

ForthOS is a complete, standalone operating system for the PC. It includes command line, compiler, debugger, editor, and filesystem. You can give it a test drive by booting the standalone CD (image provided so you can burn your own). If you like it, you can install it onto a disk partition and boot directly from your hard disk.

ForthOS is the basis for the author's own experimental software work; unlike many other Forth systems, this one is a real tool in day-to-day use as a part of a larger development. It is a fully standalone system, with a [metacompiler](#) used to generate new versions of ForthOS while running under ForthOS. Please read about its [legal status](#); the short version is that ForthOS is in the public domain.

ForthOS supports:

- System features:
 - 32-bit addressing
 - Command line history and editing
 - Multi-tasking
 - Pentium-based real time clock
 - Auto-pause for console output
 - Block-oriented file I/O
 - A [filesystem](#) which organizes ForthOS blocks
 - Multiboot/GRUB compliant bootloading
 - Multiple virtual screens with screen flipping using function keys
 - IDE
 - VGA
 - RS-232 (COM) ports
- Forth language features:
 - The original eForth vocabulary
 - Many additional vocabulary words, mostly standards based
 - Vocabularies
 - VOCAB.WORD extension to find WORD in VOCAB regardless of current search order.
 - Structures and enumerations
 - A full [object oriented extension](#) with classes and inheritance
 - A variant on [local variables](#) (more closely related to a [lambda binding](#)) with optional input and output stack format enforcement.
 - Scoping of identifiers ([Local and scrLocal](#)).
- Tools
 - [vi-like](#) full screen editing with shadows
 - [Debugger](#)
 - Heap memory [allocator](#)
 - x86 assembler

The current version is ForthOS 1.0. Please read about the [installation](#) here.

Comments may be sent to vandys@forthos.org. Due to spam, this mail address connects with an auto-responder which will tell you how to establish contact with the author.

A private newsgroup server has been set up to permit communication among interested ForthOS users; a read-only view of it is [here](#). You require an account to access the [news server](#) to read or post to the ForthOS newsgroup(s), please contact the author if you're interested in becoming an active user or developer.

Enjoy!