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Linux is a lot like many other operating systems. It is used to provide an interface for the computer, allowing you to interact with software and the computer hardware easily. There are several distinct differences between Linux and other widespread commercial operating systems such as Windows. Windows is developed by Microsoft, giving the company full control of what you can and can’t do with the OS. Linux, on the other hand, is open source. This means that you can go in and change the code however you like, or find changes that others online have created. This also means that Linux’s UI is completely customizable, whereas windows will only let you change things like color scheme, UI size, etc. Linux also wears your system down less, as it isn’t pushing for updates or restarts constantly, and only runs the programs you choose to install and run. Overall, Linux provides a more customizable and user-controlled environment. An OS’ file system organizes all of the files that make up the software of the computer. Linux uses a main root directory which branches out into subdirectories. Multiple files for one program might be in different directories and folders, as opposed to Windows, which usually houses a program’s files in a single folder. Two kinds of Linux file systems are EXT4, which provides more security and can store larger files, and and XFS which has faster read and write speeds.

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