



# Salix Live 13.0

## User's guide

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#### **About this manual...**

The purpose of this manual is to enable you to take full advantage of Salix Live many functionalities.

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## Introduction

Salix OS is a [Linux Distribution](#) based on [Slackware](#) that retains full backward compatibility with its illustrious parent.

However, while in the [KISS](#) principle Slackware adheres to, "Simple" refers to the viewpoint of system design, Salix OS attempts to make it refer to the viewpoint of the end user as well.

In order to do this, Salix OS has chosen the [Xfce](#) desktop, which offers a comprehensive full feature environment while managing to remain simple, unobstructive & highly responsive.

Salix OS also provides all the necessary [GUI](#) utilities to assist [system management](#).

Of course, Salix OS package management through the proven [slapt-get/gslapt](#) tandem includes dependency resolution, transparently weaved indifferently both on Slackware's original and on Salix OS ever growing complementary [software repository](#).

Finally Salix OS strives to provide a localized system which is usable around the globe and can easily be used by non-English speakers.

## Software

Salix is usually installed with either one of the following set of software:

### Core Mode

Here, only the minimum software, essential for a console system to start is included. A graphical environment is not provided. This is ideal if you are an experienced user and want to customize your installation for any specific purpose, such as a web server, file server etc.

### Basic Mode

The Basic Mode is build on the Core Mode with the addition of Xfce desktop environment, Firefox web browser and [Gslapt package manager](#). This is ideal for advanced users that would like to install a lightweight Xfce and add their own choice of applications.

## Xfce and Firefox

*Xfce is a lightweight desktop environment for various Unix/Linux systems. Designed for productivity, it loads and executes applications fast, while conserving system resources*

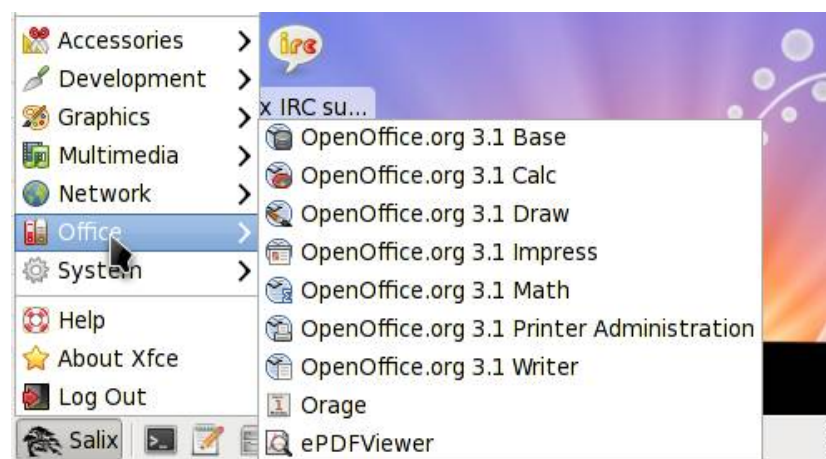
*Mozilla Firefox is a free and open source web browser with tabbed browsing, spell checking, incremental find, private browsing & numerous plugins.*



## Full Mode

This last mode is build on the Basic Mode & offers a full range of useful software applications one could need on a daily basis while following the "one application per task" rationale.

The Office applications are composed of the full [OpenOffice productivity suite](#), [ePDFView](#) & [Orage agenda](#).

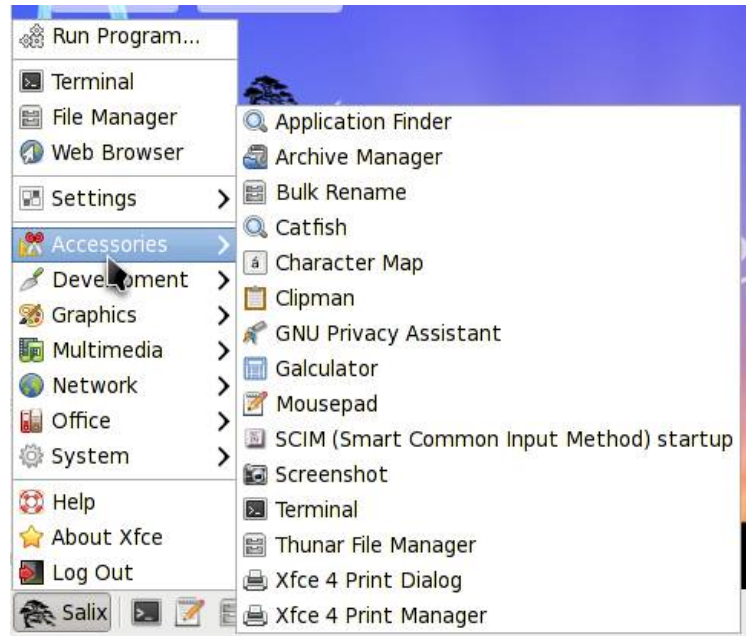


Beside Firefox, Network applications include [Claws-mail](#), [Pidgin](#), [Transmission](#) & [gFTP](#).

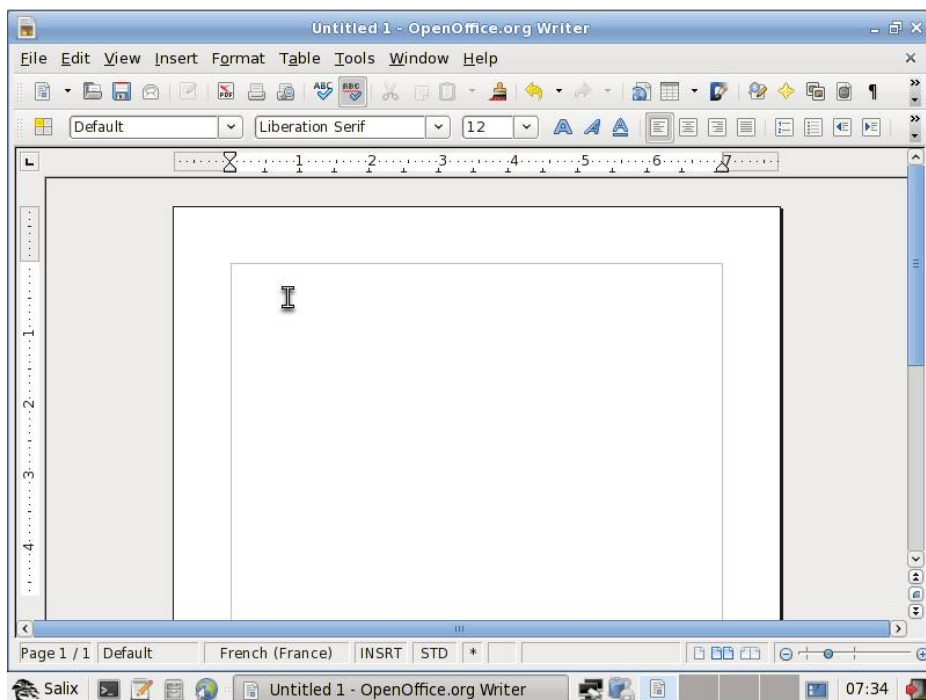
Multimedia applications include [Asunder](#), [Exaile](#), [Totem](#), [Xfburn](#) & [Salix Codec Installer](#).

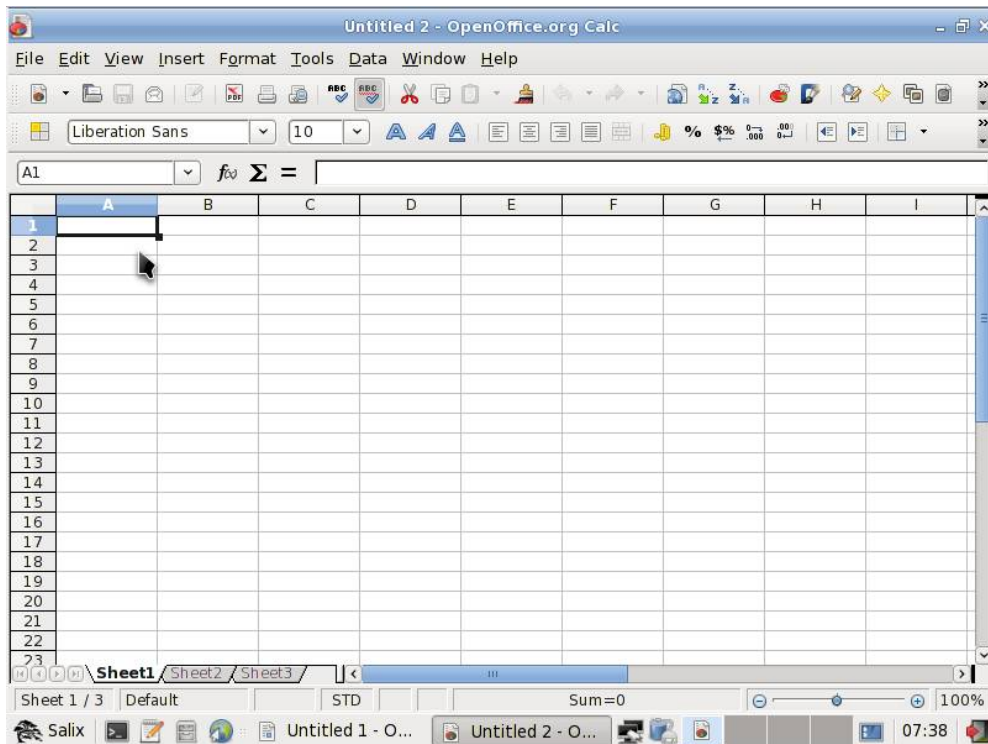
Graphical applications include the [Gimp](#), [Ristretto](#) & [Xsane](#). [Geany](#) is provided in the Development applications.

And finally Accessories applications include a variety of useful small utilities among which [Galculator](#), [Mousepad](#), [Catfish](#), [File Roller](#), [SCIM](#), etc.



## OpenOffice

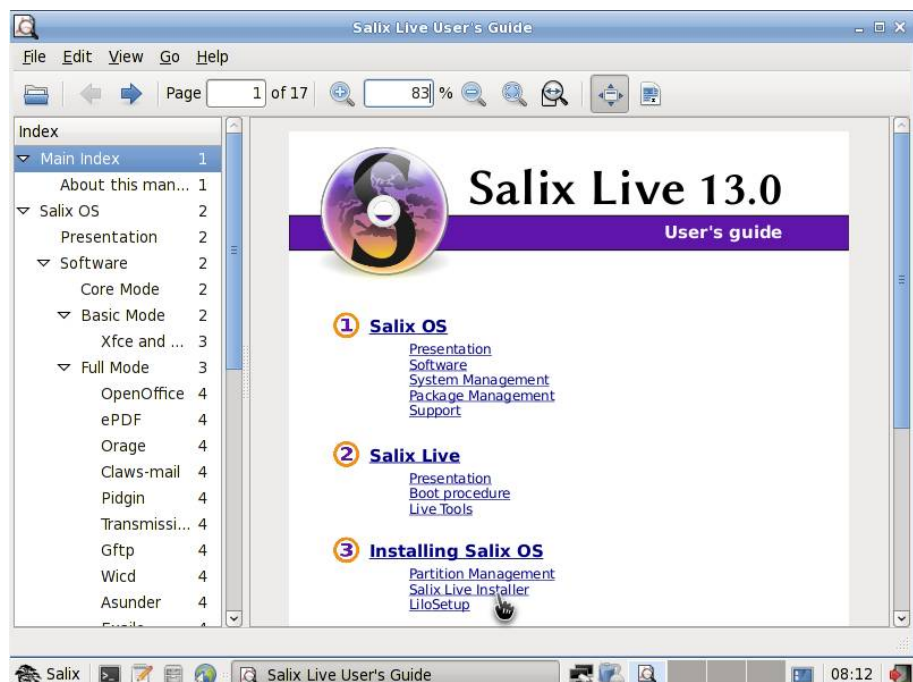




*OpenOffice.org 3 is the leading open-source office software suite for word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, graphics, databases and more. It is available in many languages and works on all common computers. It stores all your data in an international open standard format and can also read and write files from other common office software packages.*

## **ePDFView**

*ePDFView is a very lightweight, simple PDF document viewer.*



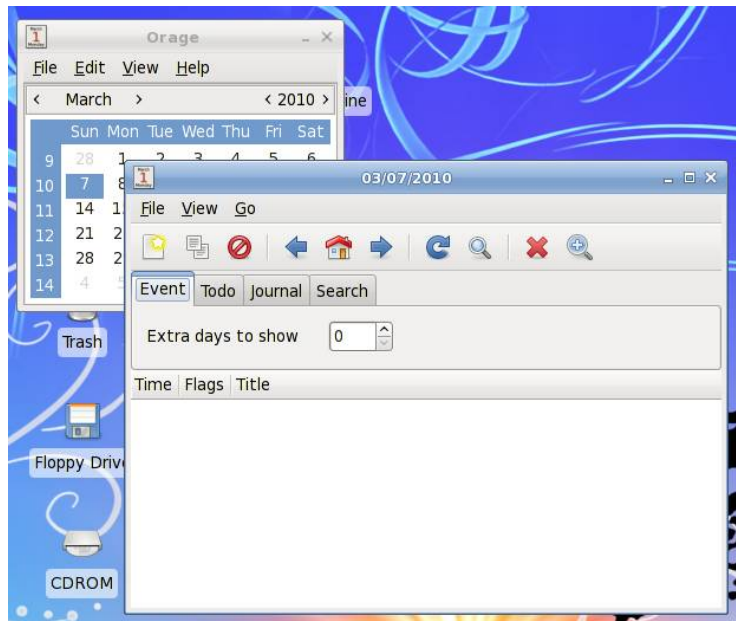


## Orage

Orage provides a calendar which integrates nicely into the Xfce Desktop Environment. It is highly configurable and supports alerts based on dates. It warns you with popup or audio alarm.

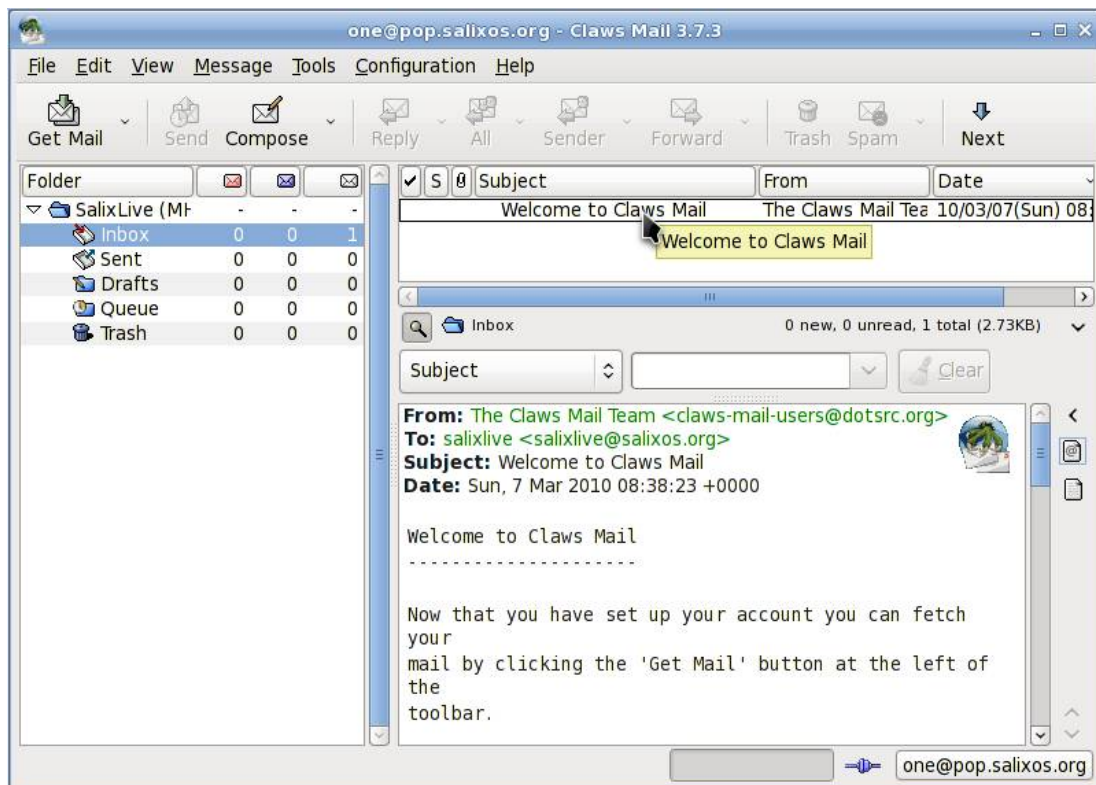
As it is an application for every day use, it launches itself in the background and can be accessed using the Orage Clock plugin for the panel.

Simply click on a date to display or set the agenda for the day.



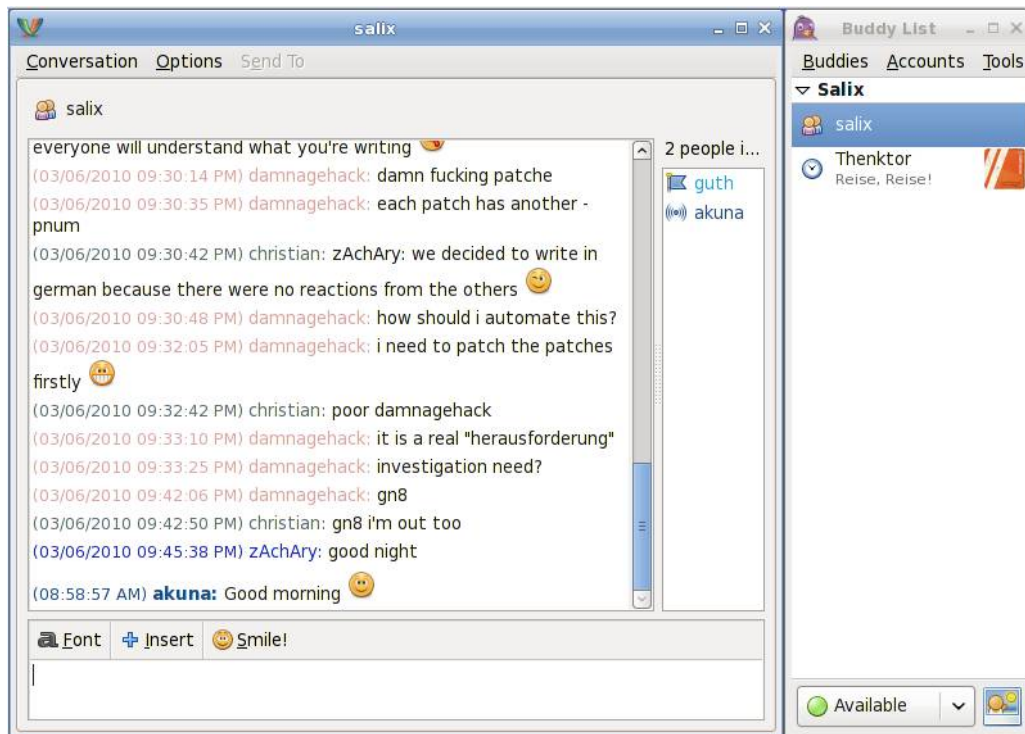
## Claws-mail

Claws Mail is an open source email and news client. It offers easy configuration and an abundance of features. It stores mail in the MH mailbox format as well as the Mbox mailbox format via a plugin.



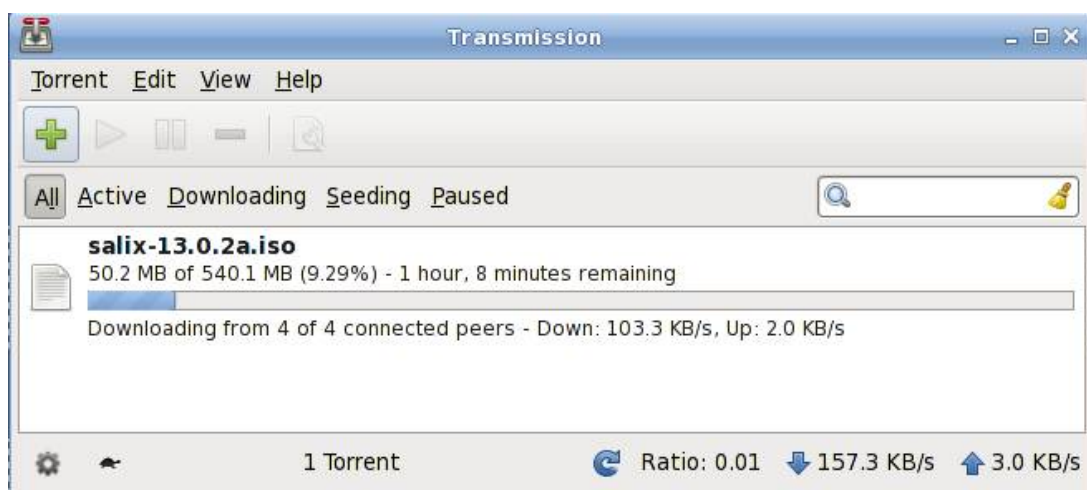
## Pidgin

*Pidgin is an easy to use and free chat client which lets you log in to accounts on multiple chat networks simultaneously. Pidgin is compatible with numerous chat networks out of the box: AIM, ICQ, Google Talk, Jabber/XMPP, MSN Messenger, Yahoo, etc..*



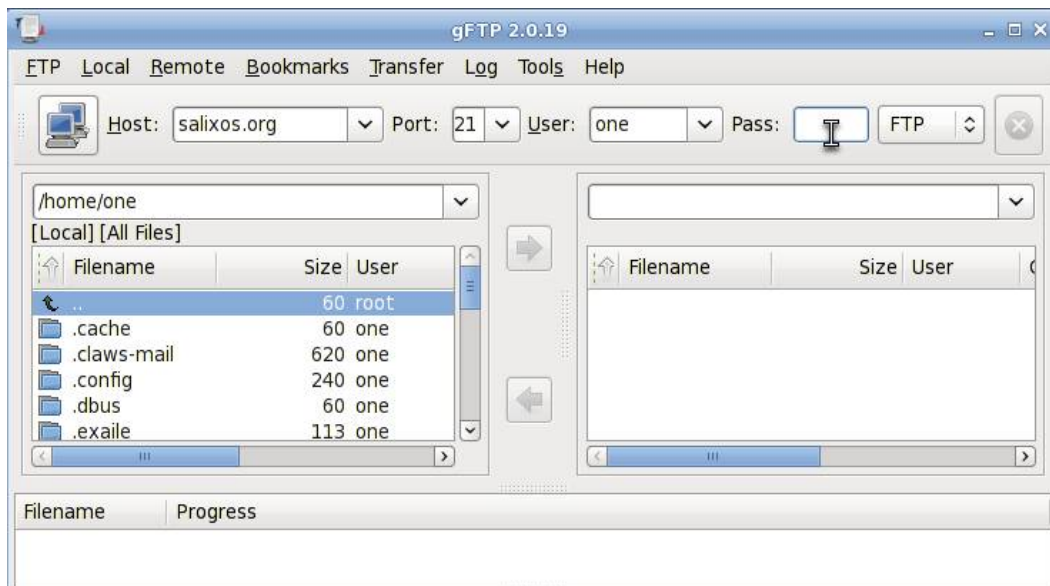
## Transmission

*Transmission is a [BitTorrent](#) client that is simple, lean, & powerful.*



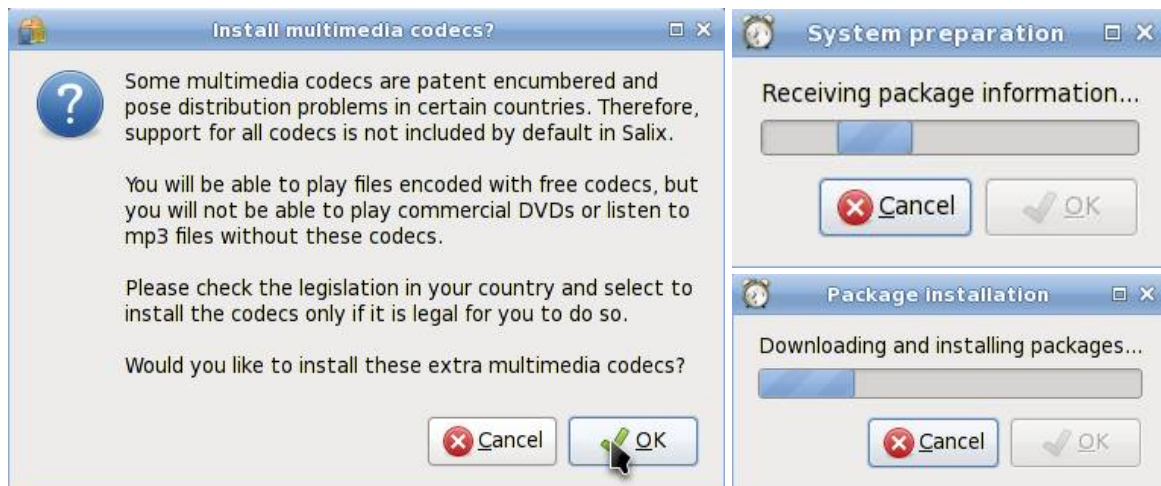
## **gFTP**

*gFTP is a FTP client with both a text & a GUI interface. gFTP aims to be simple to use yet powerful.*



## **Salix Codec Installer**

Before you can use any of the multimedia applications, you might have to first install some missing codecs.

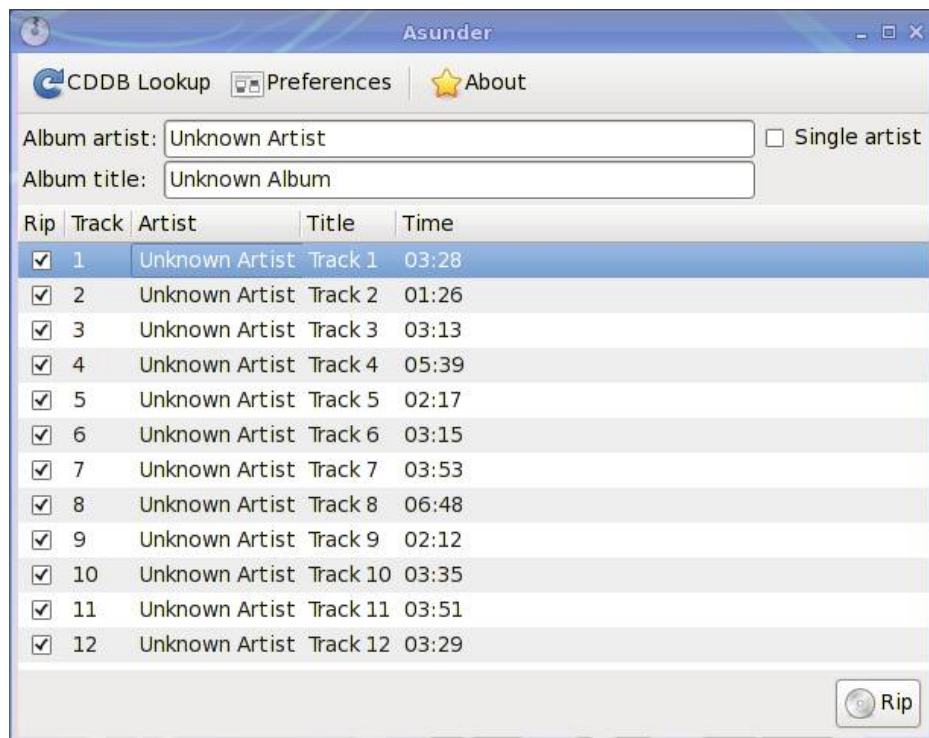


## **Asunder**

*Asunder is an Audio CD ripper and encoder for Linux.*

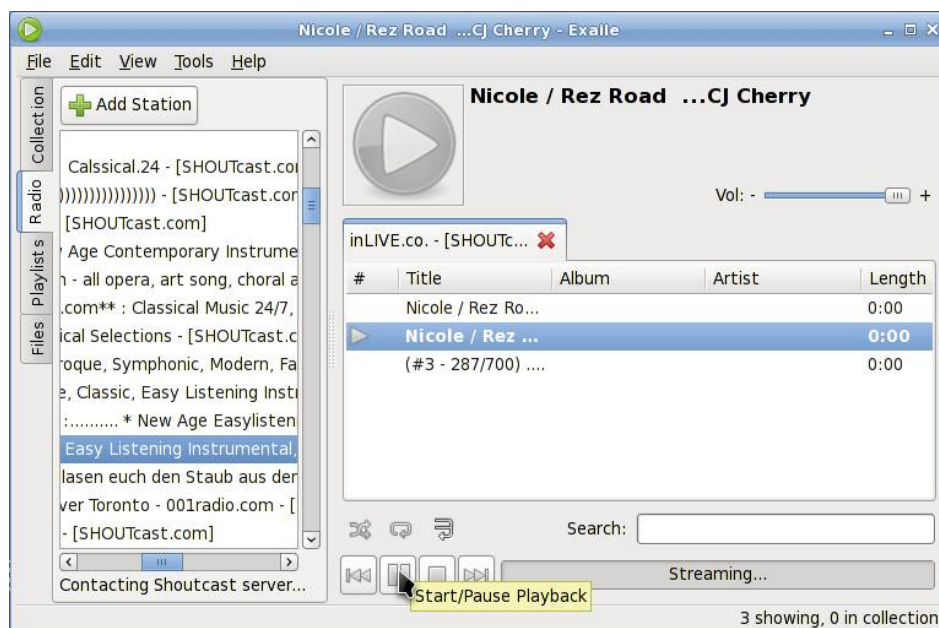


*You can use Asunder to save tracks from an Audio CD as any of WAV, MP3, OGG, FLAC, WavPack, Musepack, AAC, and Monkey's Audio files.*



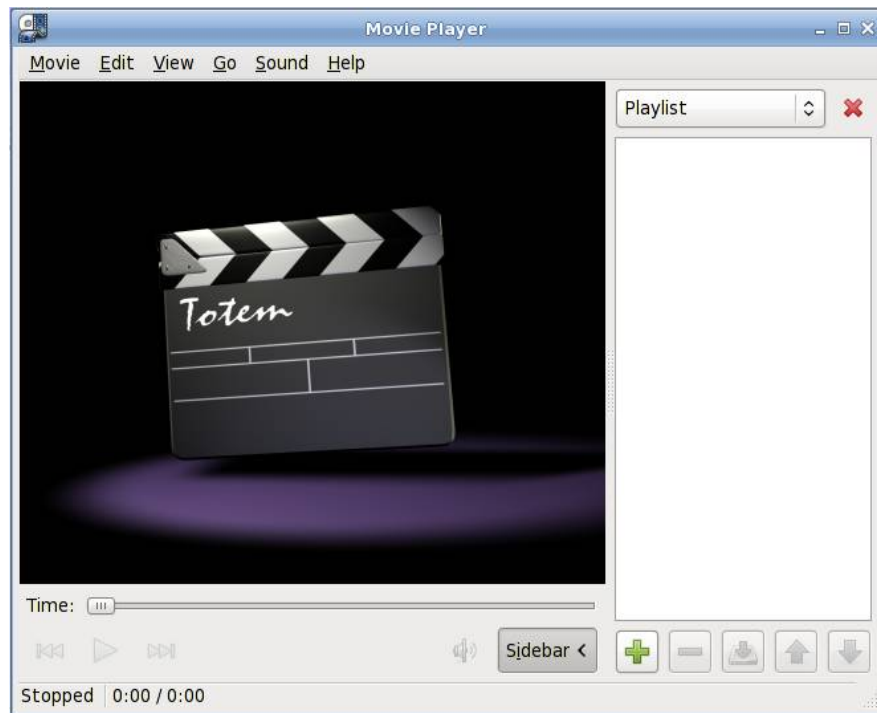
## Exaile

*Exaile is a music manager which incorporates automatic fetching of album art, lyrics fetching, Last.fm scrobbling, support for many portable media players, Internet radio such as Shoutcast, tabbed playlists, etc..*



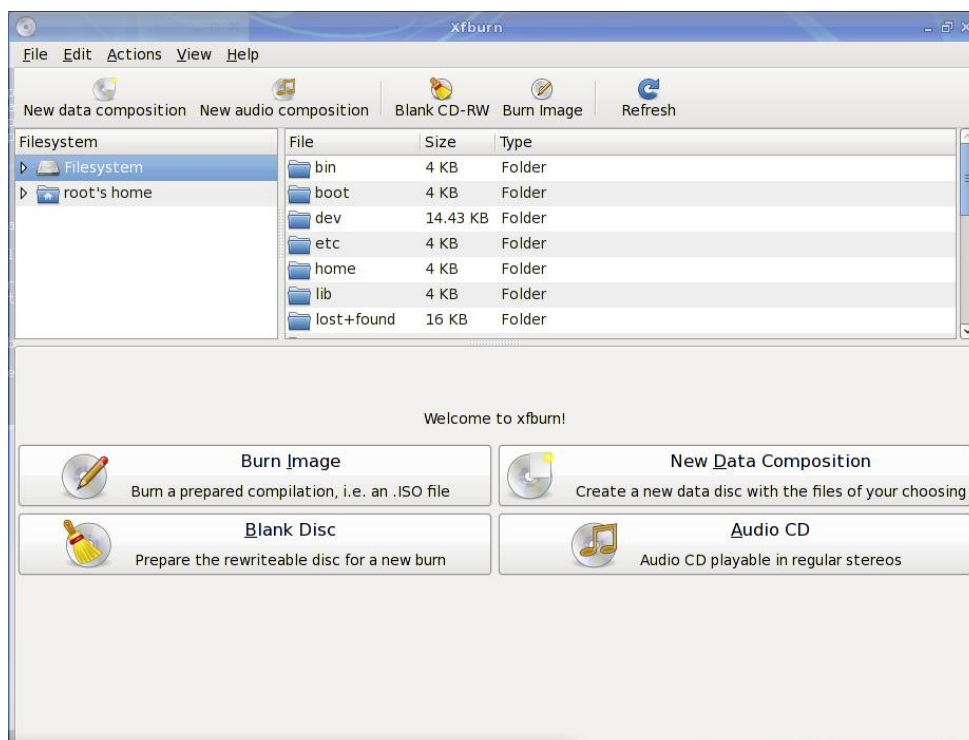
## Totem

*Totem is a media player (audio and video) which utilizes the GStreamer framework for playback.*



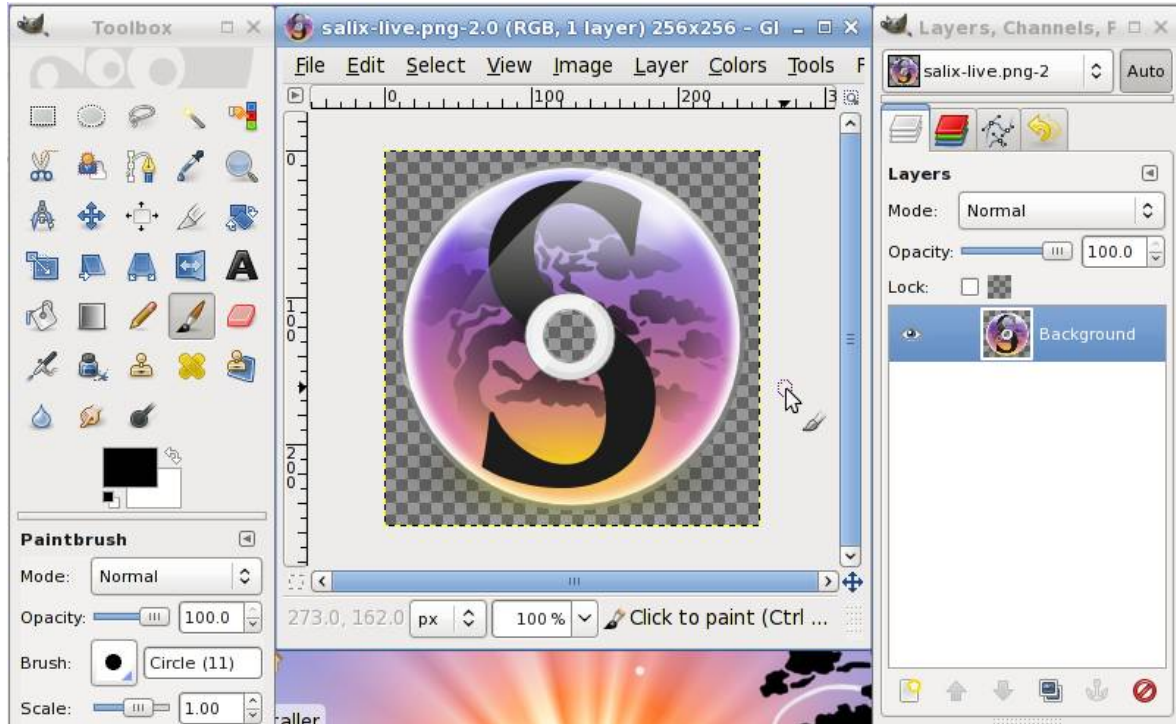
## Xfburn

*Xfburn is a simple CD/DVD burning tool. It can blank CD/DVD(-RW)s, burn and create ISO images, audio CDs, as well as burn personal compositions of data to either CD or DVD.*



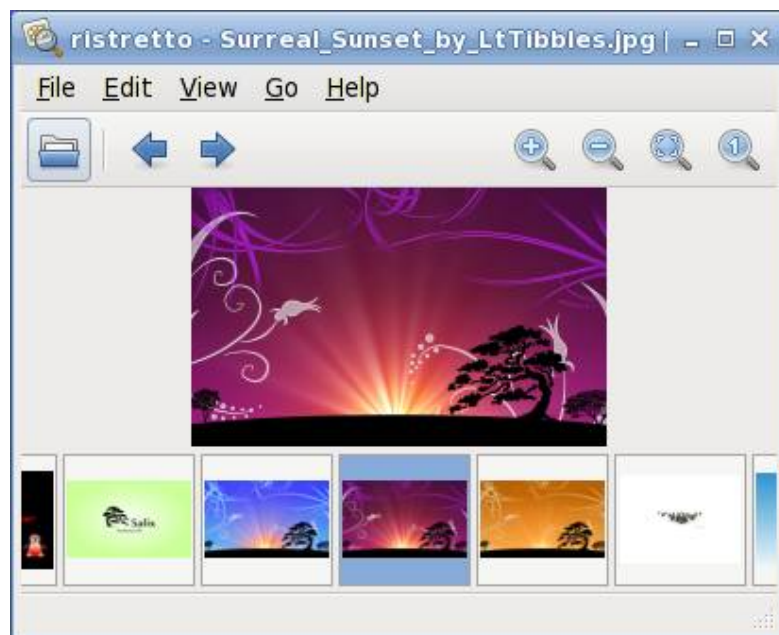
## Gimp

*GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) is an image retouching and editing tool. In addition to offering free form drawing, it can accomplish essential image workflow steps such as resizing, editing, and cropping photos, combining multiple images, converting between different image formats as well as create basic animated images in GIF.*



## Ristretto

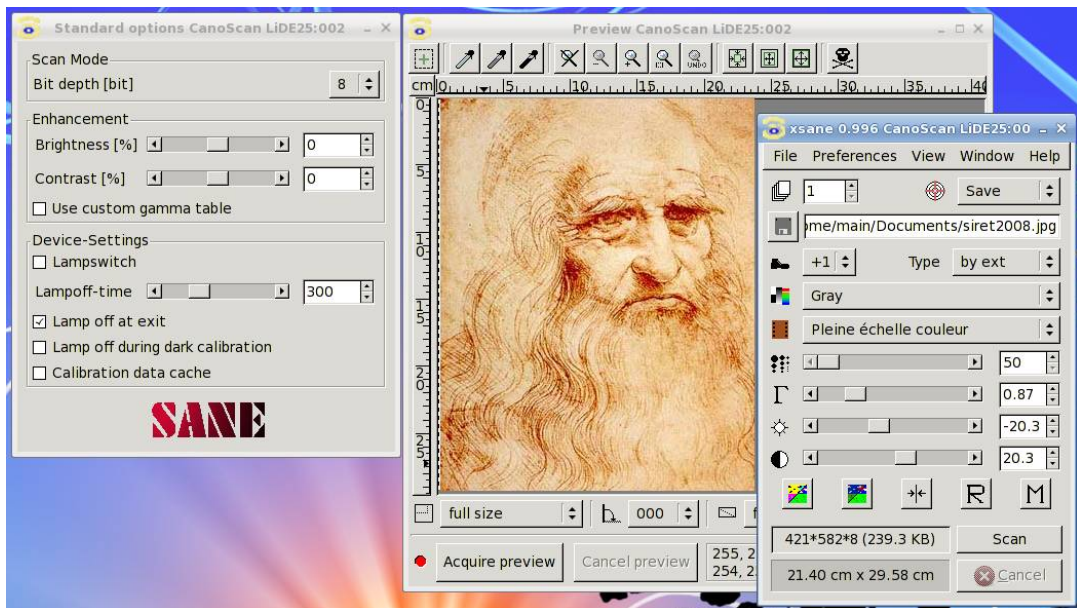
*Ristretto is a fast and lightweight picture-viewer.*





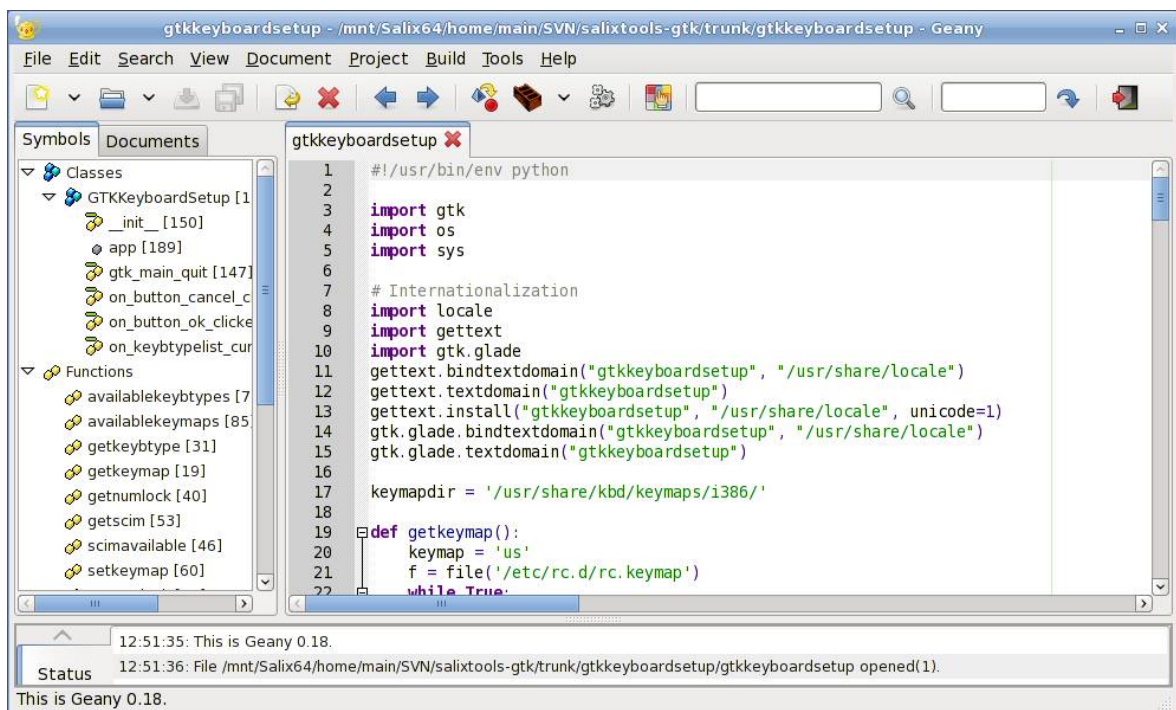
## Xsane

*XSane is a GUI scanning utility which uses the SANE-library to communicate with scanners.*



## Geany

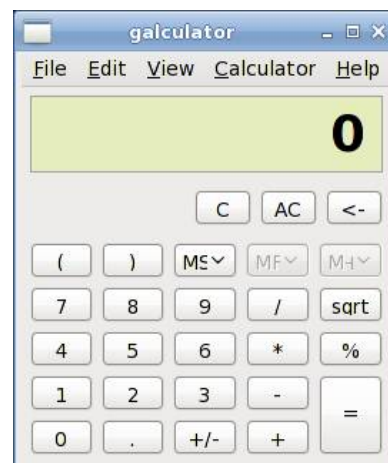
*Geany is a small and lightweight Integrated Development Environment which only has a few dependencies & is independent from any particular Desktop Environment.*





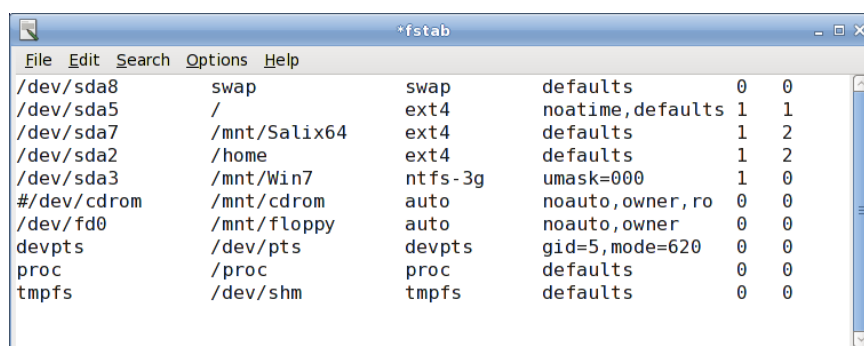
## Galculator

*Galculator is a calculator featuring two user modes: basic and scientific mode. Basic mode is intended for simple computations while Scientific Mode is Galculator's state-of-the-art.*



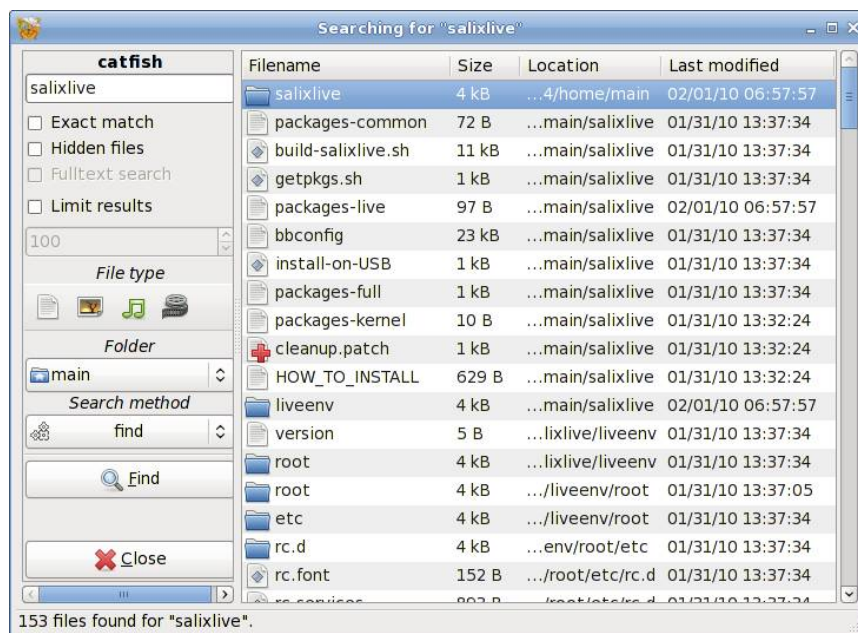
## Mousepad

*Mousepad is a simple text editor with printing support.*



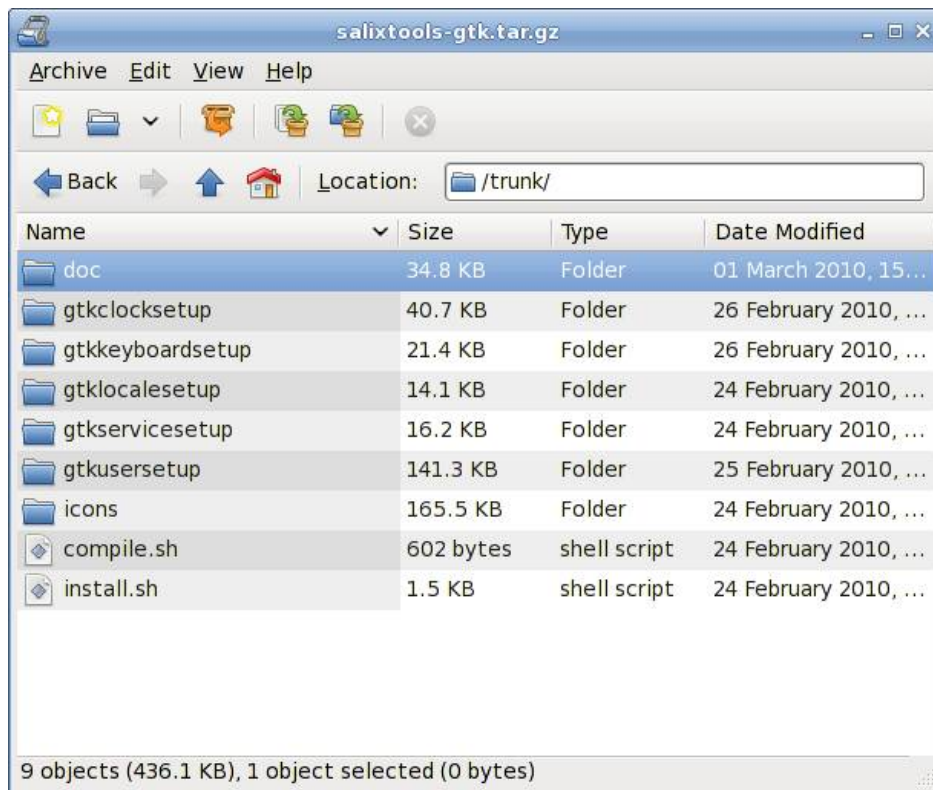
## Catfish

*Catfish is a handy file searching tool which provides a unified, lightweight and simple interface for different search engines such as find, (s)locate, doodle, tracker and beagle.*



## File Roller

*File Roller is an archive manager. Supported archive types include gzip, bzip, bzip2, compress, lzop, zip, jar, lha, rar, zoo, arj, 7-zip, etc.*



## SCIM

*The Smart Common Input Method platform (SCIM) is an X input method (XIM) platform containing support for more than thirty languages (Chinese, Japanese, Korean and many European languages).*

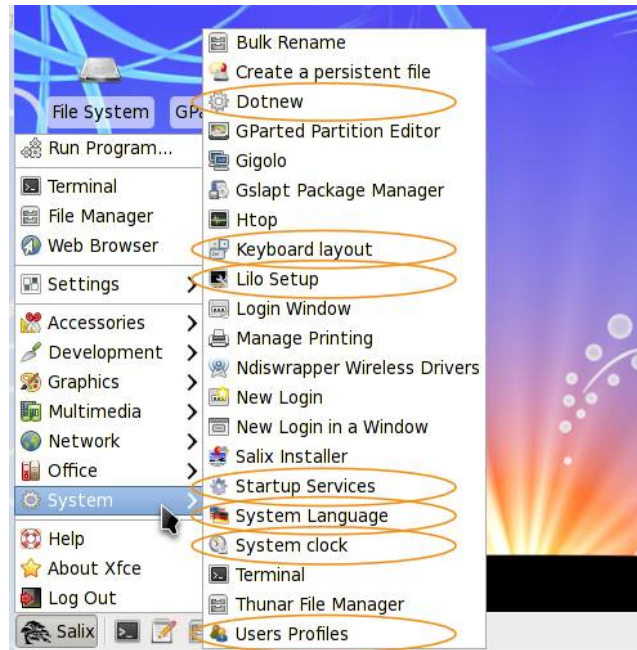


# System Management

All system management in Salix OS can be done the usual ([manual](#)) Slackware way.

Alternatively, you can use any one of Salix System Tools which you will find under the System section of the Menu.

Most Salix tools (except LiloSetup) have a ncurses counterpart which can be used in a non-graphical environment ([init 3](#)).



## Salix Tools

### Dotnew

*Dotnew manages the system configuration upgrades used by Slackware. It will display a possible course of action for each new configuration file found in the system*

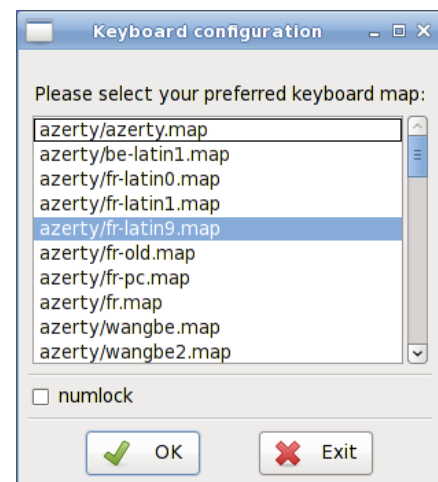


*To execute this utility in init 3, simply type dotnew.*

### Keyboard Layout

*This utility will configure the keyboard disposition being used both in the graphical & non-graphical environments. Modifications are applied instantly.*

*To execute this utility in init 3, simply type keyboardsetup.*



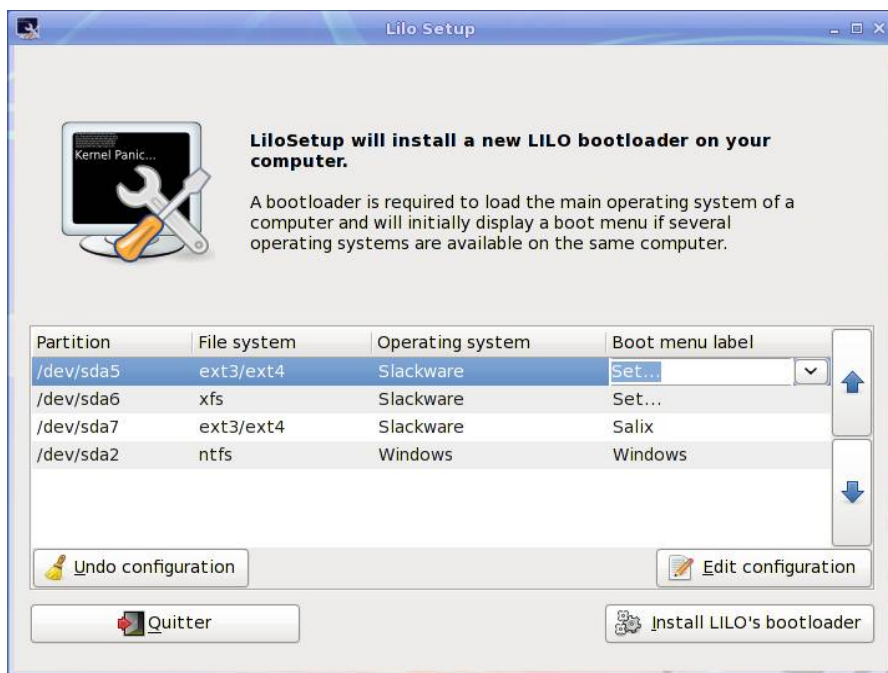
## Lilo Setup

*LiloSetup will install a new LILO bootloader on your computer.*

*A bootloader is required to load the main operating system of a computer and will initially display a boot menu if several operating systems are available on the same computer.*

*It is necessary to (re)configure the bootloader each time you install a new operating system on your computer.*

*LiloSetup can also be useful in the process of a disaster recovery in which case you may have to launch it from a Live CD if you have lost all other means to boot into your system.*

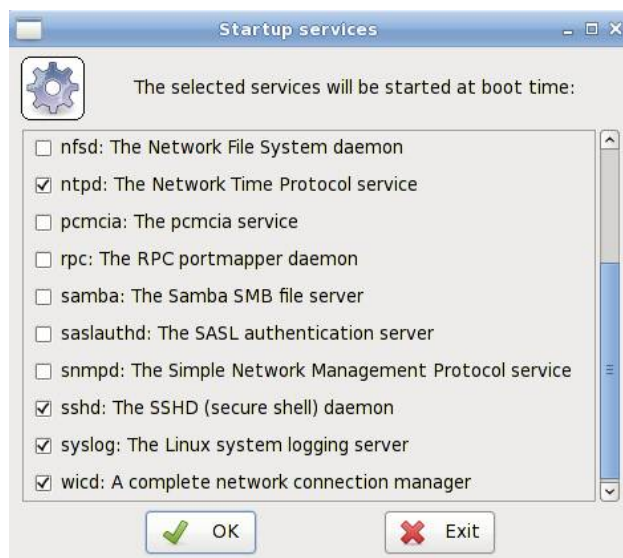


## Startup Services

*Here you will be able to select the services that should or shouldn't be activated in the background when your system starts.*

*All your modifications will be applied instantly if you press on the OK button & will not necessitate a reboot.*

*To execute this utility in init 3, simply type `servicesetup`.*

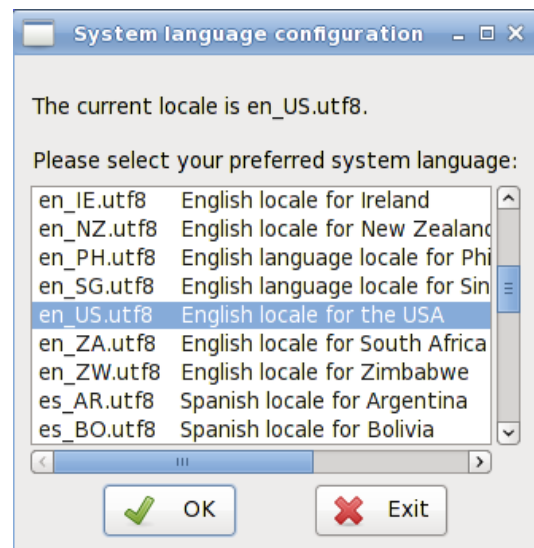




## System Language

*This utility will configure the language of your system.*

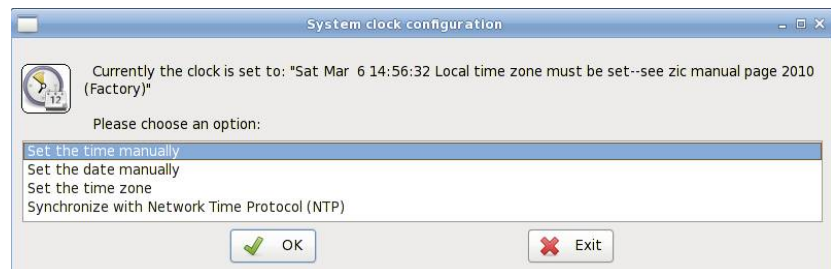
*To execute it in init 3, simply type `localesetup`.*



## System Clock

*This utility will configure your computer clock.*

*To execute it in init 3, simply type `clocksetup`.*



## Users Profile

*In Unix/Linux, all users and groups of users are given certain permissions & access rights to some part of the system in order to control their ability to access & temper with it.*

*This utility manages the creation, deletion & properties of all the system users & groups of users.*

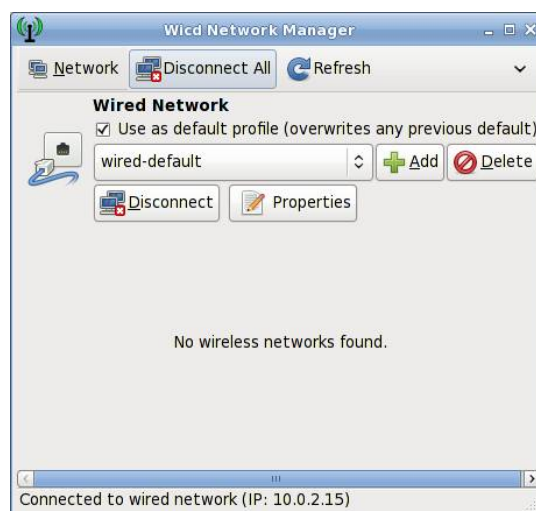
*To execute it in init 3, simply type `usersetup`.*



## Other System Utilities

### Wicd

*Wicd is an open source wired and wireless network manager for Linux which aims to provide a simple interface to connect to networks with a wide variety of settings.*



## Package Management

As previously stated Salix relies on the excellent slapt-get/Gslapt tandem for its software package management.

### Slapt-get

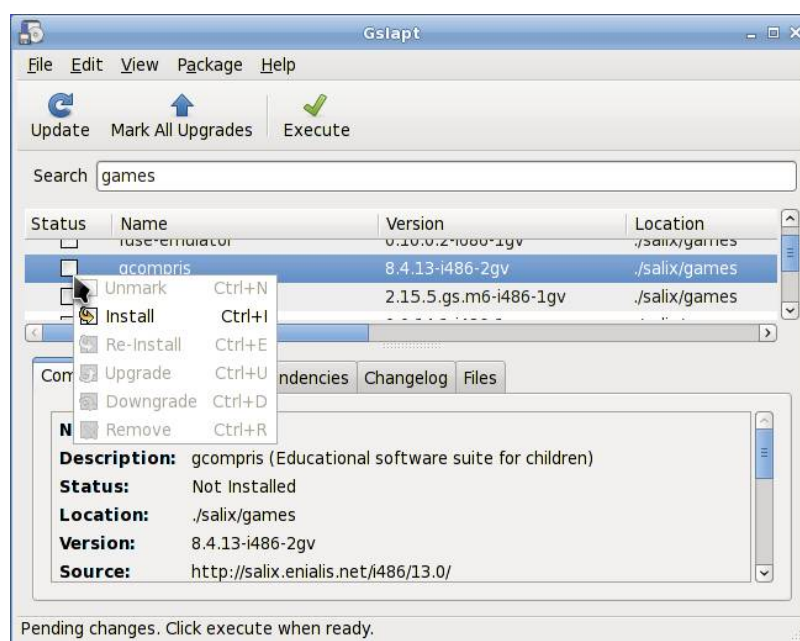
[Slapt-get](#) is a CLI tool providing an APT like system for Slackware package management. It allows one to search Slackware/Salix mirrors and third party sources for packages, compare them with installed packages, install new packages, or upgrade all installed packages.

### Gslapt

Gslapt is the GUI version of [Slapt-get](#).

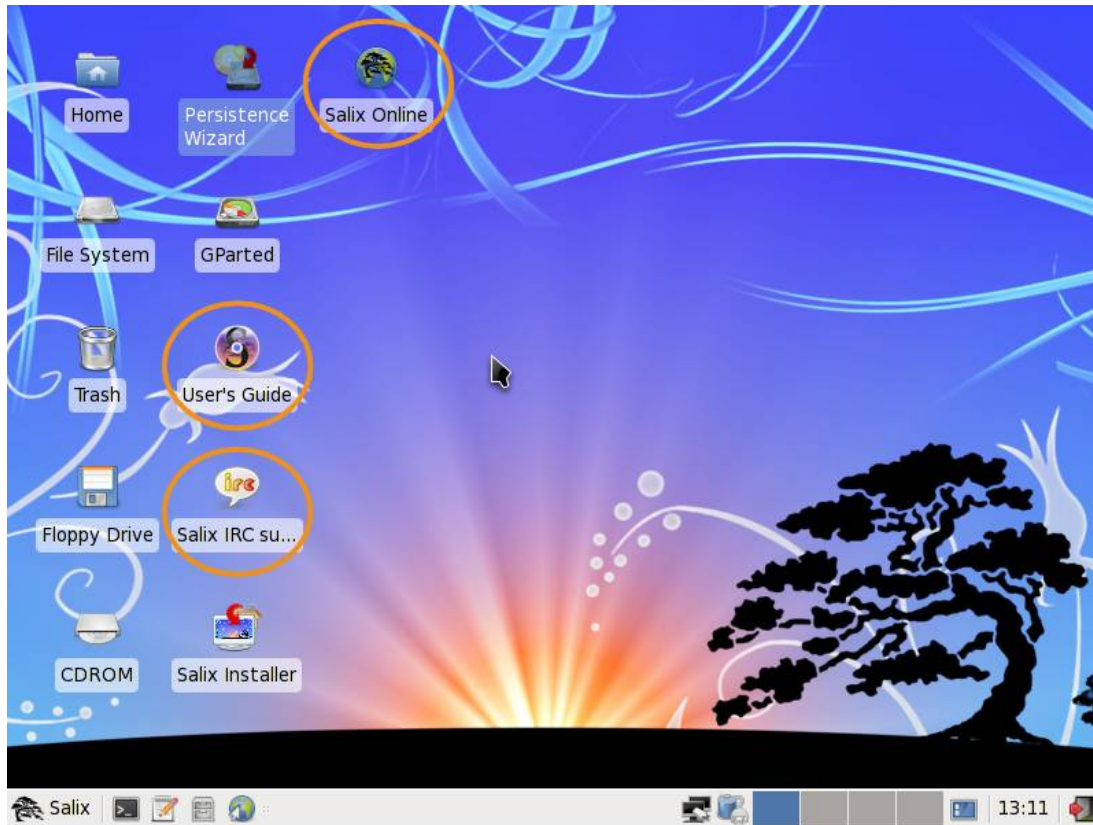
You should not forget to first press on the Update button to ensure that the latest updates from the software repositories are known to Gslapt.

Apart from this, everything is self-explanatory.



## Support

Support is available straight from Salix desktop:



If you are still quite new to either Salix, Slackware or even Linux in general, then you should first of all take some time to study Salix User's Guide as it is specifically aimed to be accessible to newcomers.

The desktop link, Salix Online, will bring you to Salix [Homepage](#). Our [Wiki](#) & [Forum](#) will be two other important sources of information. The search option of the forum will quickly show you if the question you have in mind has already been posted by a member of the community and if it has been answered.

You could also use the [IRC link](#) above to be in live communication with some member of the community & get instant help if necessary. If you do however, you might want to modify the default qwebircxxx login to something more personal & human readable.



## Presentation

### What is a Live CD?

A Live CD is a CD-ROM holding a self-contained bootable & fully functional operating system. It loads into memory using only data provided on the CD. It will not modify any operating system or data present on its host computer and will leave no trace after shutdown.

A Live USB flash drive is similar to a Live CD, but it can have the added functionality of automatically and transparently writing changes back to its bootable medium.

Salix Live is the Live CD version of [Salix OS](#). You can therefore safely use it to 'test drive' Salix OS without having to install anything on your computer. You will thus be able to determine whether and to what extent Salix OS is compatible with your particular hardware configuration & if it suits your personal tastes.

If you are fully satisfied with your Live experience of Salix OS, you can then proceed to install it with the help of Salix Live Installer

Salix Live will also come in handy as a mobile solution if you wish to carry Salix OS everywhere you go or if you need to perform some basic rescue operation such as fixing an ailing LILO bootloader with LiloSetup, configuring some partitions with Gparted, etc.

### What is an ISO image?

The latest Salix OS or Salix Live releases are freely & easily available as ISO image files from Salix OS [download page](#).

An ISO image is an archive file of an optical disc. It can be easily rendered or burned to a DVD or CD by using media authoring or disc burning software. The resulting CD must not contain the .iso file, or you made a mistake in the process.

If necessary, you can verify the integrity of your downloaded file by comparing its [md5sum](#) file with the original one uploaded besides the corresponding ISO image file by Salix OS.

You can also explode Salix Live ISO image on an [USB key](#).





## Boot procedure

### How to boot from Salix Live CD/DVD?

Your computer must be set to first try to boot on the optical drive before defaulting on the internal hard disk drive.

If that is the case, you simply need to feed Salix Live CD/DVD in the optical drive and start your computer.

If that is not the case, which is very rare, you will need to first enter the [BIOS](#) setup, usually by pressing the Del-key or the F2-key (or some other key combinations depending on your machine...). Once in the BIOS, find the "boot menu" and set the order of the boot devices properly, with your optical drive in first position. Save your changes & reboot your computer.

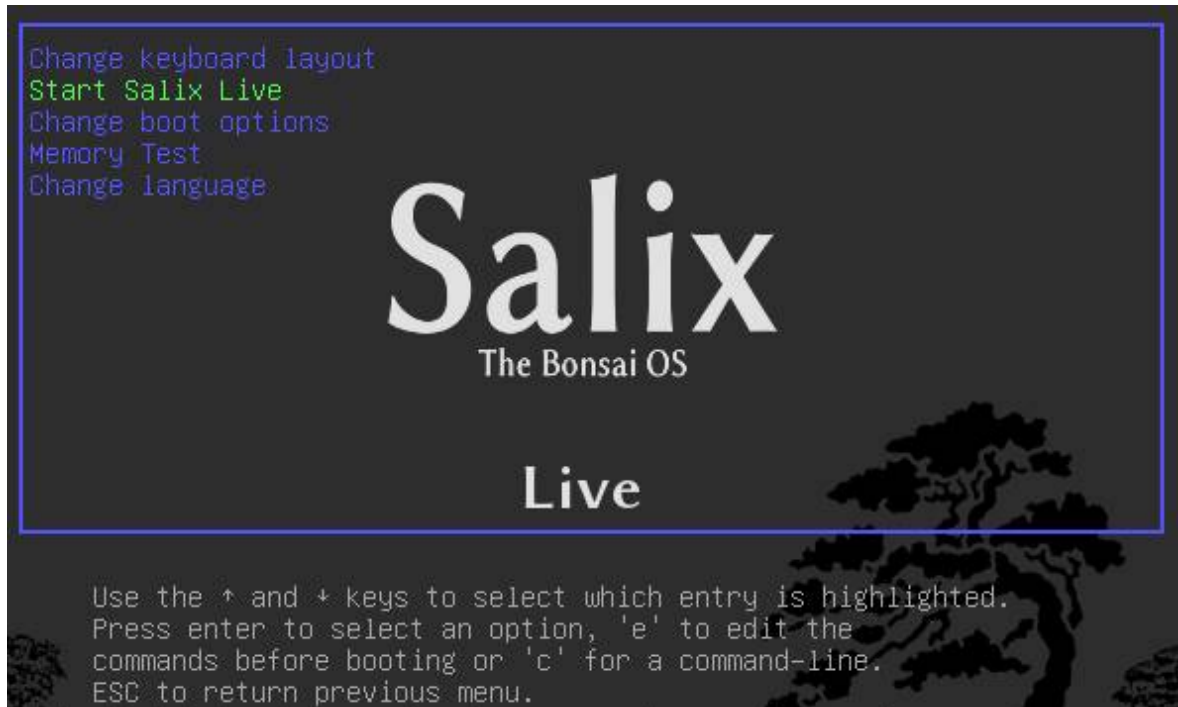
### Boot menu

The first screen to greet you will enable you to select your language. Once you have selected your language, simply press on the Enter key to activate your choice.



On the following menu, you will be given the possibility to change your keyboard map if the default one for your language does not suit you.

You also have the possibility to [modify most default boot settings](#).  
Simply press Enter on the default menu entry: Start Salix Live & a moment later you will enter [Xfce desktop](#).



## Live Tools

### Administrator (root) password

All Live Tools require [administrator's right](#) & will ask you for the (root) password.

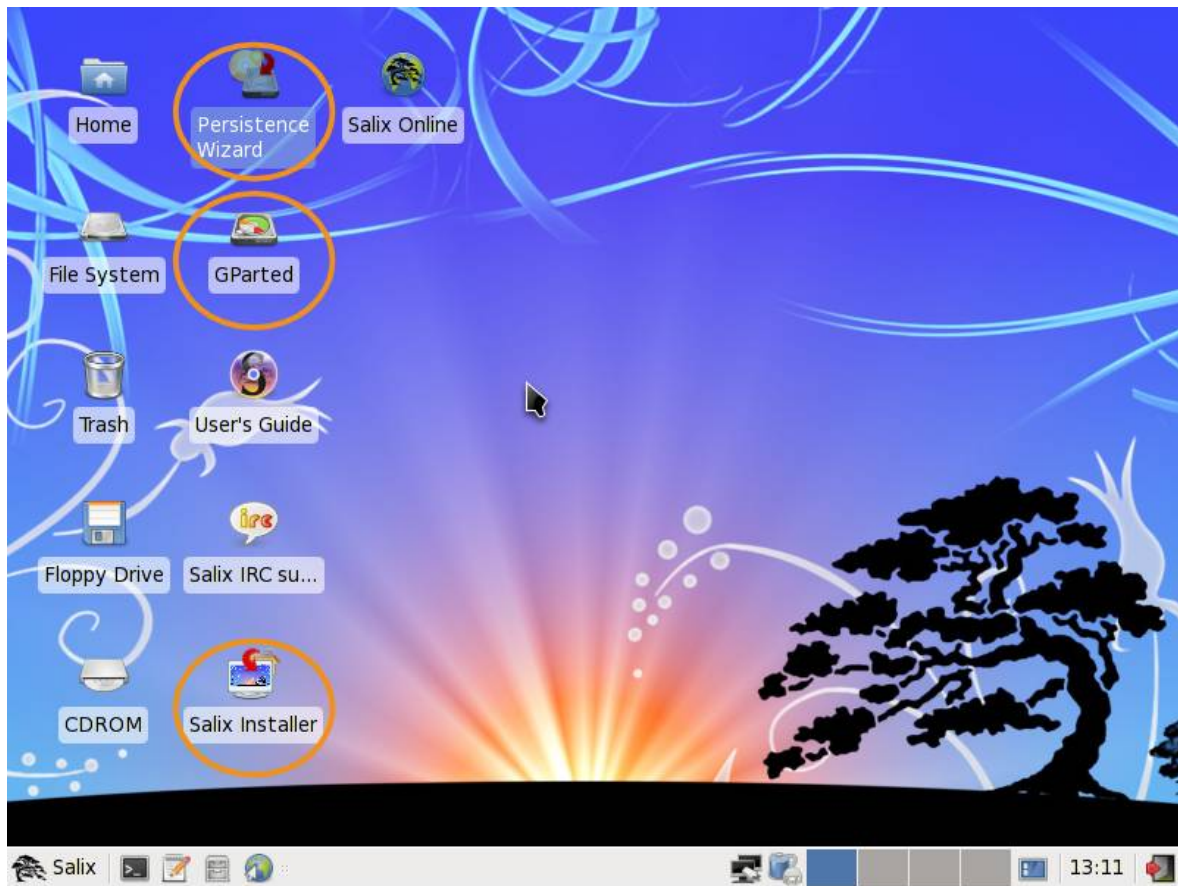
Salix Live root password is: **live**

### What are the Live Tools?

Salix Live comes with all the default [software](#) included in Salix OS.

However due to its Live nature it also includes some extra utilities which are either needed or simply very useful in a Live session.

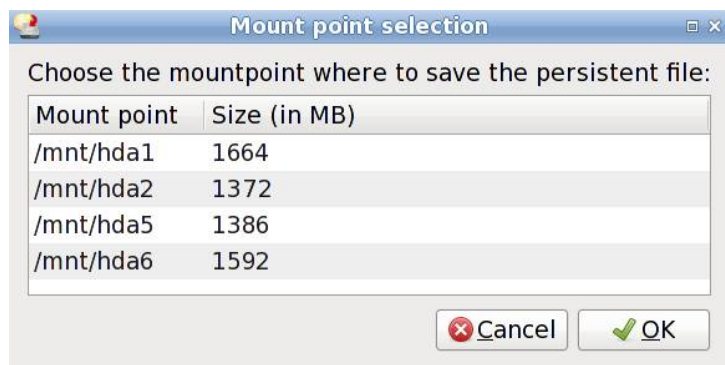
Some of the Live Tools are graphical utilities that can be accessed directly on the desktop while some Live Tools, reserved for advanced users can only be executed in a Terminal, from the command line ([CLI](#)).



## The Persistence Wizard

Even if run from a CD/DVD, Salix Live gives you the possibility to save any of your work or modification performed while in a Live session.

To do this however, you must first create a special "persistent file" which will have a pre-decided fixed-size and will be formatted as a Linux file system.



**Important!** Once this file has been created, it is necessary to reboot the Live CD. From then on, Salix Live will begin to monitor any change you perform & will record them in the new persistent file.

To remove any changes and come back to the default settings, simply delete the persistent file (slxsave.xfs) from the [mount point](#) it was initially created on.

## Gparted

Gparted is included in Salix Live to assist you in [managing your partitions](#) if it is necessary for you to do so before performing the installation of Salix OS.

## Salix Live Installer

Salix Live Installer will enable you to [install Salix OS](#) from the comfort of Salix Live graphical environment.

## Linux Live Scripts:

Like most Live CDs based on Slackware, Salix Live is relying on the [Linux Live Scripts](#) technology. Some of the shell scripts it includes will enable an advanced user to fully [customize & re-master](#) Salix Live to better suit its own need.

## Salix Live Scripts

In order to bypass certain limitations or to complement some of the third-party technology it uses, Salix developed its own set of patches & scripts which for the most part need no user interaction while some can be executed, for instance to facilitate the creation of a [Salix Live USB Flash Disk](#).

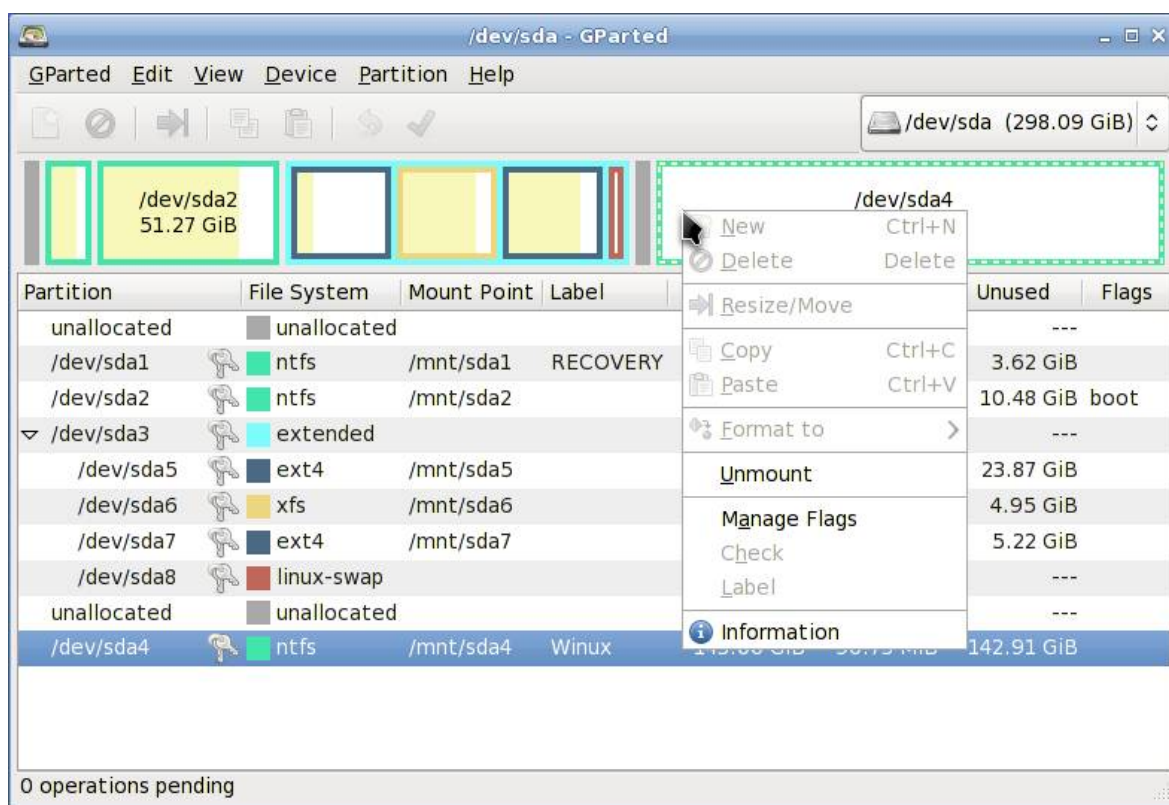


## Partition Management

A disk device can be subdivided into one or more partitions. Before executing Salix Live Installer, you should already have the necessary partitions available on your system.

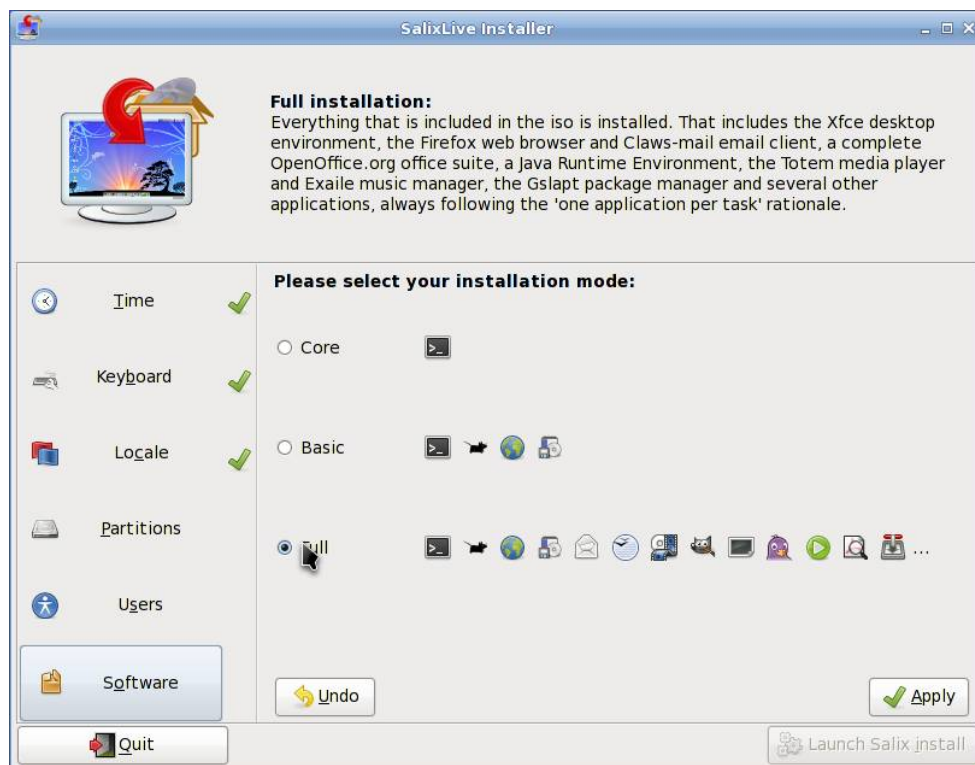
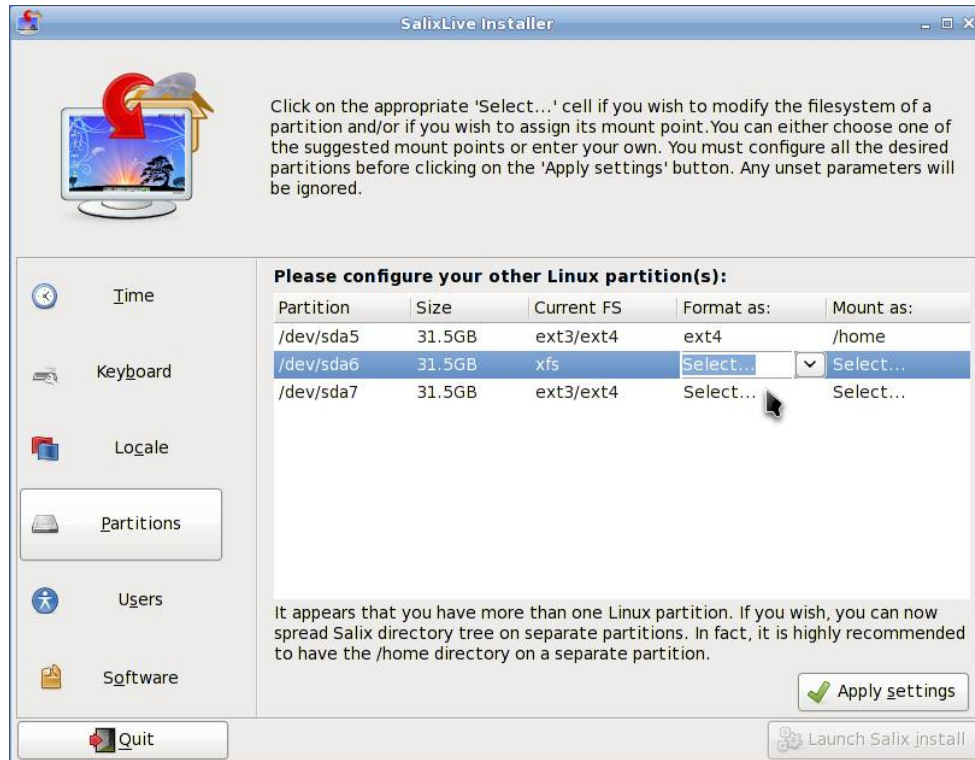
Salix needs, at the very minimum, one swap partition and one Linux partition to hold its main directory tree. If possible, it is recommended to also have at least another Linux partition to hold your /home directory.

If you do not already have these needed partitions ready, you may want to use Gparted to create them first. [Gparted](#) will enable you to change the partition organization on a disk device while preserving the contents of the partitions.



# Salix Live Installer

Salix Live Installer is very easy to use. Contextual help triggered by the position of the mouse will be displayed above the application & will guide you every step of the way.



## ***LiloSetup***

Once the installation process is completed, You will be given the choice to launch [LiloSetup](#) to configure your LILO bootloader. Most of the time this is what you will want to do although on some occasion, it might be preferable not to, for example if you want to use Grub instead or if you want to simply incorporate Salix in an already existing bootloader configured from another distribution in a multiple boot setup.

LiloSetup is also very easy to use. Contextual help triggered by the position of the mouse will be displayed above the application & will guide you every step of the way.



## Customizing Salix Live

***Linux Live Scripts***

***Advanced Boot Options***

***Personalizing Modules***

***Live USB Flash Drive***