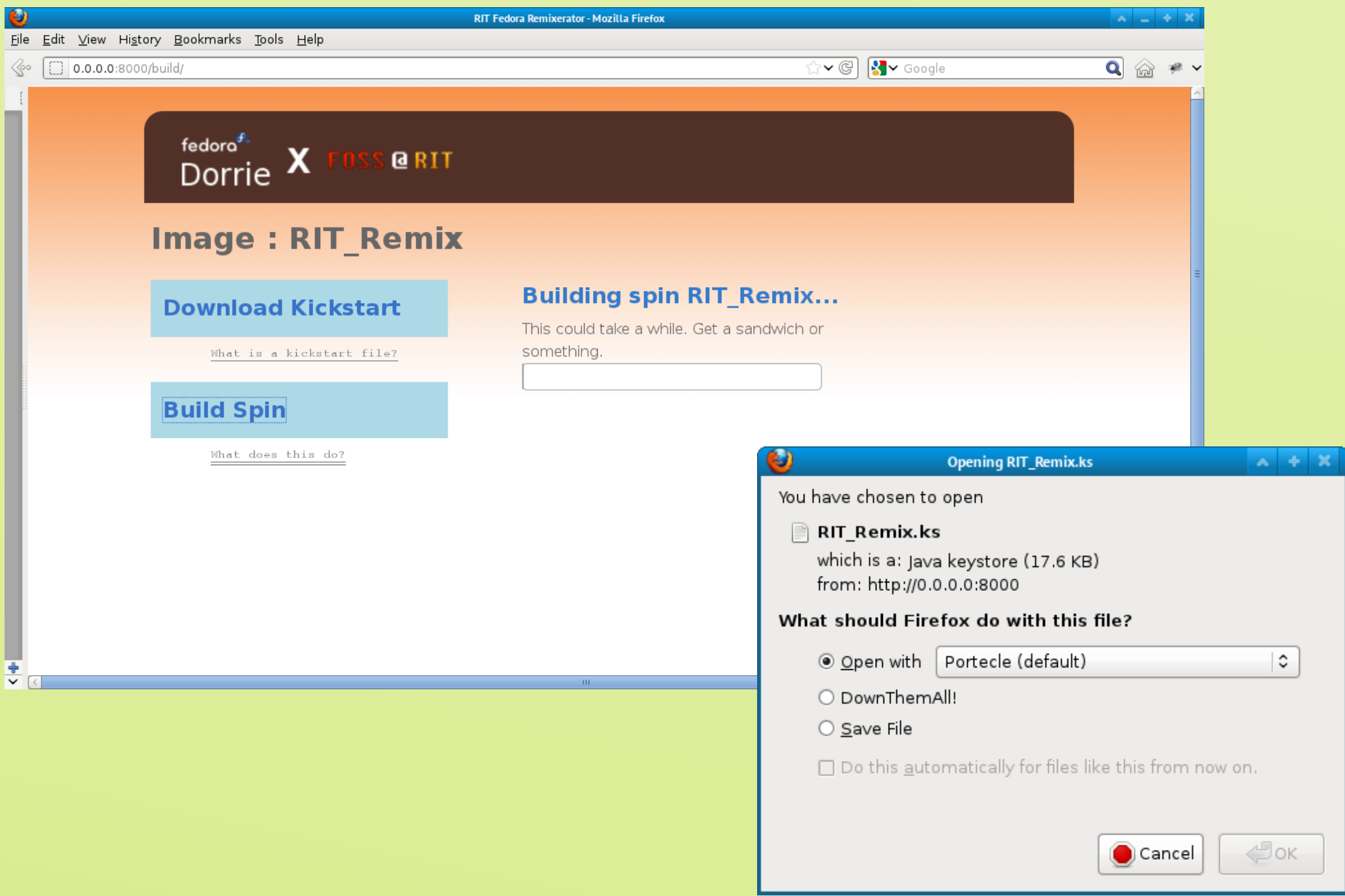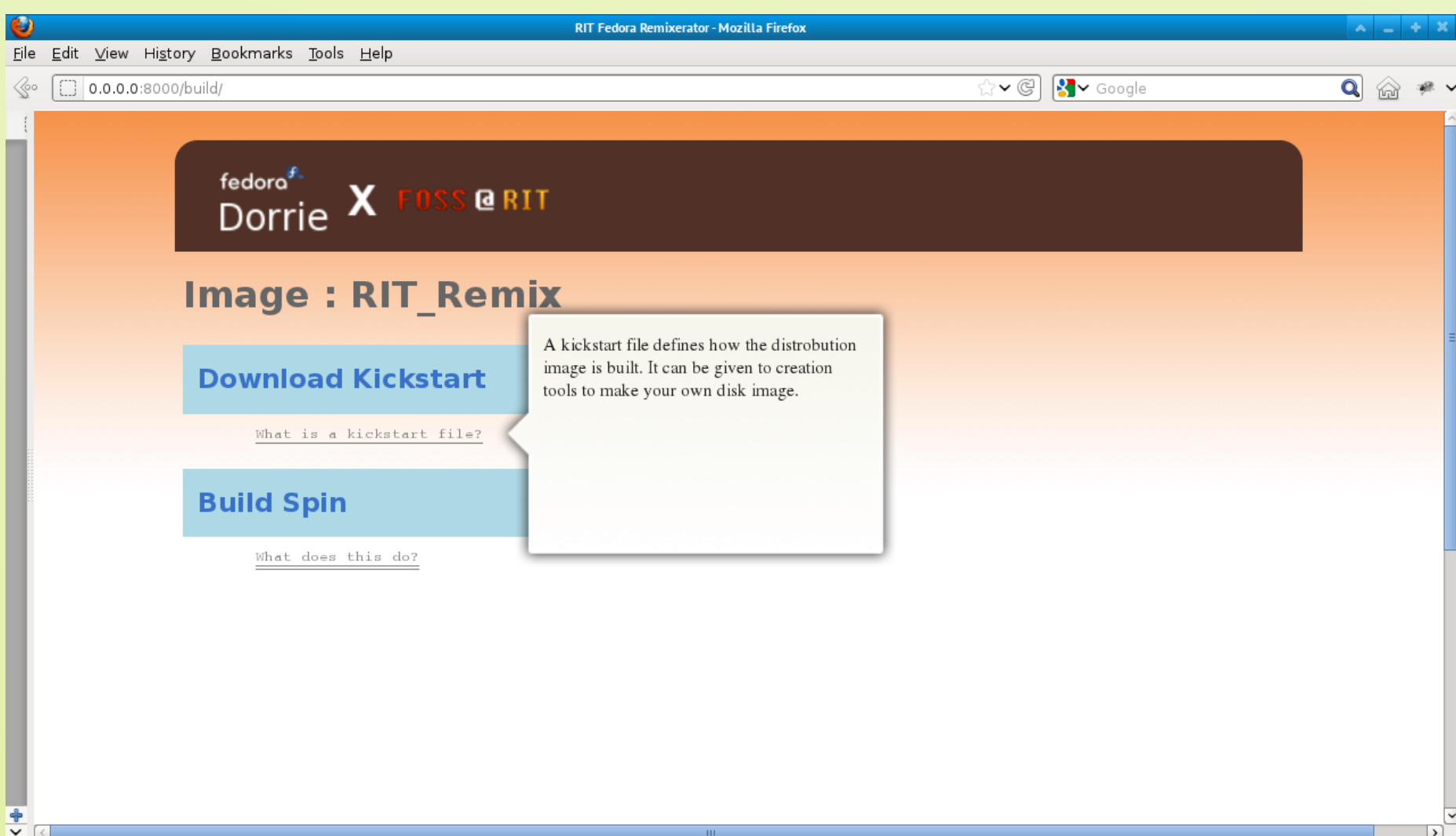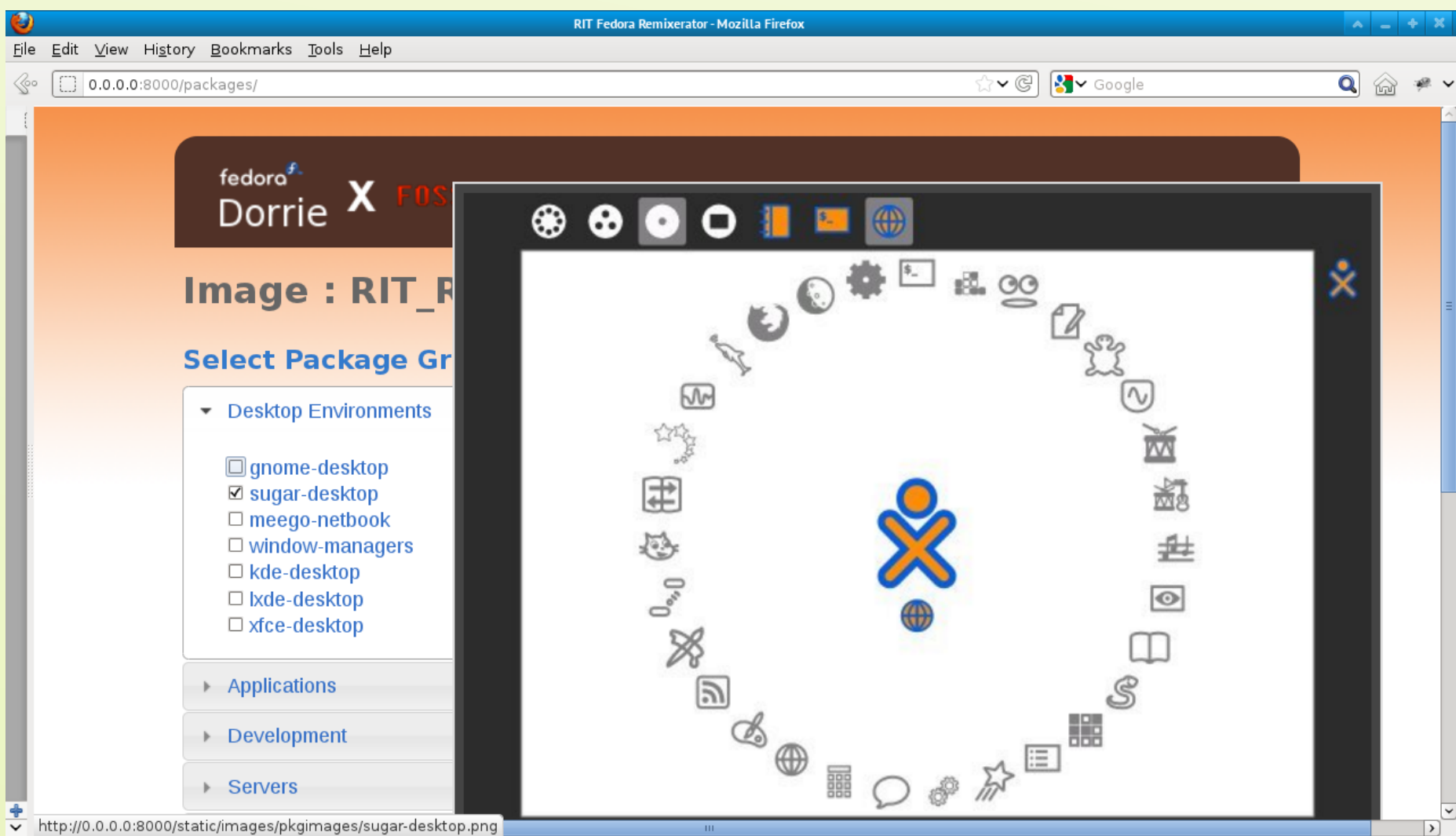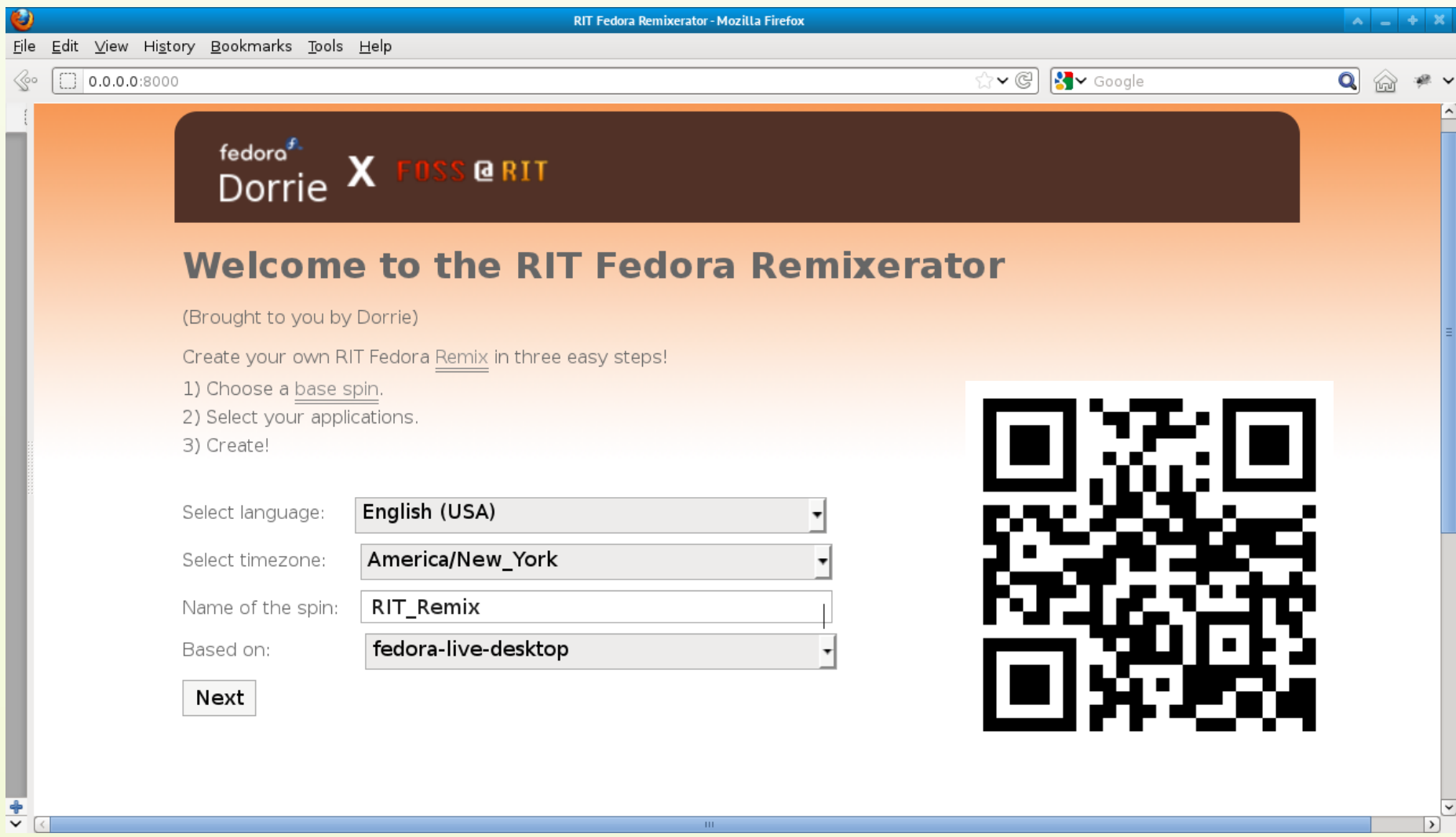
User Supplies Information

User is prompted for general information about their remix, including the name of the distribution, and a base kickstart[4] file. Using Django forms, the user may upload their own kickstart file, or choose from the spin-kickstarts base. Users are assigned a unique ID, allowing the Remixerator to support multiple sessions at once.

Remixerator Creates a Web Form

The pykickstart[5] library parses the base kickstart file and creates appropriate objects. This information is easily iterable, and the corresponding fields are chosen programmatically through the use of Django's Templates. Some options, like those for the desktop environment, have dynamically displayed preview images.

User is provided a Kickstart File

After selecting packages, the RIT Remixerator uses pykickstart to transform the corresponding state object into a new kickstart file, ready to be served.

User Downloads Kickstart

The user may download their modified kickstart file, or the file can be supplied to other remix creation tools, such as the livecd-creator tool[6], or distributed to special interest groups.

User Creates a Bootable Live CD

Alternatively, the user can launch a new process passing the kickstart file to the livecd-creator tool to create a bootable disc.

The user is notified upon completion, and may download their fresh disk image.

RIT REMIXERATOR

The RIT Remixerator is an open source project that provides a web-based interface to creating custom Fedora Remixes. This project was a fork of the Dorrie project[1], which leverages Django[2], and several python libraries.