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Comp8

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Terminals and Guis

A Gui, a Graphical interface for users of an application. The leading way to package an application for consumer use. A CLI, a Command Line Interface(Terminal) is an alternative to using a gui and is more resource friendly. A gui has its uses, e.g. guiding users through an application with text and instructions on its faces, the CLI is equally as useful in situations that call for something that requires less resource to run. That Windows 98 machine sitting in the basement with 256MB of RAM, might make a great file server for your house, with a few upgrades to its network capabilities of course, but a system built with beautiful Gui’s would probably slow it down to the point where it wouldn’t really be of use at all. In an equally important situation, when you get your Grandma a computer for the at home business that she wants to start a CLI might be a little daunting, the Gui definitely would be more suitable(unless you have the time to teach use of the CLI that is. There are Pros and Cons to both types of interfaces, usability for the less computer literate vs the enhanced performance on increasingly aging or underpowered hardware.