

Topics to be covered:

Week	Broader Topic	Topics	Tools to be covered
1	Introduction to Linux	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction to Linux<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.1 Linux Requirement2. Linux Components3. Linux Distributions4. Linux Architecture5. Linux Kernel6. Difference between Windows and Linux7. Configuration & Customizations of Linux8. Linux structure and Linux Installation9. Installation: CentOS10. CentOS vs. CentOS stream11. Take a snapshot of VM	Linux Distribution

1. Introduction to Linux

Linux is a powerful and versatile operating system renowned for its stability, security, and flexibility. Developed as an open-source project, Linux offers a vast array of distributions, such as Ubuntu, Fedora, and Debian, each tailored to specific user needs. The fundamental concept behind Linux is its kernel, the core component responsible for managing hardware resources and facilitating communication between software and hardware. However, Linux is not just a kernel; it also encompasses a vast collection of software tools, libraries, and applications that make it a complete operating system.

One of the defining features of Linux is its command-line interface, which allows users to interact with the system using text commands. This grants users granular control over system configurations and enables automation and scripting capabilities. However, Linux also offers a graphical user interface (GUI) in many distributions, providing a user-friendly environment for those who prefer a visual interface.

Linux's architecture is based on a multi-user, multi-tasking model, allowing multiple users to access the system simultaneously and run multiple programs concurrently. This capability, combined with Linux's stability and efficiency, makes it an ideal choice for servers and high-performance computing.

Security is a paramount concern in Linux. The open-source nature of the system allows for continuous scrutiny and improvement by a large community of developers, making it highly resistant to malware and vulnerabilities. Additionally, Linux provides robust access control mechanisms and file permissions, ensuring that only authorized users can access and modify system resources.

Linux has become the backbone of the internet, powering a significant portion of servers, networking equipment, and cloud infrastructure. Its scalability and adaptability have made it the preferred choice for running everything from small embedded systems to large-scale enterprise solutions.

Moreover, Linux has a thriving ecosystem of software applications and development tools. The package management systems, such as apt and yum, simplify software installation and updates. Additionally, Linux supports a wide range of programming languages, making it an excellent platform for software development.

Linux is an open-source, highly customizable operating system renowned for its stability, security, and versatility. Its architecture, command-line interface, and graphical user interface options provide users with flexibility and control over their systems. With its robust security features and scalability, Linux has become a dominant force in server environments, powering the internet and driving innovation in various industries.

1.1 Linux Requirement:

Linux has relatively low hardware requirements compared to many other operating systems, making it accessible for a wide range of devices. The specific system requirements can vary depending on the Linux distribution and the intended use of the system. However, here are some general guidelines:

Processor: Linux can run on various processor architectures, including x86 (Intel and AMD), ARM (common in mobile devices and embedded systems), and PowerPC. For most mainstream distributions, a processor with a clock speed of 1 GHz or higher should suffice.

However, if you plan to run resource-intensive tasks or server applications, a faster processor will deliver better performance.

Memory (RAM): The amount of RAM required depends on the Linux distribution and the intended use. As a minimum, most Linux distributions recommend 1-2 GB of RAM for basic desktop usage. For a smoother experience and better performance, especially when running multiple applications simultaneously or using resource-intensive software, it is recommended to have at least 4 GB of RAM or more.

Storage: Linux distributions typically require around 10-20 GB of disk space for installation. However, the actual disk space required will depend on the specific distribution, installed software, and personal data. It is advisable to have at least 30 GB of free disk space to accommodate the operating system, applications, and user files comfortably.

Graphics: Linux supports a wide range of graphics cards and drivers. Most desktop environments, such as GNOME and KDE, have their own graphical effects and 3D capabilities. For basic desktop usage, an integrated graphics card should suffice. However, if you plan to engage in gaming or other graphics-intensive tasks, a dedicated graphics card with proper Linux driver support may be desirable.

Display: Linux supports various display resolutions and can work with a wide range of monitors, from standard VGA to high-resolution displays. Ensure that your graphics card and monitor are compatible and that Linux supports the desired resolution.

Networking: Linux has extensive networking capabilities and supports a wide range of network devices, including Ethernet, Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth. The specific requirements depend on the network hardware you intend to use. Most Linux distributions have built-in support for common network devices, but it's always recommended to check the compatibility of your specific hardware with the distribution you plan to use.

2. Linux Components

Linux is composed of several key components that work together to form a complete operating system. These components include:

1. Kernel: The Linux kernel is the core component of the operating system. It provides essential services such as process management, memory management, device drivers, file system support, and hardware abstraction. The kernel acts as an intermediary between software applications and the computer's hardware, allowing them to communicate and interact effectively.

2. Shell: The shell is a command-line interface that allows users to interact with the operating system by typing commands. Linux supports various shells, with the most common being the Bash (Bourne Again SHell). The shell interprets user commands and executes them, facilitating tasks such as file management, process control, and system configuration.

3. File System: Linux supports a variety of file systems, including ext4, XFS, Btrfs, and more. The file system manages the organization, storage, and retrieval of data on storage devices.

such as hard drives, solid-state drives (SSDs), and network file systems. It provides features like file permissions, access control, journaling, and support for different file types.

4. System Libraries: Linux provides a collection of system libraries that offer precompiled functions and routines for software developers to use in their applications. These libraries include the GNU C Library (glibc), which provides basic system calls and functions, as well as other specialized libraries for graphics, networking, encryption, and more.

5. Graphical Server: Linux supports multiple graphical servers, the most popular being the X Window System (X11) or its modern replacement, Wayland. The graphical server manages the display hardware and provides a graphical environment where applications can create windows, draw graphics, and interact with the user through a graphical user interface (GUI).

6. Desktop Environment: Linux offers a variety of desktop environments, such as GNOME, KDE, Xfce, and Cinnamon. A desktop environment provides a complete user interface, including a window manager, panels, application launchers, file managers, and various system tools. It offers a visually appealing and user-friendly experience for interacting with the operating system.

7. Applications: Linux offers a vast ecosystem of software applications, both open-source and proprietary. These include productivity tools, web browsers, multimedia players, office suites, development environments, and much more. Linux distributions typically include a selection of pre-installed applications, and additional software can be installed using package management systems like apt, yum, or dnf.

8. Package Management: Linux distributions use package management systems to handle the installation, removal, and updates of software packages. These systems, such as APT (Advanced Package Tool) for Debian-based distributions or DNF (Dandified Yum) for Fedora-based distributions, provide a centralized and convenient way to manage software, resolve dependencies, and ensure system stability.

These components work together seamlessly to provide a robust, customizable, and powerful operating system experience. Linux's modular design allows users to tailor their system to their specific needs, whether it's running on servers, embedded devices, desktops, or other platforms.

3.Linux Distributions:

1. Ubuntu: Ubuntu is one of the most popular Linux distributions and is known for its user-friendly approach. It is based on Debian and offers a balance between ease of use, stability, and a vast software repository. Ubuntu uses the GNOME desktop environment by default but also offers other flavours like Kubuntu (KDE), Xubuntu (Xfce), and Lubuntu (LXQt), tailored for different desktop environments.

2. Debian: Debian is a Linux distribution that is driven by a community of developers. It is well-known for its emphasis on stability, security, and commitment to free software

principles. Debian offers a vast array of software packages and is compatible with multiple hardware architectures. A key feature of Debian is its package management system called APT, which simplifies the installation, upgrading, and removal of software, ensuring a seamless user experience.

3. Fedora: Fedora, a Linux distribution supported by Red Hat, is designed to be at the forefront of software and technology advancements. It is a preferred choice for developers and enthusiasts who seek the latest features and tools. Fedora comes with the GNOME desktop environment by default, providing an intuitive user interface. It incorporates advanced security measures such as SELinux (Security-Enhanced Linux) to ensure a high level of system security and protection against vulnerabilities.

4. CentOS: CentOS, short for Community Enterprise Operating System, is a Linux distribution that builds upon the source code of Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL). It aims to offer a cost-free and community-supported alternative to RHEL, while maintaining long-term stability and compatibility. CentOS is frequently utilized in server environments due to its reliability and strong security features. It provides a solid foundation for hosting critical services and applications, offering a dependable platform for businesses and organizations.

5. Arch Linux: Arch Linux is a lightweight, minimalistic distribution that follows a "do-it-yourself" philosophy. It provides a rolling release model, meaning users continuously receive updated software without the need for major version upgrades. Arch Linux focuses on simplicity, customization, and providing a user-centric experience.

6. openSUSE: openSUSE is a community-driven distribution sponsored by SUSE Linux GmbH. It offers two main editions: Leap, a stable release with long-term support, and Tumbleweed, a rolling release with the latest packages. openSUSE provides a choice of desktop environments, including KDE Plasma, GNOME, and Xfce.

7. Linux Mint: Linux Mint is a distribution based on Ubuntu, known for its user-friendly experience and out-of-the-box multimedia support. It offers a customized version of the Cinnamon desktop environment and includes various pre-installed applications, codecs, and proprietary software support to enhance the user experience.

8. Manjaro: Manjaro is a user-friendly distribution based on Arch Linux. It aims to provide an accessible entry point into the Arch Linux ecosystem by offering an easy installation process and a preconfigured desktop environment. Manjaro provides a choice of desktop environments, including Xfce, KDE Plasma, and GNOME.

4. Linux Architecture

The architecture of Linux refers to the underlying design and structure of the operating system. Linux follows a modular and layered architecture that enables flexibility, scalability, and customization. Let's explore the key components of Linux architecture in detail:

1. Kernel: The Linux kernel forms the core of the operating system. It is responsible for managing hardware resources, such as memory, processors, devices, and file systems. The kernel provides essential services like process management, memory management, device

drivers, and interprocess communication. It acts as an intermediary layer between applications and hardware, facilitating communication and resource allocation.

2. System Libraries: Linux provides a collection of system libraries that offer precompiled functions and routines for software development. The GNU C Library (glibc) is the primary system library, providing standard system calls and functions. Other libraries include graphics libraries (e.g., X11, Wayland), networking libraries (e.g., OpenSSL), and multimedia libraries (e.g., GStreamer), among others. These libraries abstract complex operations and provide a standardized interface for application developers.

3. System Calls: System calls are the mechanisms by which user-level programs interact with the kernel. They allow applications to request services from the kernel, such as file operations, process control, memory allocation, and network communication. Examples of system calls include `open()`, `read()`, `write()`, `fork()`, `exec()`, and `socket()`. The kernel provides an interface for these system calls to access underlying hardware resources.

4. Process Management: Linux follows a multitasking model where multiple processes can run concurrently. The management of process initiation, execution, and termination is handled by the kernel. It schedules CPU time for each process, allocates memory, and provides interprocess communication mechanisms like pipes and sockets. The Linux process management subsystem is based on the concept of lightweight processes called "threads," allowing efficient multitasking and resource sharing.

5. File System: Linux supports various file systems, such as ext4, XFS, Btrfs, and more. The file system handles the organization, storage, and retrieval of data on storage devices. It provides features like file permissions, access control, journaling, and support for different file types. The Virtual File System (VFS) layer in the kernel abstracts different file systems, allowing applications to work with files regardless of the underlying file system.

6. Networking: Linux has robust networking capabilities, supporting a wide range of protocols and networking devices. It includes network stack components like IP, TCP, UDP, and provides APIs for network communication. The kernel manages network interfaces, routing tables, and firewall rules. Linux can function as a client or server for various network services, enabling tasks such as web browsing, file sharing, and remote access.

7. Device Drivers: Linux has a modular architecture for device drivers, allowing easy integration of hardware devices. Device drivers interact with the kernel to control and manage specific hardware components, including disk drives, graphics cards, network adapters, and input/output devices. The kernel provides an abstraction layer called the Device Model, which helps manage device discovery, driver binding, and device configuration.

8. User Interface: Linux offers various user interface options, including command-line interfaces (CLI) and graphical user interfaces (GUI). The CLI provides a shell environment where users can interact with the system through text-based commands. The GUI provides a windowing system, desktop environment, and applications with graphical elements for ease of use. Common Linux GUIs include GNOME, KDE, Xfce, and Cinnamon.

The modular architecture of Linux allows for customization and scalability. Users can choose different components, swap out modules, and build their own distributions based on specific requirements. This flexibility has led to the widespread adoption of Linux across a wide range of devices and environments, from servers and desktops to embedded systems and IoT devices.

5. Linux Kernel

The Linux kernel is the central intelligence of the Linux operating system. It is a crucial component that interacts directly with hardware and provides essential services to the entire system. The kernel is responsible for managing system resources, including memory, processors, devices, and file systems. It acts as a bridge between software applications and the underlying hardware, enabling efficient communication and resource allocation.

One of the key functions of the Linux kernel is process management. It handles the creation, execution, and termination of processes, allowing multiple programs to run simultaneously. The kernel schedules CPU time for each process, allocates memory, and provides mechanisms for inter-process communication. This multitasking capability enables efficient utilization of system resources and supports the smooth execution of various tasks.

Memory management is another critical aspect of the Linux kernel. It ensures that programs have access to the required memory for execution and prevents unauthorized access. The kernel handles memory allocation, deallocation, and virtual memory management, allowing efficient use of physical and virtual memory spaces. It employs techniques such as demand paging and memory swapping to optimize memory usage and provide a stable environment for running applications. Device drivers play a crucial role in the Linux kernel. They enable communication between the kernel and hardware devices, such as disk drives, graphics cards, network adapters, and input/output devices. The kernel provides an infrastructure for managing and loading device drivers, ensuring compatibility and support for a wide range of hardware. This modular approach allows for easy integration of new devices and ensures that Linux can run on diverse hardware architectures.

File system support is another essential function of the Linux kernel. It interacts with file systems, allowing for the organization, storage, and retrieval of data on storage devices. The kernel abstracts different file systems through the Virtual File System (VFS) layer, providing a uniform interface for applications to access files regardless of the underlying file system.

Security is a fundamental consideration in the design of the Linux kernel. It incorporates features such as user and group permissions, access control lists, and encryption to ensure data integrity and protect against unauthorized access. Additionally, security modules like SELinux (Security-Enhanced Linux) can be added to enforce fine-grained access control policies, enhancing the overall system security.

The Linux kernel is continuously developed and improved by a large community of contributors. Regular updates and patches are released to address security vulnerabilities, add new features, and enhance performance. This collaborative approach ensures that the Linux kernel remains robust, reliable, and adaptable to evolving hardware and software requirements.

Overall, the Linux kernel serves as the foundation for the Linux operating system, providing essential services, managing resources, and enabling efficient communication between software and hardware components. Its open-source nature and modular design make it highly customizable, allowing for the creation of tailored solutions for a wide range of devices and use cases.

6. Difference between Windows and Linux

Sno.	Aspect	Windows	Linux
1	Licensing	Proprietary (commercial licenses)	Mostly open-source (GNU GPL, MIT, etc.)
2	Kernel	Windows NT	Linux kernel
3	User Interface	Graphical (Windows Desktop)	Graphical (various desktop environments)
4	Command-Line Interface	Command Prompt	Terminal (e.g., Bash, Zsh)
5	File System Support	Command Prompt	Terminal (e.g., Bash, Zsh)
6	File System Support	NTFS, FAT32, exFAT	Ext4, XFS, Btrfs, NTFS (through third-party)
7	Package Management	Windows Installer (MSI), AppX	Package Manager (e.g., APT, DNF, Pacman)
8	Software Availability	Wide range of commercial and proprietary software	Large selection of open-source software, with some commercial options
9	Hardware Support	Extensive support for various hardware devices	Broad hardware support, particularly for open-source drivers
10	Customization	Limited customization options	High level of customization and flexibility
11	System Updates	Regular updates, service packs, and cumulative updates	Frequent updates, often with new features and security patches
12	Security	Relies on built-in security features, antivirus software, and user awareness	Built with security in mind, less targeted by malware, but still requires security measures
13	Target Audience	Mainstream users, businesses, and gamers	Diverse user base, including developers, enthusiasts, and enterprise users
14	File Permissions and Security	Uses Access Control Lists (ACLs) and user/group permissions	Utilizes file permissions, ownership, and

			SELinux/AppArmor for enhanced security
15	Command-Line Tools and Scripts	PowerShell, Command Prompt, batch files	Bash, Shell scripting, Python, Perl, and more
16	Gaming Support	Extensive support for mainstream games	Growing support with tools like Steam Play (Proton), Lutris, and Wine
17	Virtualization and Containers	Hyper-V, Windows Containers	KVM, VirtualBox, Docker, LXC, and others
18	Server Market Share	Widely used in enterprise environments and web servers	Dominant in web servers, cloud infrastructure, and embedded systems
19	Support and Documentation	Extensive official support and documentation from Microsoft	Strong community support, vast online resources, and documentation
20	Cost	Commercial licenses with different editions and pricing models	Free to use, with optional paid support or enterprise editions

7. Configuration & Customizations of Linux

Linux configuration involves setting up and customizing various aspects of a Linux operating system to meet specific requirements. This includes configuring hardware, network settings, user accounts, security options, system services, and more. Here's a detailed overview of some important aspects of Linux configuration:

1. Hardware Configuration:

- Device drivers: Linux provides a wide range of device drivers for different hardware components. You may need to configure or install additional drivers for specific devices.
- Kernel configuration: The Linux kernel can be customized by modifying its configuration files. This involves enabling or disabling specific features, modules, or hardware support.

2. Network Configuration:

- IP addressing: Configuring IP addresses, subnet masks, and default gateways for network interfaces.
- DNS configuration: Specifying DNS servers for name resolution.
- Network services: Configuring network services like DHCP, NTP, FTP, SSH, etc.
- Firewall: Setting up firewall rules to control incoming and outgoing network traffic.

3. User and Group Management:

- User accounts: Creating and managing user accounts, setting passwords, and managing user privileges.
- Group management: Creating groups, assigning users to groups, and managing group permissions.

- User environment: Customizing user environments by modifying configuration files like `~/.bashrc` or `~/.profile`.

4. File System Configuration:

- Disk partitions: Creating and formatting disk partitions.
- File systems: Configuring different file systems like ext4, XFS, or Btrfs.
- Mounting drives: Mounting and configuring file systems to specific directories.
- File permissions: Setting permissions and ownership of files and directories.

5. Security Configuration:

- User authentication: Configuring authentication mechanisms like passwords, key-based SSH authentication, or LDAP.
- Access control: Setting up access control lists (ACLs) and file system permissions.
- Firewall and SELinux: Configuring firewall rules and Security-Enhanced Linux (SELinux) policies.
- Intrusion detection: Installing and configuring intrusion detection systems like Fail2ban.

6. System Services:

- Startup services: Configuring services to start automatically at boot time.
- Service management: Enabling, disabling, starting, stopping, and restarting system services.
- Service dependencies: Configuring service dependencies to ensure proper startup and shutdown sequences.

7. Logging and Monitoring:

- Log files: Configuring log file rotation, log levels, and log locations.
- Monitoring tools: Installing and configuring monitoring tools like Nagios, Zabbix, or Prometheus.

8. Package Management:

- Software repositories: Configuring package repositories for software updates and installations.
- Package installation: Installing, updating, and removing software packages using package managers like apt, yum, or dnf.

These are just some of the areas where Linux configuration is required. The specific configuration process and tools may vary depending on the Linux distribution being used (e.g., Ubuntu, CentOS, Debian, etc.). It's important to refer to the official documentation and community resources for your specific distribution to get detailed instructions on how to configure different aspects of Linux.

Linux customization

Linux provides a high degree of customization, allowing users to personalize their operating system according to their preferences. Here are some common areas where Linux can be customized:

1. Desktop Environment:

- Linux offers various desktop environments like GNOME, KDE, Xfce, and more. Users can choose their preferred desktop environment based on appearance, functionality, and performance.
- Customizing desktop themes, icons, wallpapers, and window decorations to create a unique look and feel.
- Configuring keyboard shortcuts and mouse behavior.
- Adding and customizing applets, widgets, or extensions to enhance functionality.

2. Shell Customization:

- Shell selection: Linux supports different shells like Bash, Zsh, Fish, and more. Users can choose their preferred shell and customize it accordingly.
- Prompt customization: Modifying the command prompt appearance, including colors, formatting, and displaying system information.
- Shell aliases and functions: Creating custom shortcuts and defining functions to automate tasks.
- Shell configuration files: Customizing shell behavior by modifying configuration files like `~/.bashrc` or `~/.zshrc`.

3. Window Managers:

- Linux offers various window managers like i3, Openbox, Awesome, and more, which provide lightweight and highly customizable windowing systems.
- Window decorations: Customizing the appearance of window borders, buttons, and title bars.
- Window behavior: Configuring window placement, resizing, focus-follows-mouse, and other window management options.

4. File Managers:

- Customizing the file manager's appearance, including icons, colors, and layouts.
- Adding or modifying context menu entries to perform specific actions on files or directories.
- Integrating with external applications or scripts for enhanced functionality.

5. Terminal Emulators:

- Terminal customization: Modifying terminal colors, fonts, transparency, and other visual aspects.
- Configuring keyboard shortcuts and behavior, such as copy-paste functionality, tab management, and text selection.

6. Application Customization:

- Text editors: Customizing text editors like Vim or Emacs by configuring plugins, themes, keybindings, and other settings.
- Web browsers: Extending browser functionality through extensions and themes, modifying privacy settings, or customizing the user interface.
- Media players: Customizing media player settings, visualizations, equalizer settings, and skin/theme selection.
- Email clients: Personalizing email clients with custom templates, rules, and filters.

- Other applications: Many Linux applications offer configuration options to personalize their behavior, appearance, or functionality.

7. Boot Splash and Logos:

- Customizing the boot splash screen with a personalized image or animation.
- Changing system logos or icons displayed during the boot process.

8. System Sounds:

- Modifying system sounds for notifications, alerts, login/logout, or other system events.

8. Linux structure and Linux Installation

The structure of Linux can be understood by examining its file system hierarchy, core components, and their relationships. Linux follows a hierarchical file system structure known as the Filesystem Hierarchy Standard (FHS). Here's a detailed overview of the Linux structure:

1. Filesystem Hierarchy:

- / (root): The top-level directory of the file system hierarchy. It is the starting point for all paths.
- /bin: Contains essential user binaries (executable files) that are required for system booting and basic operations.
- /sbin: Similar to /bin, but contains system binaries used by the system administrator.
- /boot: Contains boot loader files, kernel images, and configuration files.
- /dev: Provides access to device files representing hardware devices.
- /etc: Contains system-wide configuration files.
- /home: Home directories for regular users.
- /lib and /lib64: Libraries required by binaries in /bin and /sbin.
- /media: Mount point for removable media devices.
- /mnt: Temporary mount point for additional file systems.
- /opt: Optional software packages installed by the system administrator.
- /proc: A virtual file system that provides information about running processes and system configuration.
- /root: Home directory for the root user.
- /run: Contains runtime data files for processes started during boot.
- /srv: Contains site-specific data served by the system.
- /sys: A virtual file system that exposes kernel data structures and device information.
- /tmp: Temporary files that are typically deleted upon system reboot.
- /usr: Contains user utilities and applications.
- /var: Variable files, including log files, spool files, and temporary files.

2. Core Components:

- Kernel: The Linux kernel is the core component that interacts with hardware, manages resources, and provides essential system services.
- Shell: Linux supports various shells (e.g., Bash, Zsh) that provide a command-line interface to interact with the operating system.
- GNU Core Utilities: A collection of essential command-line utilities like ls, cp, mv, mkdir, and more.

- System Initialization: Linux uses different initialization systems such as System V (SysV) or systemd to manage the boot process, start services, and initialize the system.
- Windowing System: Linux supports various windowing systems like X11 and Wayland, which provide graphical user interface (GUI) capabilities.
- Desktop Environment: Linux offers different desktop environments like GNOME, KDE, Xfce, which provide a complete user interface, including a window manager, panel, applications, and utilities.

3. User and Group Management:

- Users: Linux allows the creation of multiple user accounts, each with its own home directory and settings.
- Groups: Users can be organized into groups, allowing easier management of file permissions and resource access.
- User Authentication: Linux supports different authentication mechanisms like passwords, key-based SSH authentication, or integration with external systems like LDAP or Active Directory.

4. Network Stack:

- Networking: Linux provides networking capabilities, including TCP/IP stack implementation, network device drivers, and configuration utilities like ifconfig, ip, and netstat.
- Network Services: Linux supports various network services such as DHCP, DNS, HTTP, FTP, SSH, and more, which can be configured and managed.

5. Package Management:

- Package Managers: Linux distributions use package managers like apt, yum, dnf, or zypper to install, update, and manage software packages.
- Software Repositories: Packages are distributed through repositories, which contain pre-compiled or source packages along with metadata for dependencies and versioning.

6. Configuration Files:

- Linux uses plain text configuration files located in directories like /etc, /usr/etc, or /etc/sysconfig to specify system-wide settings for various components.

Understanding the Linux structure is crucial for system administration, troubleshooting, and customization. The specific organization and layout of the Linux file system may differ slightly between distributions, but the overall principles and components remain consistent across most Linux variants.

Linux Installation

The procedure for installing Linux can vary depending on the specific distribution you choose. However, I can provide you with a general overview of the steps involved in installing Linux:

1. Choose a Linux Distribution:

- Research and select a Linux distribution that suits your needs and preferences. Popular choices include Ubuntu, Fedora, CentOS, Debian, and Linux Mint.

2. Prepare Installation Media:

- Download the ISO image of the chosen Linux distribution from the official website.
- Create a bootable installation media, such as a USB flash drive or DVD, using tools like Rufus (for Windows) or Etcher (for Windows, macOS, and Linux).

3. Boot from Installation Media:

- Insert the bootable installation media into your computer.
- Restart the computer and access the BIOS/UEFI settings.
- Configure the boot order to prioritize the installation media (USB or DVD) so that the system boots from it.

4. Start the Installation Process:

- Once the computer boots from the installation media, you will be presented with a Linux installation interface.
- Select the language and other localization settings.

5. Disk Partitioning:

- Choose the disk or partition where you want to install Linux.
- You can opt for automatic partitioning, which lets the installer automatically partition the disk based on recommended settings.
- Alternatively, you can choose manual partitioning to customize the disk layout according to your requirements.

6. Configure Installation Options:

- Set the system's hostname (computer name).
- Choose the time zone and date/time settings.
- Set a password for a user account you've created.

7. Select Software Packages:

- Depending on the distribution, you may be presented with options to choose additional software packages, such as desktop environments, office suites, development tools, etc. Choose what you want based on your preferences.

8. Begin the Installation:

- Double-check all the selected options and settings before proceeding.
- Start the installation process, and the installer will copy the necessary files onto the disk and configure the system according to your selections.

9. Installation Complete:

- Once the installation process finishes, you will be notified that the installation is complete.
- After uninstalling the installation disc, restart the computer.

10. First Boot and Initial Setup:

- After restarting, the system will boot into the newly installed Linux environment.
- Follow the on-screen instructions to perform any additional setup steps, such as configuring network settings, updating the system, and installing additional software.

After completing these steps, you should have a fully installed Linux operating system on your computer. It's important to note that the exact steps and options can vary between different Linux distributions.

9. Installation: CentOS

To install CentOS, you can follow these steps:

1. Obtain CentOS Installation Media:

- Visit the official CentOS website (<https://www.centos.org>) and navigate to the downloads section.
- Choose the CentOS version and variant you want to install (e.g., CentOS 8, CentOS Stream).
- Download the appropriate ISO image for your system architecture (usually 64-bit).

2. Create Bootable Installation Media:

- Prepare a USB flash drive or burn the ISO image to a DVD using software like Rufus (for Windows) or Etcher (for Windows, macOS, and Linux).
- Make sure to back up any important data on the installation media, as it will be erased during the process.

3. Boot from Installation Media:

- Insert the bootable CentOS installation media into your computer.
- Restart the computer and access the BIOS/UEFI settings.
- Configure the boot order to prioritize the installation media (USB or DVD) so that the system boots from it.

4. Start the Installation Process:

- Once the computer boots from the CentOS installation media, you will be presented with the CentOS installation interface.
- Select your preferred language and press Enter to continue.

5. Configure Installation Options:

- On the installation summary screen, review and customize the settings as needed.
- Set the installation destination by selecting the appropriate disk and partitioning scheme. You can choose to use the entire disk or manually partition it.
- Set the hostname for your system.
- Configure the network settings (optional) by enabling the network interface and providing necessary details like IP address, subnet mask, gateway, and DNS.
- Set the system's date and time.

6. Software Selection:

- Choose the software packages to install. You can select predefined package groups like minimal, server, or desktop environment, or manually choose individual packages.

7. Begin the Installation:

- Double-check all the selected options and settings before proceeding.
- Start the installation process, and the installer will copy the necessary files onto the disk and configure the system according to your selections.

8. Root Password and User Account:

- Set a password for the root (administrator) user account.
- Optionally, create additional user accounts and set passwords.

9. Complete the Installation:

- Once the installation process finishes, you will be prompted to reboot the system.
- Remove the installation media and restart the computer.

10. First Boot and Initial Setup:

- After restarting, the system will boot into the newly installed CentOS environment.
- Follow the on-screen instructions to perform any additional setup steps, such as accepting the license agreement, configuring the firewall, and connecting to the network.

After completing these steps, you should have a fully installed CentOS operating system on your computer. It's important to note that the CentOS installation process may vary slightly depending on the specific version and variant you are installing.

10. CentOS vs. CentOS stream

CentOS and CentOS Stream are two different variants of the CentOS operating system. Here's a detailed comparison of CentOS and CentOS Stream:

1. Release Model:

- *CentOS*: CentOS follows a stable release model. It is a downstream rebuild of the corresponding Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) release, providing a free, community-supported version of RHEL. CentOS releases are based on the RHEL releases after they have undergone thorough testing and stabilization.

- *CentOS Stream*: CentOS Stream, on the other hand, follows a rolling-release model. It serves as a rolling preview of RHEL and is positioned between Fedora (Red Hat's community-driven distribution) and RHEL. CentOS Stream provides early access to updates and features that will eventually make their way into the next RHEL release.

2. Relationship to Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL):

- *CentOS*: CentOS aims to be a binary-compatible and functionally equivalent alternative to RHEL. It provides a stable, community-driven version of RHEL with a focus on long-term support and compatibility.

- *CentOS Stream*: CentOS Stream is a development branch of RHEL. It is an upstream project that actively participates in the development of the next RHEL release. Changes and updates introduced in CentOS Stream are eventually incorporated into the upcoming RHEL release.

3. Timing of Updates:

- *CentOS*: Updates in CentOS are released after they have been thoroughly tested and stabilized in RHEL. CentOS releases usually lag behind RHEL releases by a certain period (usually a few weeks to months) to ensure stability.

- *CentOS Stream*: CentOS Stream receives updates continuously and more frequently than CentOS. It provides a forward-looking view of RHEL development, allowing developers and users to test and provide feedback on upcoming features and changes.

4. Target Audience:

- *CentOS*: CentOS is primarily targeted at users and organizations seeking a stable, production-ready operating system with long-term support. It is suitable for environments that prioritize reliability and compatibility.

- *CentOS Stream*: CentOS Stream is targeted at developers, system administrators, and users who want to be more closely involved in the development process of RHEL. It provides an opportunity to test and influence the future direction of RHEL.

5. Use Cases:

- *CentOS*: CentOS is widely used in production environments, server deployments, and enterprise setups that require a stable and reliable Linux distribution. It is suitable for running critical workloads and applications.

- *CentOS Stream*: CentOS Stream is best suited for users who want to test bleeding-edge features, contribute to the development process, or be early adopters of RHEL updates. It is also suitable for non-production environments and development/test systems.

6. Long-Term Support:

- *CentOS*: CentOS offers long-term support with updates and security patches for a specific major release, typically up to 10 years from the initial release.

- *CentOS Stream*: CentOS Stream follows a rolling-release model and provides updates and support for the latest version, as it is constantly updated with the latest changes and developments.

It's important to note that the specific differences between CentOS and CentOS Stream may evolve over time as the development strategies and priorities of the projects change.

11. Take a snapshot of VM

Taking a snapshot of a virtual machine (VM) can be a useful way to capture its current state, allowing you to revert back to that point if needed. The procedure for taking a snapshot may vary depending on the virtualization platform you are using, but here is a general procedure:

1. Open your Virtualization Management Console:

- Launch the management console for your virtualization platform. For example, VMware vSphere Client, VirtualBox Manager, or Hyper-V Manager.

2. Select the VM to Snapshot:

- Locate the VM for which you want to take a snapshot in the management console's inventory or list of virtual machines.
- Select the VM to highlight it and ensure that it is powered on and running.

3. Initiate the Snapshot Process:

- Look for an option or menu item related to snapshots. The exact location and terminology may vary depending on your virtualization platform.
- Click on the "Take Snapshot" or similar button to initiate the snapshot process.

4. Provide Snapshot Details:

- Specify a name for the snapshot. Choose a descriptive name that helps identify the state or purpose of the snapshot.
- Optionally, provide a description or notes to further document the snapshot's purpose or any relevant details.

5. Start the Snapshot Creation:

- Click on the "Create" or "OK" button to start the snapshot creation process.
- The snapshot creation process may take a few moments, depending on the size and complexity of the VM.

6. Monitor Snapshot Creation Progress:

- The management console will display the progress of the snapshot creation.
- Do not interrupt or power off the VM during the snapshot creation process.

7. Snapshot Creation Complete:

- Once the snapshot creation process finishes, you will receive a notification or see a confirmation message indicating that the snapshot has been successfully created.

After taking the snapshot, you can continue using the VM normally. The snapshot represents a point-in-time image of the VM's state at the moment it was taken. If you need to revert back to this state in the future, you can use the snapshot management features of your virtualization platform to restore the VM to the snapshot.