

Linux (ⁱ^l^m^ə^k^s/ *LIN-uuks*)^[11] is a family of [open-source Unix-like operating systems](#) based on the [Linux kernel](#),^[12] an [operating system kernel](#) first released on September 17, 1991, by [Linus Torvalds](#).^{[13][14][15]} Linux is typically [packaged](#) as a [Linux distribution](#) (distro), which includes the kernel and supporting [system software](#) and [libraries](#), many of which are provided by the [GNU Project](#). Many Linux distributions use the word "Linux" in their name, but the [Free Software Foundation](#) uses and recommends the name "**GNU/Linux**" to emphasize the use and importance of [GNU](#) software in many [distributions](#), [causing some controversy](#).^{[16][17]}