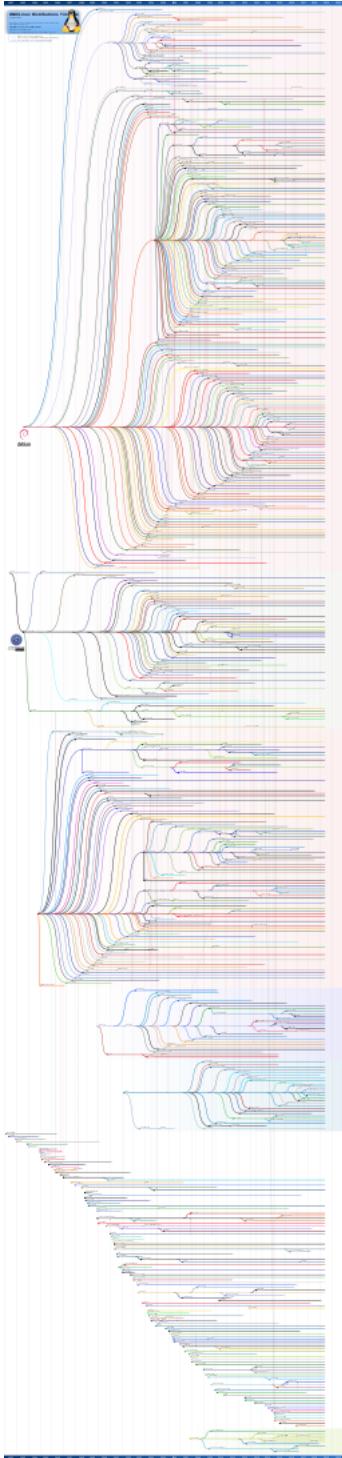


List of Linux distributions

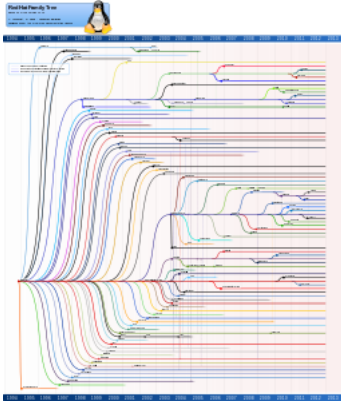
This article has multiple issues. Please help [improve it](#) or discuss these is [Learn more](#)

This page provides general information about notable [Linux distributions](#) in the form of a categorized list. Distributions are organized into sections by the major distribution they are based on, or the [package management system](#) they are based around.



Timeline of the development of various Linux distributions

RPM-based



Red Hat family tree

Red Hat Linux and SUSE Linux were the original major distributions that used the .rpm file format, which is today used in several package management systems. Both of these were later divided into commercial and community-supported distributions. Red Hat Linux was divided

into a community-supported but Red Hat-sponsored distribution named Fedora, and a commercially supported distribution called Red Hat Enterprise Linux, whereas SUSE was divided into openSUSE and SUSE Linux Enterprise

Distribution	Description
<u>Red Hat Linux</u>	Split into <u>Fedora Core</u> and <u>Red Hat Enterprise Linux</u> . The last official release of the unsplit distribution was Red Hat Linux 9 in March 2003.
<u>CentOS</u>	Community-supported Linux distribution designed as an OpenSource version of RHEL and well suited for servers. Now sponsored by <u>Red Hat</u> . ^[1]
<u>Fedora</u>	Community-supported Linux distribution sponsored by <u>Red Hat</u> .
<u>openSUSE</u>	A community-developed Linux distribution, sponsored by <u>SUSE</u> . It maintains a strict policy of ensuring all code in the standard installs will be from <u>FOSS</u> solutions, including <u>Linux</u> kernel Modules. <u>SUSE's enterprise Linux products</u> are all based on the codebase that comes out of the openSUSE project.
<u>Mandrake Linux</u>	The first release was based on Red Hat Linux (version 5.1) and <u>KDE</u> 1 in July 1998. It had since moved away from Red Hat's distribution and became a completely separate distribution. The name was changed to Mandriva, which included a number of original tools, mostly to ease system configuration. Mandriva Linux was the brainchild of <u>Gaël Duval</u> , who wanted to focus on ease of use for new users.

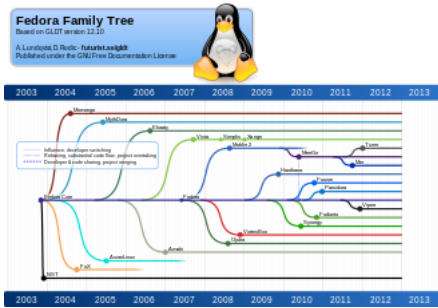
CentOS/RHEL-based

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Distribution	Description
<u>Asianux</u>	A Linux distribution co-developed between <u>Red Flag Software Co., Ltd.</u> , <u>Miracle Linux Corp.</u> and <u>Haansoft, INC.</u> , focused on Chinese, Japanese and Korean support.
<u>ClearOS</u>	A Linux distribution designed for use in small and medium enterprises.
<u>Fermi Linux LTS</u>	Based on Scientific Linux. ^[2]
<u>Miracle Linux</u>	Developed by Japanese software vendor Miracle Linux Co., Ltd
<u>Oracle Linux</u>	Supported by <u>Oracle</u> . Aims to be fully compatible with Red Hat Enterprise Linux.
<u>Red Flag Linux</u>	A Linux distribution developed in China and optimized for the Chinese market. Based on Asianux.
<u>Rocks Cluster Distribution</u>	A Linux distribution for building a High-Performance Computing computer cluster, with a recent release supporting Cloud computing. It is based on <u>Red Hat Enterprise Linux</u> but with extensions to support large multi-node heterogeneous systems for clusters (HPC), Cloud, and Data Warehousing (in development).
<u>Rocky Linux</u>	A Linux distribution that is currently in development by the CentOS founder, Gregory Kurtzer, aims to be compatible with Red Hat Enterprise Linux.
<u>Scientific Linux</u>	A discontinued Linux distribution co-developed by <u>Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory</u> and the <u>European Organization for Nuclear Research</u> (CERN), which aims to be compatible with and based on <u>Red Hat Enterprise Linux</u> .
<u>Amazon Linux 2</u>	Amazon Linux 2 is available as an <u>Amazon Machine Image (AMI)</u> for use on Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2). It is also available as a Docker container image and as a virtual machine image for use on Kernel-based Virtual Machine (KVM), Oracle VM VirtualBox, Microsoft Hyper-V, and VMware ESXi

Fedora-based

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Fedora family tree

Fedora is a community supported distribution. It aims to provide the latest software while maintaining a completely Free Software system.^[3]

Distribution	Description
<u>Berry Linux</u>	A medium-sized Fedora-based distribution that provides support in Japanese and English.
<u>BLAG Linux and GNU</u>	A completely free software distribution.
<u>EnGarde Secure Linux</u>	Server-only Linux distribution designed to be secure. ^[4]
<u>Fuduntu</u>	Designed to fit in somewhere between Fedora and Ubuntu.
<u>Hanthana</u>	Designed to cater the needs of Sri Lankan computer users who are unable to access Internet frequently, with many most-wanted applications built in.
<u>Korora</u>	Initially aimed at easy installation of a Gentoo system by using install scripts instead of manual configuration. Now based on Fedora.
<u>Linpus Linux</u>	Focused on the Chinese market, along with Linpus Lite focused on the <u>netbook</u> market.
<u>Linux XP</u>	Fedora-based shareware distribution designed to imitate the Windows environment using <u>GNOME</u> .
<u>MeeGo</u>	Built by Intel and Nokia, intended for mobile phones (mainly <u>Nokia N9</u>) and tablets. It is based on Moblin together with Maemo.
<u>Moblin</u>	Built around the Intel Atom processor; supplanted by Meego when Intel and (temporarily) Nokia combined activities
<u>Network Security Toolkit</u>	A Live CD/DVD with security and networking tools to perform routine security and networking diagnostic and monitoring tasks.
<u>Qubes OS</u>	Focused on security for desktop users. Based on an "ancient" Fedora release which we are somewhere said it to upgrade under <u>YUM</u> .
<u>Russian Fedora Remix</u>	A remix of Fedora.
<u>Sugar-on-a-Stick Linux</u>	An educational operating system, originally designed for the <u>One-Laptop-Per-Child project</u> .
<u>Trustix</u>	A Linux distribution focused on security. ^[5]
<u>Yellow Dog</u>	For the <u>PowerPC</u> platform.

openSUSE-based

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Distribution	Description
<u>SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop</u>	Previously branded Novell Linux Desktop. A desktop-oriented Linux distribution supplied by <u>SUSE</u> and targeted at the enterprise market.
<u>SUSE Linux Enterprise Server</u>	A server-oriented Linux distribution supplied by <u>SUSE</u> and targeted at the business market.
<u>SUSE Studio</u>	SUSE studio is the <u>HTML5</u> frontend over <u>KIWI</u> .
<u>GeckoLinux</u>	A distribution with a focus on polish and out-of-the-box desktop usability. It is available in <i>Static</i> and <i>Rolling</i> versions, based on openSUSE Leap and Tumbleweed.

urpmi-based

...

Distribution	Description
<u>Mandriva Linux</u>	Open-source distribution (with exceptions), discontinued in 2011.
<u>Mageia</u>	A community Linux distribution initially forked from Mandriva Linux in response to the discontinuation of free versions of Mandriva Linux.
<u>ROSA Linux</u>	A Russian distribution available in three different editions: ROSA Desktop Fresh, ROSA Enterprise Desktop and ROSA Enterprise Linux Server, with the latter two aiming at commercial users. Its desktop editions come bundled with <u>proprietary software</u> such as <u>Adobe Flash Player</u> , multimedia <u>codecs</u> and <u>Steam</u> .
<u>OpenMandriva</u>	The last release of Mandriva Linux was in August 2011. Most developers who were laid off went to Mageia.[5] Later on, the remaining developers teamed up with community members and formed OpenMandriva, a continuation of Mandriva.
<u>Unity Linux</u>	Meant to be a base for custom distributions.

apt-rpm based

...

<u>PCLinuxOS</u>	A <u>rolling release</u> Linux Live CD distribution. Originally based on Mandrake 9.2. Later rebased on <u>Mandriva</u> 2007.
<u>Vine Linux</u>	A Japanese distribution originally based on Red Hat Linux.
<u>ALT Linux</u>	ALT Linux is a set of <u>RPM</u> -based operating systems built on top of the Linux kernel and Sisyphus packages repository. ALT Linux has been developed collectively by ALT Linux Team developers community and ALT Linux Ltd.

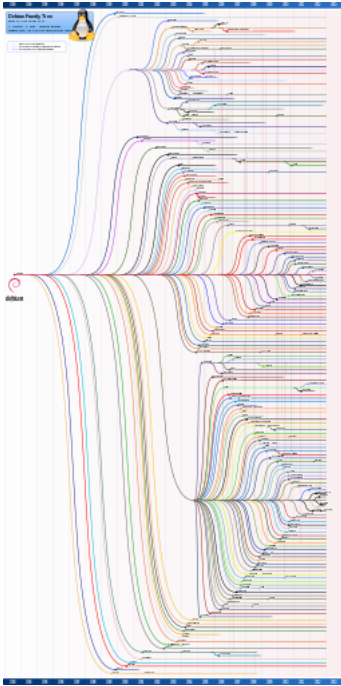
Independent RPM distributions

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Distributions using .rpm packages,
excluding derivatives of zypp, Fedora,
urpmi, and apt-rpm.

Distribution	Description
<u>Caldera</u> <u>OpenLinux</u>	A Linux distribution originally introduced by <u>Caldera</u> and later developed by its subsidiary <u>Caldera Systems</u> . It was later developed by <u>Caldera International</u> (which bought SCO and was renamed <u>The SCO Group</u>). The distribution is no longer produced. Last release: 3.1.1 – Jan. 30, 2002
<u>cAos Linux</u>	A general purpose Linux distribution. Designed to have low overhead, run on older hardware, and be easily customizable.
<u>Turbolinux</u>	Originally based on Red Hat Linux.

Debian-based



Debian family tree

Debian Linux is a distribution that emphasizes free software. It supports many hardware platforms. Debian and distributions based on it use the .deb package format^[6] and the dpkg package manager and its frontends (such as apt or synaptic).^[7]

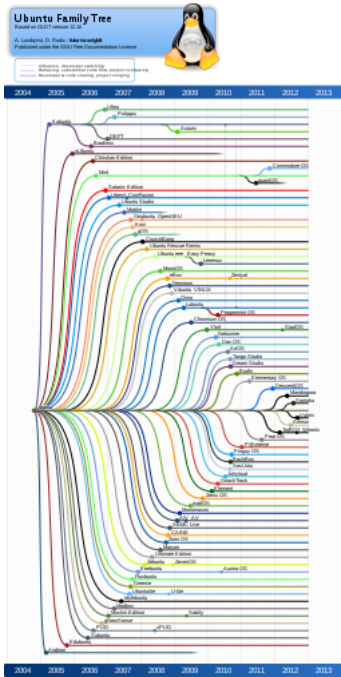
Debian (Testing) based

...

Distribution	Description
<u>BackTrack</u>	Developed by Offensive Security and designed for penetration testing. ^[8] In March 2013, the Offensive Security team rebuilt BackTrack around the Debian distribution and released it under the name <u>Kali Linux</u> . ^[9]
<u>gLinux</u>	gLinux Is a <u>Linux Distro</u> used for <u>Google</u> Employees.
<u>Kali Linux</u>	Made to be a completely customizable OS, used for penetration testing. It is based on Debian GNU/Linux and is used mostly by security experts ^[10]
<u>Parsix</u>	Optimized for personal computers and laptops. Built on top of Debian testing branch and comes with security support. ^[11]
<u>PureOS</u>	A GNU/Linux distribution based on Debian with a focus on privacy, security, and convenience. ^{[12][13][14][15]}
<u>Astra Linux</u>	A Russian Linux-based computer operating system developed to meet the needs of the Russian army, other armed forces and intelligence agencies. ^[16] It provides data protection up to the level of "top secret" in Russian classified information grade. It has been officially certified by Russian Defense Ministry, Federal Service for Technical and Export Control ^[17] and Federal Security Service. ^[18]
<u>Ubuntu</u>	A <u>free and open-source operating system</u> and <u>Linux distribution</u> based on <u>Debian</u> .

Ubuntu-based

...



Ubuntu family tree

Ubuntu is a distribution based on Debian, designed to have regular releases, a consistent user experience and commercial support on both desktops and servers.^[19]

Official distributions

These Ubuntu variants simply install a set of packages different from the original Ubuntu, but since they draw additional packages and updates from the same repositories as Ubuntu, all of the same software is available for each of them.^[20]

Distribution	Description
<u>Kubuntu</u>	An official derivative of Ubuntu Linux using <u>KDE</u> instead of the <u>GNOME</u> (or Unity) desktop environment used by default in Ubuntu. ^[21]
<u>Lubuntu</u>	An official derivative of the <u>Ubuntu operating system</u> that is "lighter, less resource hungry and more energy-efficient", using the <u>LXQt desktop environment</u> (used <u>LXDE</u> before 18.10). ^{[22][23][24]}
<u>Ubuntu Budgie</u>	An official derivative of Ubuntu using <u>Budgie</u> .
<u>Ubuntu Kylin</u>	An official derivative aimed at the Chinese market.
<u>Ubuntu MATE</u>	An official derivative of Ubuntu using <u>MATE</u> , a desktop environment forked from the now-defunct GNOME 2 code base, with an emphasis on the <u>desktop metaphor</u> . ^[25]
<u>Ubuntu Server</u>	An official derivative made for use in servers & <u>IBM mainframes</u> . Ubuntu Server handles mail, controls printers, acts as a fileserver, can host <u>LAMP</u> and more. ^[26]
<u>Ubuntu Studio</u>	Based on Ubuntu, providing open-source applications for multimedia creation aimed at the audio, video and graphic editors. ^[27]
<u>Xubuntu</u>	An official derivative of Ubuntu using <u>Xfce</u> . Xubuntu is intended for use on less-powerful computers or those who seek a highly efficient desktop environment on faster systems, and uses mostly <u>GTK</u> applications. ^[28]

Discontinued official distributions

E...

Distribution	Description
<u>Edubuntu</u>	A complete Linux based operating system that was targeted for <u>primary</u> and <u>secondary education</u> . Outdated versions are freely available with community-based support. The Edubuntu community is built on the ideas enshrined in the Edubuntu Manifesto: that software, especially for education, should be available <u>free of charge</u> and that software tools should be usable by people in their local language and despite any disabilities. ^[29]
<u>Gobuntu</u>	Gobuntu was an official derivative of the Ubuntu operating system, aiming to provide a distribution consisting entirely of <u>free software</u> . It was officially announced by Mark Shuttleworth on July 10, 2007, and daily builds of Gobuntu 7.10 began to be publicly released. The project ended around the release of 8.04 and has since merged into mainline Ubuntu as a 'free software' option. ^[30]
<u>Mythbuntu</u>	Based on Ubuntu and <u>MythTV</u> , providing applications for recording TV and acting as a media center. ^[31] On 4 November 2016 the development team announced the end of Mythbuntu as a separate distribution, citing insufficient developers.
<u>Ubuntu for Android</u>	Designed for use with <u>Android</u> phones. ^[32] No longer under active development.
<u>Ubuntu GNOME</u>	Formerly an official Ubuntu variant, ^[33] but since the main Ubuntu 17.10, which uses <u>GNOME Shell</u> as its default desktop and GDM as its display manager, this distro has been merged into mainline releases. ^[34]
<u>Ubuntu JeOS</u>	"Just Enough OS" – was described as "an efficient variant [...] configured specifically for <u>virtual appliances</u> ". ^[35] Since the release of Ubuntu 8.10 it has been included as an option as part of the standard Ubuntu Server Edition.
<u>Ubuntu Mobile</u>	An embedded operating system designed for use on <u>mobile devices</u> . The operating system will use <u>Hildon</u> from <u>maemo</u> as its <u>graphical frontend</u> . <u>Ubuntu Touch</u> is a successor to Ubuntu Mobile.
<u>Ubuntu Netbook Edition</u>	Netbook Edition was an official derivative of Ubuntu designed for <u>netbooks</u> using the <u>Intel Atom</u> processor. Starting from <u>Ubuntu 11.04</u> , Ubuntu Netbook Edition has been merged into the desktop edition. ^[36]
<u>Ubuntu Touch</u>	Designed for use with <u>touchscreen</u> devices.
<u>Ubuntu TV</u>	Designed for use with <u>TVs</u> . ^[37]

Third-party distributions

E...

Unofficial variants and derivatives are not controlled or guided by Canonical Ltd. and generally have different goals in mind.

Distribution	Description
<u>BackBox</u>	BackBox is a Linux distribution based on Ubuntu. It has been developed to perform penetration tests and security assessments. Designed to be fast, easy to use and provide a minimal yet complete desktop environment, thanks to its own software repositories, always being updated to the latest stable version of the most used and best known ethical hacking tools. ^[38]
<u>BackSlash Linux</u>	BackSlash Linux is an Ubuntu and Debian-based operating system for AMD64 and Intel x64 based Personal Computers developed in India. It is based on free software and every release of the operating System is named after the characters of the Disney blockbuster, <i>Frozen</i> . ^[39]
<u>Bodhi Linux</u>	An Ubuntu-based Linux distribution featuring the Moksha Desktop environment and targeting users who want a minimum of preinstalled software or low system requirements. ^[40]
<u>Cub Linux</u>	Ubuntu-based distribution designed to mimic the desktop appearance and functionality of <u>Chrome OS</u> . ^{[41][42][43]}
<u>dyne:bolic</u>	<u>Live CD</u> geared toward multimedia (audio and video) production, but comes with other non-media specific application (e.g. word processor, desktop publisher) ^[44]
<u>EasyPeasy</u>	Fork of Ubuntu designed for netbooks ^[45]
<u>Eeebuntu</u>	Specifically for the Eee PC range of netbooks, based on Debian. Also rebranded as Aurora OS. ^[46]
<u>Element OS</u>	Based on <u>Xubuntu</u> , made for <u>Home theater PCs</u> ^[47]
<u>elementary OS</u>	A distribution focussing mainly on non-technical users, has a <u>pay-what-you-want</u> model. ^[48]
<u>Emmabuntüs</u>	Based on <u>Xubuntu</u> designed to facilitate the repacking of computers donated to <u>Emmaüs Communities</u> . ^[49]
<u>GalliumOS</u>	GalliumOS is a <u>Linux distribution</u> for <u>Chrome OS</u> devices, developed by the community-supported GalliumOS project. Gallium is based on <u>Xubuntu</u> and maintains compatibility with the <u>Ubuntu</u> repositories. ^[50]
<u>GendBuntu</u>	A version adapted for use by <u>France's National Gendarmerie</u> .
<u>Goobuntu</u>	An Ubuntu-based distribution that was used internally by <u>Google</u> (until changing to non-Ubuntu, Debian-based <u>GLinux</u>); not available outside of Google
<u>gOS</u>	Used the GNOME desktop environment with user interface enhancements to

	make it work more like <u>Mac OS X</u> , it also featured <u>Google Apps</u> , <u>Picasa</u> , <u>Google Gadgets</u> and other web-based applications, and came with <u>Wine 1.0</u> pre-installed. Now discontinued.
<u>Joli OS</u>	Joli OS (formerly named Jolicloud) is in development and Pre-beta testing. Joli OS is built upon Debian and Ubuntu 9.10, but is tweaked to be more suitable for computers that have weaker specifications in terms of disk storage, memory and screen size. It is designed to run on relatively low-powered netbook computers. ^[51]
<u>Karoshi</u>	A formerly <u>PCLinuxOS</u> -based distribution designed for use in schools. ^[52]
<u>KDE neon</u>	Focused on the development of KDE. The emphasis is on <u>bleeding edge software packages</u> sourced directly from <u>KDE</u> and offers <u>programmers</u> early access to new <u>features</u> , but potentially at the cost of greater susceptibility to <u>software bugs</u> . ^[53]
<u>LiMux</u>	A project by the city council of <u>Munich, Germany</u> .
<u>Linux Lite</u>	The purpose of Linux Lite is to introduce <u>Windows</u> users to <u>Linux</u> , and provide them with a comfortable and useful user experience. It is designed to be simple and suitable for new <u>Linux</u> users who want a lightweight, highly responsive, and fully functional environment. ^[54]
<u>Linux Mint</u>	Linux Mint synchronizes its release-cycle with Ubuntu's long term support, and is tailored to user-friendliness for desktop users. ^[55] Linux Mint Debian Edition (LMDE) is Mint's Debian stable based version. Its purpose is to use Debian base packages/kernel under the hood should Ubuntu ever disappear. It's also used by Mint developers to develop their Cinnamon desktop.
<u>LinuxMCE</u>	<i>Linux Media Center Edition</i> , a Kubuntu-based distribution that provides in-depth HTPC functionality as well as home automation. ^[56]
<u>LinuxTLE</u>	A Thai Linux distribution ^[57]
<u>LliureX</u>	A distribution by the <u>Generalitat Valenciana</u> ^[58]
<u>MAX</u>	Stands for <i>Madrid Linux</i> ^[59]
<u>Molinux</u>	Ubuntu based initiative to introduce the <u>Castile-La Mancha</u> community in Spain to the information society. ^[60]
<u>Netrunner</u>	Kubuntu based distribution with complete software and codecs installed, developed by <u>Blue Systems</u> (also sponsoring Kubuntu and LinuxMintKDE). ^[61]
<u>Nova</u>	<u>Cuban</u> state-sponsored distribution developed at the <u>University of Information</u>

	Science , Havana . Formerly based on Gentoo.
OpenGEU	Ubuntu based distribution with Enlightenment window manager, previously known as Geubuntu. ^[62]
Peppermint OS	A light-weight LXDE distribution for cloud applications through its own Ice Framework using the Chromium Web Browser. Based on Lubuntu ^[63]
Pinguy OS	An Ubuntu-based distro for people that have never used Linux before or for people that want an out-of-the-box working OS without having to tweak a fresh installation of Ubuntu or other Ubuntu-based distro. ^[64]
Pop! OS	An Ubuntu-based distro developed by System76 predominantly for use on hardware that they manufacture.
Poseidon Linux	For academic and scientific use. Based on Ubuntu, but enhanced by GIS/maps, numerical modelling, 2D/3D/4D visualization, statistics, tools for creating simple and complex graphics, programming languages.
Sabily	Ubuntu based distribution for Muslims (formerly Ubuntu Muslim Edition) ^[65]
Trisquel GNU/Linux	Fully free-software system without proprietary software or firmware and uses the Linux-libre kernel, based on Ubuntu LTS Releases ^[66]
UberStudent	For higher education and advanced secondary students, those who teach them, and lifelong learners ^[67]
Ubuntu Unity	Using the Unity (user interface) ^[68]
Ututo	Ututo UL ("Ubuntu-Libre") Distributes Simusol, a system to simulate Solar Energy projects, returned to the heart of the project. ^[69]
Vinux	A Linux distribution designed for visually impaired users ^[70]
Zorin OS	Zorin OS is a user-friendly distribution that can emulate Microsoft Windows or Mac OSX . It is meant for users unfamiliar with Linux. ^[71]

Debian (Stable) based

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Distribution	Description
<u>Astra Linux</u>	A distrubution developed for the <u>Russian Army</u> with raised security. ^[72]
<u>Bharat Operating System Solutions (BOSS)</u>	An Indian Linux distribution ^[73]
<u>Canaima</u>	A Venezuelan Linux distribution. ^[74]
<u>Corel Linux</u>	Short-lived commercial desktop Linux distribution, bought by <u>Xandros Linux</u> . ^[75]
<u>CrunchBang Linux</u>	A small Linux Distro and Live CD based on Debian Stable, featuring the <u>Openbox</u> window manager and tint2 panel with <u>GTK+</u> applications. ^[76] Development has ended for CrunchBang as of February, 2015. ^[77]
<u>Deepin</u>	A Debian-based Chinese Linux Distribution developed by Wuhan Deepin Technology Co.
<u>Devuan</u>	A fork of Debian begun in 2014 with the primary goal of allowing user choice in <u>init</u> systems, by decoupling software packages from <u>systemd</u> . ^[78]
<u>Dreamlinux</u>	A discontinued Brazilian Linux distribution.
<u>Emdebian Grip</u>	A small-footprint Linux distribution based on and compatible with Debian, intended for use on resource-limited embedded systems. ^[79]
<u>Finnix</u>	A small system-administration Live CD that is available for multiple architectures ^[80]
<u>gNewSense</u>	Originally based on <u>Ubuntu</u> and later upon <u>Debian</u> , and developed with sponsorship from the <u>Free Software Foundation</u> . Its goal is user-friendliness, but with all <u>proprietary</u> (e.g. <u>binary blobs</u>) and non-free software removed.
<u>grml</u>	Live CD for system recovery ^[81]
<u>HandyLinux</u>	Designed for <u>senior citizens</u> running old computers for which <u>Windows</u> has become too slow ^[82]
<u>Kanotix</u>	An installable live DVD/CD for desktop usage using KDE and LXDE, focusing on convenient scripts and GUI for ease of use. ^[83]
<u>Knoppix</u>	The first Live CD (later DVD) version of <u>Debian</u> .
<u>Kurumin</u>	Earlier, it was a version of the Knoppix distribution, modified with Debian and designed for <u>Brazilian</u> users.

<u>LEAF Project</u>	The Linux Embedded Appliance Framework. A tiny primarily floppy-based distribution for routers, firewalls and other appliances. ^[84]
<u>LiMux</u>	An <u>ISO 9241</u> industry workplace certified Linux distribution, deployed at the <u>City of Munich</u> , Germany. ^[85]
<u>Maemo</u>	A development platform for hand held devices such as the <u>Nokia N800</u> , <u>N810</u> , and <u>Nokia N900</u> Internet Tablets and other Linux kernel-based devices. ^[86]
<u>MEPIS</u>	Focuses on ease of use. Also includes a lightweight variant called antiX. antiX is meant to be used on older computers with limited hardware. There is also a Xfce distro called <u>MX Linux</u> that's based on <u>Debian</u> Stable.
<u>MintPPC</u>	For PowerPC computers. Although MintPPC uses some Linux Mint Debian Edition code, it is not Linux Mint. ^[87]
<u>Musix GNU+Linux</u>	Intended for music production, graphic design, audio, video editing, and other tasks. It is built with only <u>free software</u> . ^[88]
<u>NepaLinux</u>	A Debian- and Morphix-based distribution focused for desktop usage in Nepali language computing. ^[89]
<u>OpenZaurus</u>	Debian packages and ROM image for the <u>Sharp Zaurus PDA</u> . Replaced by <u>Ångström distribution</u> . ^[90]
<u>Pardus</u>	Developed by <u>Turkish National Research Institute of Electronics and Cryptology</u> . Prior to 2013 it used PISI as the package manager, with COMAR as the configuration framework. Starting with Pardus 2013, it is Debian-based.
<u>PelicanHPC</u>	Dedicated to setting up a <u>computer cluster</u> . ^[91]
<u>Raspberry Pi OS</u>	Desktop-oriented distribution, formerly called Raspbian. Developed by the <u>Raspberry Pi Foundation</u> as the official OS for their family of low-power single-board computers.
<u>Sacix</u>	Sacix is a <u>Debian</u> Pure Blend originally created to support the educational and free software diffusion goals of the Telecentres project of the city of <u>São Paulo, Brazil</u> .
<u>Skolelinux</u>	A Linux distribution from Norway, now the basepoint for and now synonymous to Debian EDU. It provides as a <u>thin client</u> distribution for schools. ^[92]
<u>Slax</u> (since version 4)	Slax is a light-weight <u>Linux</u> distribution now based on Debian, for low-powered computers. It's download size is about 300 MB, almost the same as Puppy Linux's. It can run from RAM, from Live CD, USB or Hard drive. It was previously based on Slackware.

<u>SolydXK</u>	<u>Xfce</u> and <u>KDE</u> desktop focused on stability, security and ease of use. ^[93]
<u>SparkyLinux</u>	SparkyLinux is a Debian-based Linux distribution which provides ready to use, out of the box operating system with a set of slightly customized lightweight desktops. Sparky is targeted to all the computer's users who want replace existing, proprietary driven OS to an open-sourced..
<u>SteamOS</u>	Debian-based and gaming-focused distribution developed by <u>Valve</u> and designed around the <u>Steam digital distribution platform</u> .
<u>Sunwah Linux</u>	A Chinese Linux distribution ^[94]
<u>Symphony OS</u>	Includes the <u>Mezzo</u> desktop environment. Previous versions were based on Knoppix. ^[95]
<u>The Amnesic Incognito Live System</u> (TAILS)	The Amnesic Incognito Live System' or Tails is aimed at preserving privacy and anonymity, with all outgoing connections forced to go through <u>Tor</u> . ^[96]
<u>TurnKey GNU/Linux</u>	Open source project developing a family of free, Debian-based appliances optimized for ease of use in server-type usage scenarios. ^[97] Based on Debian since 2012; previously based on Ubuntu.
<u>Univention Corporate Server</u>	Enterprise distribution with integrated IT infrastructure and identity management system by the company Univention GmbH, Germany. A full version for up to 5 users for tests and for private use can be downloaded for free. ^[98]
<u>Webconverger</u>	<u>Debian Live</u> based browser only distribution, similar to <u>Google Chrome OS</u> . However based on <u>Firefox</u> and <u>dwm</u> , with no user sign-in, no special hardware required and designed for public places. ^[99]
<u>Vyatta</u>	Commercial open source network operating system includes routing, firewall, VPN, intrusion prevention and more. Designed to be an open source Cisco replacement. ^[100]
<u>VyOS</u>	Free routing platform. Because VyOS is run on standard amd64, i586 and ARM systems, it is able to be used as a router and firewall platform for cloud deployments.

MEPIS-based

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Distribution	Description
<u>antiX</u>	It is comparatively lightweight and suitable for older computers, while also providing <u>kernel</u> and applications, as well as updates and additions via the <u>Aptitude</u> and Debian-compatible <u>repositories</u> .
<u>MX Linux</u>	A midweight OS based on Debian Stable with core components from <u>antiX</u> and using <u>Xfce</u> , offering simple configuration, high stability, solid performance and medium-sized footprint. ^[101]

Knoppix-based

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Knoppix family tree

Knoppix, itself, is based on Debian. It is a live distribution, with automated hardware configuration and a wide choice of

software, which is decompressed as it loads from the drive.^[102]

Distribution	Description
<u>Damn Small Linux</u>	A small Linux distro designed to run on older hardware. It is commonly used on <u>virtual machines</u> due to low memory requirements. ^[103]
<u>Feather Linux</u>	Boots from either a CD or a <u>USB flash drive</u> . Uses <u>Knoppix</u> -based hardware detection and the <u>Fluxbox</u> window manager. ^[104]
<u>Hikarunix</u>	A Linux distribution solely for studying and playing the game of <u>Go</u> . Based on Damn Small Linux. ^[105]

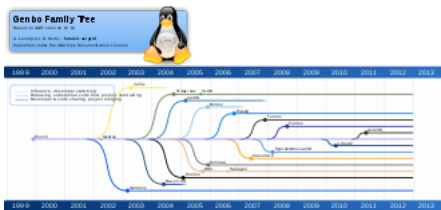
Pacman-based

Pacman is a package manager that is capable of resolving dependencies and automatically downloading and installing all necessary packages. It is primarily developed and used by Arch Linux and its derivatives.

Distribution	Description
<u>Anarchy</u>	A terminal-based Arch Linux installer on an ISO image
<u>ArchBang</u>	Based on Arch Linux, but also provides Live CDs with working system and graphical installation scripts; uses <u>Openbox</u> as default window manager.
<u>Arch Linux</u>	An <u>x86-64</u> -optimized distribution targeted at experienced users. Arch runs on a <u>rolling release</u> system and uses the <u>Pacman</u> utility for package management.
<u>Artix Linux</u>	Based on Arch Linux, but using <u>OpenRC</u> , <u>Runit</u> or <u>s6</u> as <u>init system</u> instead of <u>systemd</u> .
<u>ArchLabs</u>	Based on Arch Linux, with a custom installer, offers many choices of desktop environments and window managers.
<u>BlackArch</u>	A cybersecurity-focused OS based on Arch Linux. It is designed to test security and run penetration tests. It includes window managers preconfigured, but no desktop environment.
<u>Chakra Linux</u>	Originally derived from Arch Linux, with the latest <u>KDE</u> . For now uses the <u>Pacman</u> utility for package management. Strives to be Qt-only.
<u>EndeavourOS</u>	Continuation of <u>Antergos</u> .
<u>Frugalware Linux</u>	A general purpose Linux distribution designed for intermediate users. Has some influences from Slackware, and uses a heavily modified version of pacman, Pacman-G2, a fork of a <u>cvs</u> version of the complete rewrite of Pacman-G1 by Aurelien Foret (the old monolithic Pacman-G1 is written by <u>Judd Vinet</u>). The packages are <u>tar</u> archives compressed using <u>xz</u> . ^[106]
<u>Hyperbola GNU/Linux-libre</u>	An Arch and Debian derivative without any <u>blobs</u> , without systemd support and with <u>OpenRC</u> as its default init system. Packages are built for i686 and x64. Unlike Arch, Hyperbola uses the long-term support model like Debian.
<u>LinHES</u>	LinHES (Linux Home Entertainment Server) designed for use on home theater PCs (HTPCs), providing applications for recording TV and acting as a sound and video center.
<u>Manjaro</u>	Based on Arch Linux, using its own repositories and ships with either <u>Xfce</u> , <u>KDE</u> , <u>GNOME</u> , or the CLI as the default desktop environment. Additional community-driven editions are available that use <u>MATE</u> , <u>Cinnamon</u> , <u>Openbox</u> , <u>Awesome</u> , <u>i3</u> , <u>BSPWM</u> , or <u>Budgie</u> as a base.
<u>Parabola GNU/Linux-</u>	An Arch derivative without any <u>blobs</u> , plus various added packages. Packages are also built for ARMv7 in addition to i686 and x64. <u>MATE</u> and text-mode

<u>libre</u>	distributions available.
<u>SystemRescue</u>	Linux System rescue toolkit. Previously based on Gentoo, it has been based on Arch Linux since version 6.0.0

Gentoo-based

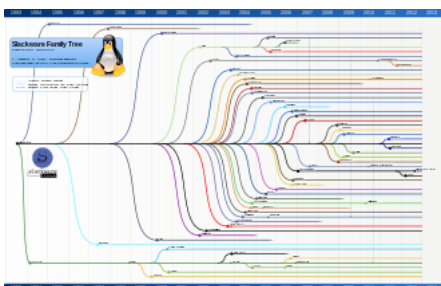


Gentoo family tree

Gentoo is a distribution designed to have highly optimized and frequently updated software.^[107] Distributions based on Gentoo use the Portage package management system with emerge^[108] or one of the alternative package managers.

Distribution	Description
<u>Calculate Linux</u>	Calculate Linux is a family of distributions.
<u>Chrome OS</u> ^[109]	<u>Chrome OS</u> ^[110] is used on various <u>Chromebooks</u> , <u>Chromeboxes</u> and <u>tablet computers</u> . It is primarily Internet-based, launching each app within the <u>Chrome</u> browser. The OS features a user interface that looks very similar to Chrome instead of <u>GNOME</u> , <u>Cinnamon</u> , <u>LXQt</u> , <u>Xfce</u> , etc.
<u>Chromium OS</u>	<u>Chromium OS</u> is the development version of <u>Chrome OS</u> , made by <u>Google</u> .
<u>Container Linux</u>	Linux distribution by <u>CoreOS</u> designed for clustered and containerized deployments with update subscription
<u>Knoppertisk</u>	A Linux distribution aimed at USB sticks.
<u>Pentoo</u>	Penetration-testing Live CD.
<u>Sabayon Linux</u>	Made in <u>Italy</u> . It is a European Linux distribution based on Gentoo. However, it follows the "out of the box" philosophy, aiming to give the user a wide number of applications ready to use and a self-configured operating system. Like Gentoo, Sabayon uses the <u>rolling release</u> model; it uses a customized version of Red Hat's Anaconda Installer and includes a Media Center application.
<u>Tin Hat Linux</u>	Based on hardened Gentoo, this distribution is based primarily on security.
<u>Ututo</u>	Made in <u>Argentina</u> .

Slackware-based



Slackware family tree

Slackware is known as a highly customizable distribution that stresses ease of maintenance and reliability over cutting-edge software and automated tools. It is generally considered a distribution for advanced users.

Distribution	Description
<u>Absolute Linux</u>	<u>Absolute Linux</u> is a <u>Light-weight Linux distribution</u> based on <u>Slackware</u>
<u>Austrumi Linux</u>	A 108 MB bootable <u>live CD</u> as of version 1.9.3
<u>Frugalware Linux</u>	A general-purpose Linux distribution designed for intermediate users who are familiar with command-line operations. Early versions were based on Slackware, but it is now an independently developed distribution.
<u>KateOS</u>	A desktop distribution aimed at intermediate users. It uses <u>Xfce</u> as its default desktop environment. No longer in development.
<u>MuLinux</u>	Floppy-based Linux distribution with replaceable modules
<u>NimbleX</u>	Completely customizable through the NimbleX website. Now no longer producing new versions.
<u>Platypux</u>	A French Linux distribution of the Slackware family
<u>Salix OS</u>	Originally a fork of Zenwalk, Salix is a complete Linux distribution fully backwards compatible with Slackware. It uses <u>Xfce</u> , <u>KDE</u> , <u>LXDE</u> , <u>Fluxbox</u> or <u>Ratpoison</u> as its default desktop environment. Salix OS is available as 32 and 64bit version, and also as Live CD versions.
<u>Sentry Firewall</u>	A firewall, server, or <u>intrusion detection system</u> distribution
<u>Slackintosh</u>	An unofficial port of Slackware to the <u>PowerPC</u> architecture
<u>Slax</u> (until version 4)	A <u>live CD</u> which aims to provide a complete desktop for general use. Permanent installation of Slax is not recommended or supported; it is designed for "live" use only. Also can be run from a USB flash drive.
<u>SuperGamer</u>	A <u>Live DVD</u> distribution focused on <u>gaming</u>
<u>Topologilinux</u>	Designed to run from within <u>Microsoft Windows</u> , Topologilinux can be installed without any changes to the user's hard disk. Outdated.
<u>VectorLinux</u>	A lightweight Linux distribution designed to be easy to use even for new users. Generally considered well-suited for older hardware.
<u>Zenwalk</u>	Originally a minimal version of Slackware, Zenwalk has evolved into a very different operating system; however, compatibility with Slackware is still maintained.

Slax-based

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Distribution	Description
DNALinux	A small Linux distribution designed for running bioinformatics software , including BLAST and EMBOSS .
Porteus	A small Linux distro based on Sector

Source based

Distribution	Description
Linux From Scratch	A distribution and book on how to build GNU/Linux from its source code along with bootstrapping the GNU-tool-chain's sources.
Lunar Linux	A distribution in which all packages are built from source. It is, in a sense, a Linux from Scratch framework.
Guix System	A distribution built around the GNU Guix package manager, which provides purely functional package management with build automation, build isolation, easy system upgrades and rollbacks, and an emphasis on free software. ^[111]

Independent

The following distributions can not be categorized under the preceding sections.

Distribution	Description
<u>Alpine Linux</u>	A security-oriented, lightweight Linux distribution based on <u>musl</u> and <u>BusyBox</u> . Has a derivative, <u>postmarketOS</u> , for mobile devices.
<u>Android</u>	Android is a mobile operating system bought and currently being developed by <u>Google</u> , based on a Google modified <u>Linux kernel</u> and designed primarily for touchscreen mobile devices such as <u>smartphones</u> and <u>tablets</u> . ^[112]
<u>Billix</u>	A live CD or live USB system administration toolkit and multi-boot distribution with the ability to install any of the included distributions.
<u>Clear Linux</u>	Clear Linux OS is an open source, rolling release Linux distribution created and maintained by <u>Intel</u> . Its kernel and packages include performance optimizations for Intel-based hardware. ^[113]
<u>CRUX</u>	CRUX is a lightweight, <u>x86-64</u> -optimized Linux distribution targeted at experienced users. The focus is " <u>keep it simple</u> ", which is reflected in a simple <u>tar.xz</u> -based package system, <u>BSD</u> -style initscripts, and a relatively small collection of trimmed packages
<u>CyanogenMod/CyanogenOS</u>	CyanogenMod is a discontinued open-source operating system for mobile devices, based on the <u>Android</u> mobile platform. <u>LineageOS</u> is an actively maintained <u>fork</u> of CyanogenMod. ^{[114][115]}
<u>DD-WRT</u>	Embedded firewall Linux distribution
<u>Dragora GNU/Linux-Libre</u>	A Linux distribution written entirely from scratch ^[116] and sharing some similarities with <u>Slackware</u> . Approved by the GNU Project as a <u>free</u> operating system. ^[117]
<u>ELinOS</u>	Linux distribution for <u>embedded systems</u> by <u>SYSGO</u> . <u>ELinOS</u> focuses on industrial application and provides <u>real-time extensions</u> .
<u>Fire OS</u>	Amazon Fire OS is an <u>Android</u> -based mobile operating system produced by <u>Amazon</u> for its Fire Phone and Kindle Fire range of tablets, Echo and Echo Dot, and other content delivery devices

	like Fire TV; the tablet versions of the Kindle e-readers are the Fire range.
<u>Firefox OS</u>	Firefox OS is a discontinued open-source operating system – made for smartphones, tablet computers and smart TVs – designed by <u>Mozilla</u> and external contributors.
<u>fli4l</u>	A router and firewall Linux distribution ^[118]
<u>Foresight Linux</u>	A <u>rolling release</u> Linux distribution built around the <u>Conary</u> package manager.
<u>GeeXboX</u>	<u>Live CD</u> media center Linux distribution, mainly to play special-encoded video files (e.g.: .ogg, XVID) on home theater.
<u>Guix System Distribution</u> (Guix System)	Declarative Linux distribution with atomic upgrades and rollbacks built on top of the <u>GNU Guix</u> package manager. Supports amongst others unprivileged package management and per-user profiles.
<u>GoboLinux</u>	An alternative Linux distribution which redefines the <u>file system</u> hierarchy by installing everything belonging to one application in one folder under /Programs, and using symlinks from /System and its subfolders to point to the proper files.
<u>Jlime</u>	Linux distribution for the <u>HP Jornada</u> 6xx and 7xx and <u>NEC MobilePro 900(c)</u> handhelds.
<u>KaiOS</u>	KaiOS is a mobile operating system based on <u>Linux</u> , developed by <u>KaiOS Technologies</u> , a US-based company.
<u>Lightweight Portable Security</u> (LPS) ^[119]	A distribution created by the <u>United States Department of Defense</u> that boots entirely in <u>RAM</u>
<u>LineageOS</u>	LineageOS is a <u>free and open-source operating system</u> for <u>smartphones</u> , <u>tablet computers</u> , and <u>set-top boxes</u> , based on the <u>Android</u> mobile platform.
<u>Linux Router Project</u>	Embedded networking appliance progenitor (defunct).
<u>Lunar Linux</u>	A source code-based Linux distribution descended from <u>Sorcerer</u> .
<u>MCC Interim Linux</u>	Possibly the first Linux distribution, created by the Manchester Computing Centre in February 1992
<u>MeeGo</u>	MeeGo is a discontinued <u>Linux distribution</u> hosted by <u>the Linux Foundation</u> , using source code from the operating systems

	Moblin (produced by Intel) and Maemo (produced by Nokia).
MkLinux	A legacy Linux distribution for PowerPC systems that runs the Linux kernel as a server on top of the Mach microkernel .
MontaVista Linux	Embedded distribution by MontaVista Software
Nitix	Developed by Net Integration Technologies Inc., Nitix claims to be the first autonomic Linux kernel-based server operating system.
NixOS	Declarative Linux distribution with atomic upgrades and rollbacks built on top Nix package manager
OpenWrt	A router and firewall Linux distribution, also other embedded systems , a lot of routing options via opkg available
paldo	Independently developed desktop operating system and package manager (upkg) with a rolling release format and standard Gnome environment.
Prevas Industrial Linux	Embedded systems customizable Linux distribution by Prevas .
PS2 Linux	Sony Computer Entertainment Linux distribution released officially for the PlayStation 2 video game console.
Puppy Linux	A mini Linux distribution which runs well under low-end PCs – even under 32 MB RAM.
Replicant	Replicant is a free operating system (OS) based on the Android mobile platform that aims to replace all proprietary Android components with free-software counterparts.
rPath	A distribution built around the Conary package manager. Discontinued.
Sailfish OS	Sailfish OS is a Linux -based operating system based on open source projects such as Mer and including a closed source UI. The project is being developed by the Finnish company Jolla .
SliTaz	With less than 40 MB a very small Live-Distribution, which uses 256 MB RAM (or with a special edition only 24 MB ^[120]) for a complete GUI .
Smallfoot	Developed by the Santa Cruz Operation (SCO UNIX / SCO Group), formerly Caldera International and Caldera Systems – based on Caldera OpenLinux 3.x and 4.x binaries.

<u>SmoothWall</u>	A router and firewall Linux distribution
<u>Softlanding Linux System</u>	One of the earliest Linux distributions, developed from 1992–1994; <u>Slackware</u> was originally based on it.
<u>Solus</u>	Desktop Linux distribution offering Budgie, GNOME, MATE and KDE Plasma desktop environments, eopkg for package management.
<u>Source Mage</u>	A source code-based Linux distribution, descended from <u>Sorcerer</u> .
<u>Thinstation</u>	Thin client Linux distribution supporting all major connectivity protocols.
<u>Tinfoil Hat Linux</u>	Bootable floppy Linux distribution focusing on extreme security
<u>Tiny Core Linux</u>	Tiny Core Linux is a minimalist (around 10 MB) Linux system focusing on providing a base system with BusyBox, FLTK and other minimalist software.
<u>Tizen</u>	<u>Tizen</u> is a Linux-based mobile operating system backed by the <u>Linux Foundation</u> but developed and used primarily by <u>Samsung Electronics</u> .
<u>tomsrtbt</u>	Root boot disk.
<u>Void Linux</u>	Void is a general purpose operating system, based on the monolithic Linux kernel. Its package system allows you to quickly install, update and remove software; software is provided in binary packages or can be built directly from sources with the help of the XBPS source packages collection.
<u>Yggdrasil Linux/GNU/X</u>	One of the oldest Linux distributions, not updated since 1995.

See also

- [Comparison of Linux distributions](#)

- Comparison of netbook-oriented Linux distributions
- DistroWatch
- Linux on PowerPC
- Linux on IBM Z
- List of live CDs
- List of router or firewall distributions

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External links

Wikibooks has a book on the topic of:
Using Ubuntu Linux/Ubuntu Variations

- The LWN.net Linux Distribution List – Categorized list with information about each entry.
- Distrowatch – Announcements, information, links and popularity ranking for many Linux distributions.
- Linux Distros – Information and ISO files for many oldest Linux distributions.

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