

Help us spread the word on openSUSE 12.1!

November 1st, 2011 by [Jos Poortvliet](#)

In less than 3 weeks, our little baby, openSUSE 12.1, will be released into the wild. Now as you know, babies need **lots** of attention! This is where we need **YOU**.

openSUSE 12.1 needs to be promoted **everywhere**! That is, on *your* blog; on twitter, facebook, Google plus; and much more! Read on for details and tips on how **you can help us** spread the word!



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Backgrounds for your computer, (micro)blog and more

We've got a few nice backgrounds for you to be used on your (micro)blog or your desktop!

[Richard "Ilmehtar" Brown](#) has created a very cool openSUSE 12.1 Twitter background. You can add it to your blog in two ways.

The generic Twitter background

First, you can add one of the generic Twitter backgrounds. Pick one from [here](#).

Then, go through the following steps:

1. Login in your account of Twitter
2. Select *Settings* in the top panel
3. In Design tab, select *Change background image*
4. Select the image
5. Click on *Save changes*



A cool, customized Twitter background!

To get your own, custom background like Richard has, download the svg file [here](#) and customize it with Inkscape. Find a how-to [on the wiki](#).

A bonus tip from *Ilmehtar* himself:

For an extra tweak of polish, after you set that image as your background in twitter, you can also change your background colour to 436400 (twitter lets you type that number

in)..which'll mean that on very high resolutions the background will gently blend into the right colour ;-)

Find many other cool [openSUSE twitter backgrounds here!](#)

Widgets, counters and banners for your blog or website

Release Counter

You can add the openSUSE 12.1 release counter to your website in various sizes by including the following html code in your blog:

```
<a href="http://counter.opensuse.org/link/">
<imgsrc="http://counter.opensuse.org/medium.png" border="0"/>
</a>
```

“medium” is the size of the counter; it can also be “small” or “large” and we also have “wide” for a banner. See [the Countdown page on the openSUSE Wiki](#) for more countdown information, code and tips!

Twitter widget

You can get the twitter widget by inserting the following code in your website:

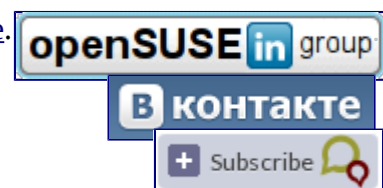
```
<script type="text/javascript"
src="http://cdn.widgetserver.com/syndication/subscriber/InsertWidget.js"></script><script type="text/javascript">if (WIDGETBOX)
WIDGETBOX.renderWidget('353d2de1-6434-4fff-91da-83271662191d');</script><noscript>Get the <a
href="http://www.widgetbox.com/widget/tweet-blender">Tweet Blender</a> widget and many other <a
href="http://www.widgetbox.com/">great free widgets</a> at <a
href="http://www.widgetbox.com">Widgetbox</a>! Not seeing a widget? (<a href="http://docs.widgetbox.com/using-widgets/installing-widgets/why-cant-i-see-my-widget/">More info</a></noscript>
```

For more tips and customization [check out the Twitter Widget section on the wiki](#).

Social media

I'm sure you know what to do with these buttons! **Like** openSUSE, **+1** us, **join** us!

Also join the openSUSE Group on facebook which you can visit [here](#). And join the [identi.ca group!](#)



Party!!!

Of course, you can and should attend or organize [an openSUSE 12.1 Launch Party](#)!

There is no better way to enjoy the new release than with your fellow openSUSE peers. So, attend or organize a Launch Party! These events around the openSUSE release can be anything – from a party in a pub to a series of presentations at an office. But there is a common theme: cool people sharing some fun and talks around the latest openSUSE release!

Any party around?

You can of course wait until the 16th and look around for fireworks and party-ing people but it might be better to prepare a bit... So check out the [Launch party wiki page](#).

No?

No party close enough? *Poor you...* But there is a way out! How would you feel in organizing one?

It's not hard, everyone can do it! You can see at our [Launch Party HOWTO page](#) that there are many ways to have a party – you don't have to have fireworks, a nice picknick is just as cool, if not more! Use your imagination and do something creative!



Goodies and support

Launch Parties are probably the coolest way to introduce people to FOSS and to introduce FOSS people to openSUSE. You don't have to be an ambassador or something to organize one and you can ask for promo material for your party!

Yes, we plan to get some cool stuff™ to you if you organize a party. We are working hard to have the openSUSE 12.1 DVD's ready as soon as possible and will send them, together with some flyers, posters, stickers and other goodies to the registered release parties. We unfortunately don't have the DVD's ready *before* the release date and shipping and handling also takes time so you'd have to organize a party 2-4 weeks *after* the release to get the stuff in time.

See the [Launch party wiki page](#) for more information.



More help

If you want to organize a party but you have some questions please contact the Marketing Team on the [Marketing Mailing list](#) or the [IRC channel](#). You should also try and involve [the openSUSE ambassadors in your area](#). We'd all be happy to help you have a smashing party!

Other ways of helping

If you want to know the latest stuff about openSUSE promotion sign up to the [ambassador mailinglist](#).

Helping out is also greatly appreciated. For openSUSE 12.1 we have the [Launch Checklist](#) which has a list of tasks... If there is stuff you want to/can help with, let us know on the [openSUSE marketing mailing list](#)! There's lots of writing to be done, like articles about the great new *GNOME 3.2*, the polish done on *XFCE* and *LXDE*, and what's better about KDE's latest *desktop and netbook* offerings.

But we can also use some more technical writing help. We'll review and edit the articles for English language, what we need is the content... Many of your marketing friends are not so technical!

But most importantly...

... you should **have a lot of fun!**