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HW 1 Write Up

I installed Linux Mint, because I was already familiar with Debian and Ubuntu, and I wanted a popular OS that I could rely on. I chose Cinnamon Edition, as it was the most popular and well supported environment, so I downloaded the mirror from the website.

VirtualBox did not explicitly have Linux Mint as an option, so I went through the unattended upgrades option, and set my username to adam, hostname to acamerer, and password to my password. Once the distro was 'installed' on the cd, I mistakenly thought that I had actually installed the operating system entirely, but I effectively only had a thumb drive version with limited space. Unlike when I installed Ubuntu on my personal computer, I didn't realize I was on the 'test' version. This was an issue when I tried to update and install a few programs, and quickly ran out of space.

Another big problem I had was rebooting. When I shut down the computer and restarted, I needed to reselect the installation medium to boot, so it is certainly not ideal.

Since I thought the installation was not good, as it was slow and had problems installing security updates on the 'thumb drive' version, I tried out different operating systems. I didn't like lubuntu because it didn't have a terminal in the main menu, and Linux Mint XFCE didn't want to boot on uefi, so I just went back to Cinnamon Edition (which also didn't support uefi). It was only after installing lubuntu that I realized I hadn't fully installed the os.

For installation, I used 32gb of space (adjusted from 25gb of space after the first attempt at install), 3 cpu threads, and 5gb of RAM, 128mb of video memory, and I ran it on VirtualBox using a school computer (7th gen i5, probably hard disk). The OS is Linux Mint 21.1.

After I finally got it installed and working, it wasn't too bad. It had a windows like interface, which was different from Ubuntu's GUI. It was very minimalist, and it also auto logged in. However, it still had Ubuntu's core functionality, so installing packages like unattended-upgrades was pretty easy. There was a browser, terminal, and file explorer conveniently on the taskbar, and the file explorer was like windows.

If I could do this again, I would try not be as paralyzed by all the decisions, and to double click on the installation disk icon after I first booted. That would have saved alot of time.