

Reviewer Guide

openSUSE 12.1

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openSUSE Distribution

The **openSUSE distribution** offers a robust core and rich „out of the box“ experience based on sane defaults. The distribution comes with powerful tools for system configuration and customization and offers flexibility and freedom of choice with a wide software selection. It is also the base for SUSE's award-winning SUSE Linux Enterprise products.

Key Features

- An all-in-one solution— the openSUSE Distribution offers tightly integrated desktop applications essential for today, including the LibreOffice productivity suite, the Mozilla Firefox Web browser, the powerful system administration tool YaST, the Kopete instant messenger and more.
- With KDE and GNOME, openSUSE offers both major Free Software desktops as well as a number of smaller desktops, all with a high level of polish and support.
- openSUSE is ready to run on workstations, laptops, netbooks and servers while working together with mobile, web, cloud and other leading industry technologies.
- openSUSE offers seamless integration into your existing network and compatibility with other operating systems and tools.
- With openSUSE you get timed releases (every 8 months) and an easy upgrade path between maintained versions.

Version 12.1

openSUSE 12.1 brings you upgrades to the latest Free Software desktop and server technologies as well as unique features, like the new Snapper tool bringing file change monitoring and rollback functionality to openSUSE.

Latest Free Desktops introduce color management, GNOME Shell and more

openSUSE offers you the choice of four officially supported major Free Desktops, all with a high level of polish and support. Noteworthy is the fact that openSUSE is the first major Linux distribution to ship color management tools for both the GNOME and KDE desktops!

openSUSE offers latest web and cloud technologies.

This openSUSE release introduces the latest web browsers, the Horde 4 Groupware framework and updated cloud- and virtualization technologies.

Improved distribution technology

openSUSE introduces a number of improvements and innovations in the underlying technology of the distribution. This includes the unique Snapper tool offering file versioning, the systemd init system and the Google Go language.

Feature Summary



KDE is offering an advanced graphical desktop, a wide variety of applications for communication, work, education and entertainment and a platform to easily build new applications upon.



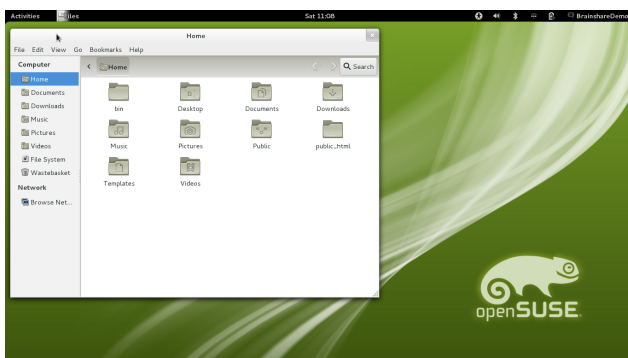
KDE introduces Oyranos, Apper and Plasma Active

openSUSE 12.1 ships the KDE Plasma Desktop 4.7 as default workspace and is the first major Linux distribution to ship the new KolorManager + Oyranos color management tools. Another major new addition is KPackageKit replacement Apper, simplifying installation and removal of applications.

The innovative new tablet project from the KDE community, Plasma Active, is not an integral part of the openSUSE 12.1 release yet but tablet users can install Plasma Active in openSUSE 12.1 and we work on integrating it in the next openSUSE release.



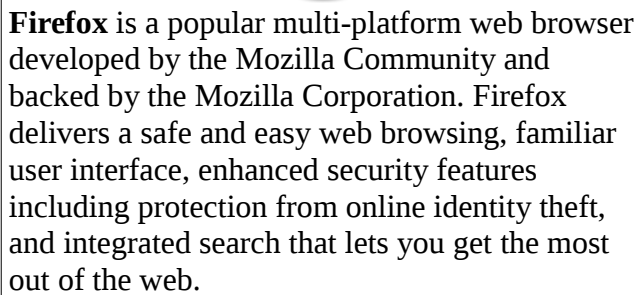
GNOME is an attractive, user-friendly and completely free desktop environment with applications to meet all the requirements of modern day computing.



GNOME Shell is improved and refined

GNOME 3.2 is an improved and refined version of the GNOME Shell introduced in GNOME 3. openSUSE also ships many of the improved GNOME applications which integrate in GNOME Shell.

Major improvements compared to the GNOME 3 preview in openSUSE 11.4 include better handling of smaller screens and multi-screen setups, better notifications and a centralized *online accounts* configuration. This release also brings you a new Document manager, quick preview in the Nautilus file manager, enhanced color management and automatic rotation for touch screen devices.



The screenshot shows a Linux desktop environment. In the background, a LibreOffice Writer window is open with a document titled "openSUSE Distribution". The document text describes openSUSE as a robust, flexible, and free Linux distribution. A list of "Key Features" is provided, including its all-in-one nature, support for various desktop environments (KDE, GNOME), and its commitment to being free software. In the foreground, a "LibreOffice Help" window is open, displaying the "Help" section. To the right of the help window, a "Document-Cross-References" dialog box is visible, showing a table with columns for "Type" and "Selection". The table lists "Insert Reference", "Headings", "Numbered Paragraphs", and "Bookmarks".

openSUSE Distribution

The openSUSE Linux distribution offers a robust core and rich „out of the box“ sane defaults. The distribution comes with powerful tools for system customisation and offers flexibility and freedom of choice with a wide scope. It is also the base for SUSE's award-winning SUSE Linux Enterprise products.

Key Features

- An all-in-one solution — the openSUSE Distribution offers tightly applications essential for today, including the LibreOffice product Firefox Web browser, the powerful system administration tool Ya! messenger and more.
- With KDE and GNOME, openSUSE offers both major Free Software forms of smaller desktops, all without compromise.
- openSUSE is ready to run on workstations together with mobile, web, cloud and server environments.

LibreOffice Help

The help menu allows you to start and control the LibreOffice help system.

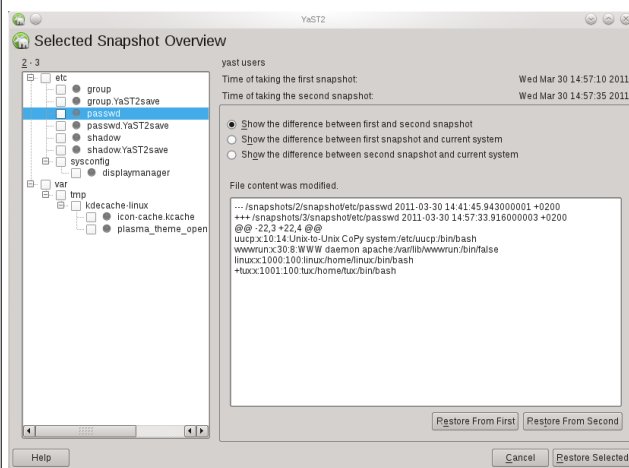
Open the main view of the LibreOffice help for the current application. You can scroll

Type	Selection
Insert Reference	
Headings	
Numbered Paragraphs	
Bookmarks	

The latest **Libreoffice** release brings a large number of additions and improvements like the ability to add and remove color charts, a named range as data source and supporting an unlimited number of fields in the DataPilot (now named Pivot Table), autofilter per sheet support, redesigned Move/Copy Sheet dialog, new Find toolbar, Greek Character mode for numbering in Writer, new 3D border types, internationalized font previews, and much more. As usual, much performance work was done decreasing the size of LibreOffice and improving startup speed. Text rendering and theming have received a major overhaul, making LibreOffice fitting better in your desktop.



YaST is the installation and configuration tool for openSUSE and the SUSE Linux Enterprise distributions. It is popular for its easy use and attractive graphical interface and the capability to customize your system quickly during and after the installation. YaST actually stands for *Yet another Setup Tool*. YaST can be used to configure your entire system. Setup hardware, configure the network, system services and tune your security settings.



Under the hood



openSUSE 12.1 is the first Linux distribution taking advantage of the snapshot functionality in the upcoming Linux filesystem, btrfs. These snapshots of the file system are using copy-on-write, making them very space efficient. openSUSE 12.1 debuts [Snapper](#), which allows the user to interface with this technology.

The command line and GUI Snapper tools allow users to view older versions of files and revert changes. The unique integration in the zypper package manager of openSUSE allows users to roll back entire upgrades or software installations with the accompanying configuration changes.

A more visible change is the new style, which is possible thanks to the new CSS based themes available for YaST. WebYaST continues to evolve as well, including more modules than ever to aid in web-based administration of your openSUSE machines.

Although the most obvious improvements to openSUSE 12.1 may be on the surface, we have made a slew of improvements under the hood as well to improve booting, hardware management, and system configuration. The boot procedure of openSUSE is now handled by systemd (with sysvinit still available as backup); the new Snapper tool automatically tracks system configuration and other file changes (and lets you roll them back); YaST received a variety of improvements crushing the demons of setups past; SAX makes its return in the form of SAX3, an openSUSE GSOC project; and of course we are supporting the freshest versions of every core system component, such as the Linux 3.1 Kernel, syslog-ng 3.3, GCC 4.6 and LLVM v3. Also notable is the fact that openSUSE is the first major Linux distribution to ship Google's new Go programming language

System Requirements

- Pentium* III 500 MHz or higher processor (Pentium 4 2.4 GHz or higher or any AMD64 or Intel* EM64T processor recommended)
- Main memory: 512 MB physical RAM (1 GB recommended)
- Hard disk: 3 GB available disk space (more recommended)
- Sound and graphics cards: supports most modern sound and graphics cards, 800 x 600 display resolution (1024 x 768 or higher recommended)
- Booting from CD/DVD drive or USB-Stick for installation, or support for booting over network

Additional Resources

For more information on openSUSE Version 12.1, visit <http://en.opensuse.org/Portal:12.1>

Summary

openSUSE 11.4 offers a robust core and rich „out of the box“ experience based on sane defaults. The distribution comes with powerful tools for system configuration and customization and offers flexibility and freedom of choice with a wide software selection. It offers tightly integrated desktop applications essential for today, both major Free Software desktops, seamless integration into your existing network and compatibility with other operating systems. The timed 12.1 release with an easy upgrade path from previous openSUSE versions is ready to run on workstations, laptops, netbooks and servers.