Compile and boot a Linux Kernel

Anthony McGlone

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Chapter 1 Introduction

This guide will demonstrate the basic process of compiling and booting a Linux kernel. More advanced kernel configuration (such as enabling a device driver or new kernel features) will not be demonstrated.

If you're already using a Linux operating system (such as Ubuntu, Red Hat or CentOS), you can skip ahead to the kernel installation instructions for your OS.

If you're on Windows or Mac, you can use Oracle's VirtualBox to test an installation.

1.1   Installing Oracle VirtualBox

1. Read the installation instructions for your OS.
2. Download the VirtualBox binary / package for your OS.
3. Download an ISO of a Linux OS (e.g. Ubuntu, CentOS, Fedora).
4. Create a virtual machine using the ISO / installation media.