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BUT Informatique – S1
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[HOW TO USE PEPPERMINT OS]

Simple guide to the Peppermint operating system and Cinnamon desktop environment

How to use Peppermint OS

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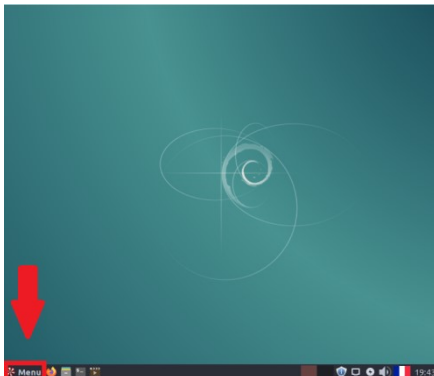
I.   Cinnamon desktop environment

A.   How to navigate

The desktop environment provides the user with a taskbar and a start menu, through which most of the navigation can be performed.

1.   Start menu

The *start menu* is located on the bottom left corner of the screen. Everything that is on your computer can be accessed through this menu.

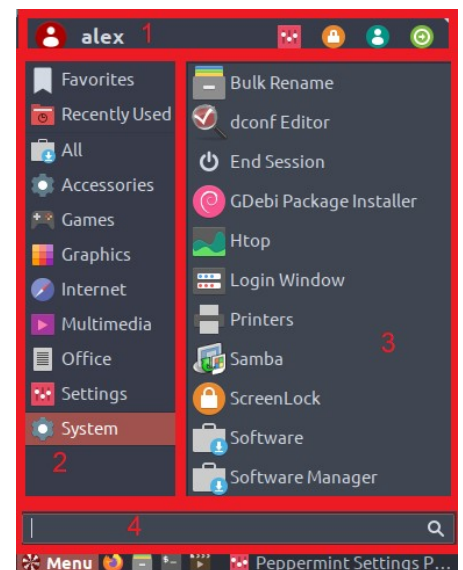←*Figure 1: location of the start menu*

Figure 2: the start menu→

The *start menu* is divided in 4 sections as shown on Figure 2.

The first section is dedicated to session management (see active session, log out, shutting down the machine).

Section 2 is where application categories are listed. When one category is selected, section 3 will show you all the applications that are installed for this category.

Section 4 is a search bar that will list everything on your computer that contains the search pattern.
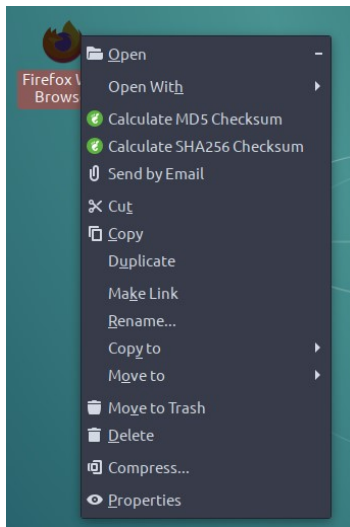
2.   Taskbar

The *taskbar* as shown above displays all active applications, it is found on the bottom of the screen. This bar contains the start menu and displays the keyboard language next to the time.

3.   Desktop

The *desktop* consists of all the space above the taskbar. Application shortcuts can be dragged and dropped from the start menu to the desktop.

4.   Right click menu

A *right click* can be performed almost everywhere and will show a list of actions.

Figure 4 shows the menu that appears when a desktop icon is clicked with the right mouse button.

←*Figure 4: A desktop icon's right click menu*

B.   Terminal

Caution! <u>Using a terminal is not recommended for simple users.</u>

Pressing simultaneously the *ctrl+alt+f* keys on your keyboard will open new *terminal*. The same action can be performed by clicking on the terminal icon next to the start menu.

C.   Shutting down the computer

The *shut down button* is located on the top right corner of the start menu (green icon on figure 2).
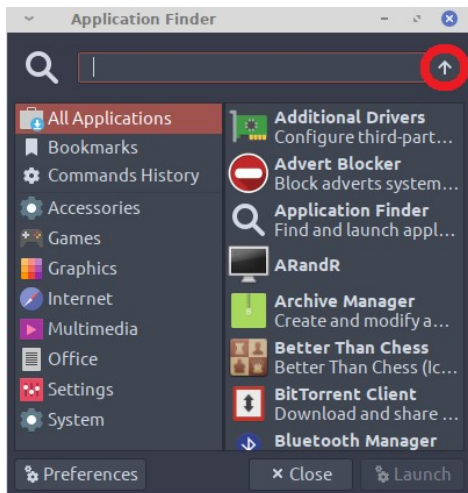
Once the button is clicked, a menu will appear and display options as shown on figure 5.

Figure *5: the shut down menu* →

II. Software

A. Installed software

Software that are installed on the computer can be found in the start menu, as explained in section I.A.1.

Another way to find an installed application is to use the *application finder* (*Alt+F2*). Clicking on the down arrow will show you an interface that resembles the start menu.
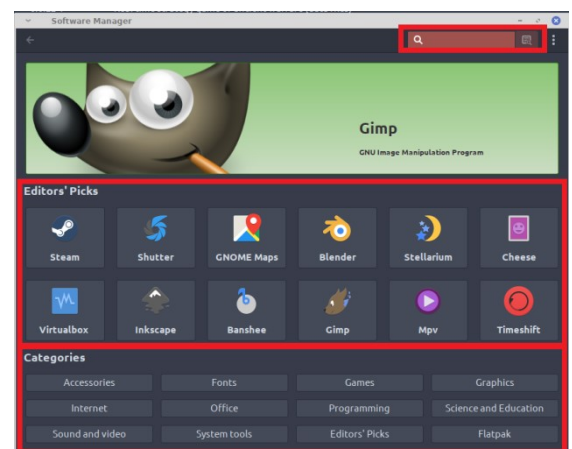
←*Figure 6: The application finder with the up/down arrow highlighted*

B. Install new software

Software Manager is an applications store from which new software can be installed.

Applications can be searched on the top right corner. Recommendations are located in the middle and categories are listed at the bottom, as shown on figure 7.
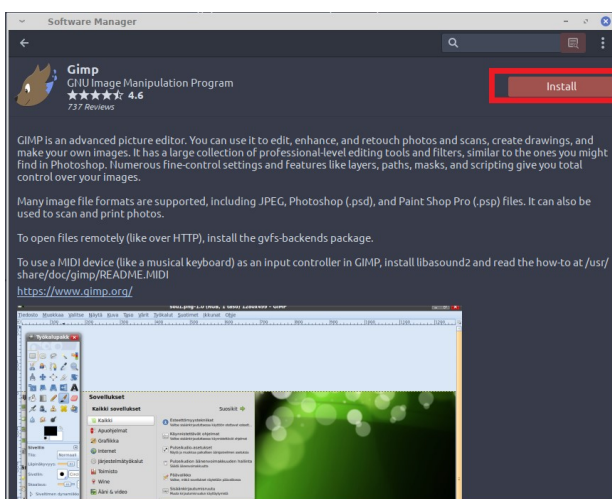
Figure 7: Software Manager →

←*Figure 8: The installation page*

Once the desired software is found, a simple click on the item will display the *application's information page* on which can be found the install button as shown on figure 8.

When pressed, the *install button* will initiate the installation process that may require you to accept some conditions or to download additional packages. (Administrator rights might be required)

III. Documentation

A. Cinnamon Desktop Environment

https://peppermintos.com/guide/software/

B. Software Manager

https://peppermintos.com/guide/software/

IV. 598 words