Wine

or

Leaving Windows Behind? Bring your apps with you!

Dan Kegel

Cebit 2009

Hyperlinked presentation online at www.kegel.com/cebit

The opinions expressed in this talk are my own, and not those of my employer

Pay attention, there will be a quiz at the end

The world is changing...

Linux is spreading beyond servers



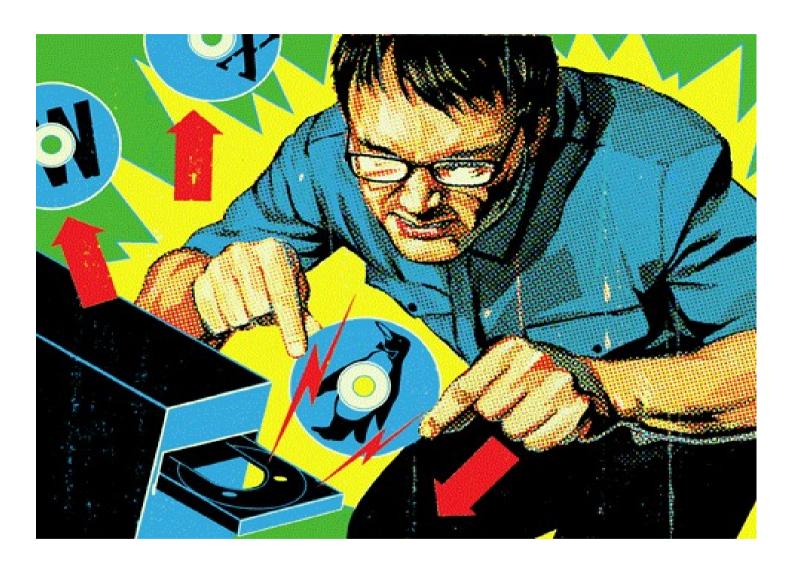
The world fell in love with Windows in 1995...



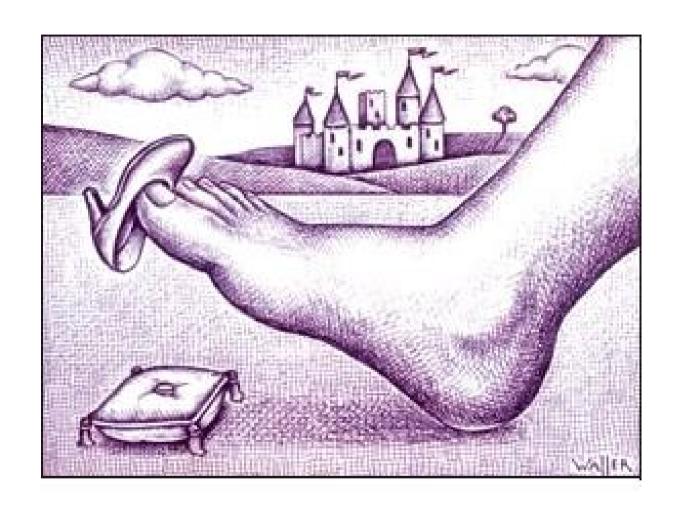
But now HP uses Ubuntu Linux on the \$280 Mini Mi netbook



And Dell uses Ubuntu Linux on the \$250 Mini 9n netbook



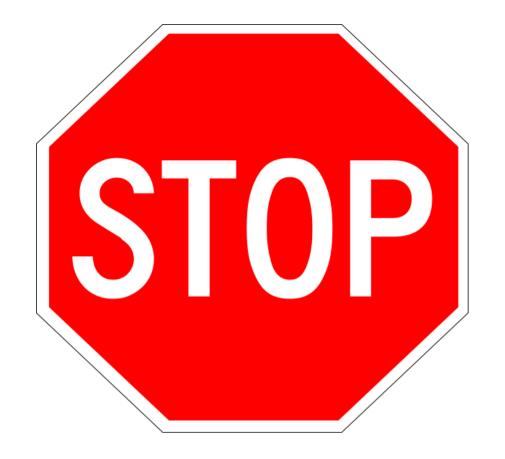
Why did Dell and HP choose Linux? Isn't it geeky and hard to use?



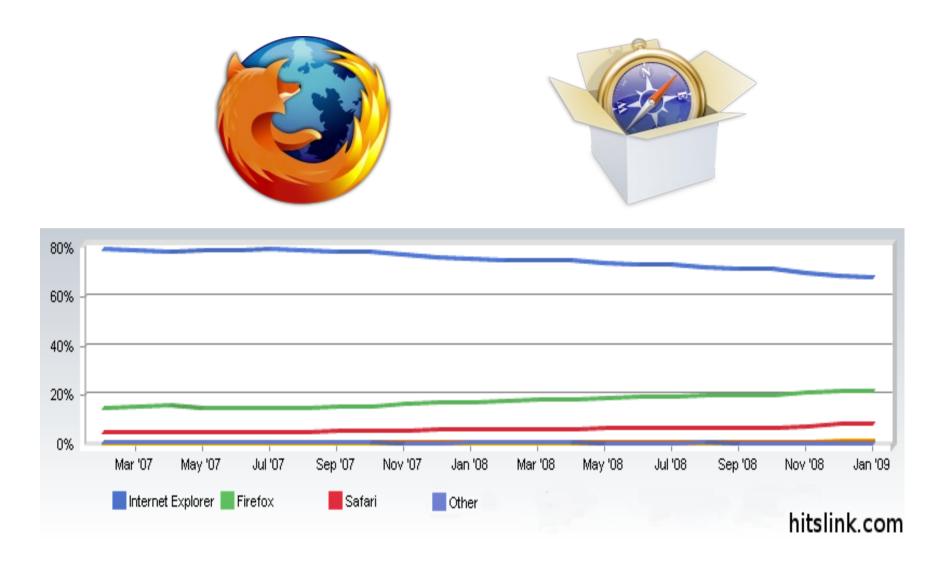
Windows Vista doesn't fit on most netbooks



Windows costs netbook vendors \$20-\$50 per unit which hurts their bottom line



Microsoft limits Windows netbooks to
1GB RAM, 1GHz CPU
10.2" Screen, no DirectX 10
to protect sales of more expensive computers



Windows-only websites used to be common, but Firefox and Webkit are making that rare



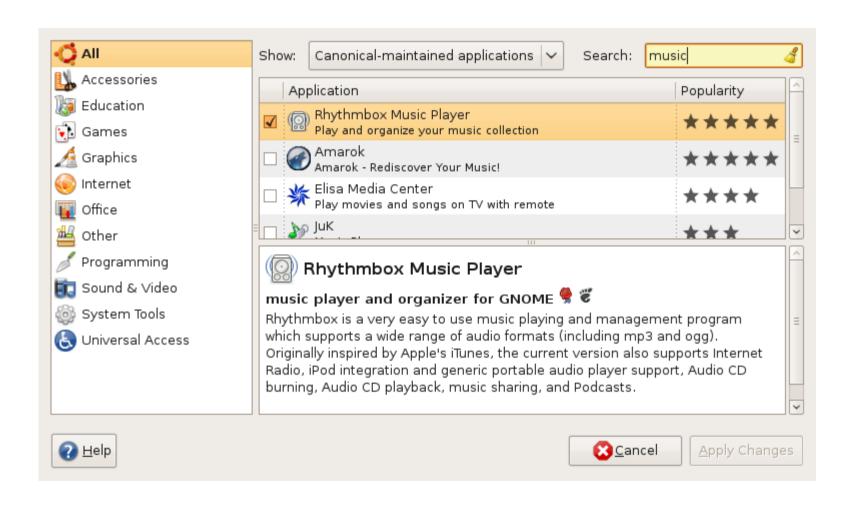
Linux now easy to use thanks to vendors like Ubuntu



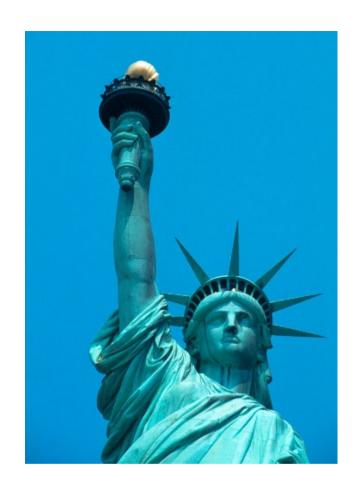
Linux now comes with a capable free office suite



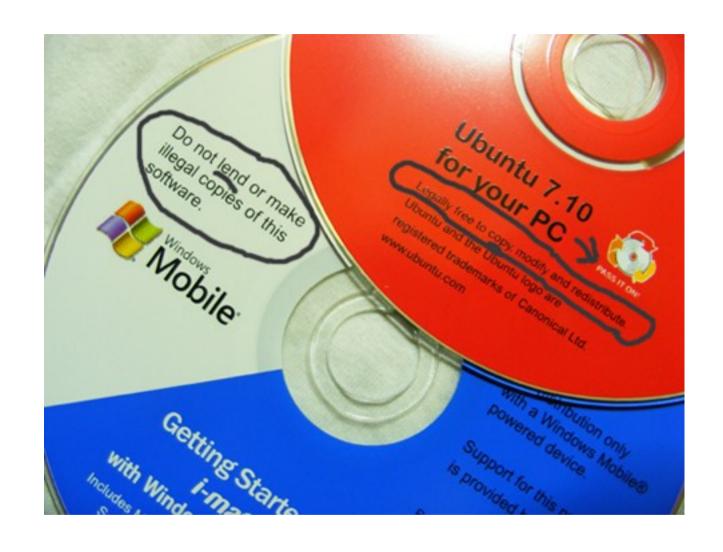
But why should you try Linux?



Linux comes with thousands of apps and free updates



You're free to install Linux wherever and whenever you like



You're even encouraged to share Linux with your friends



Any programmer in the world can fix or improve Linux



Linux upgrades never forced New versions of Ubuntu always free

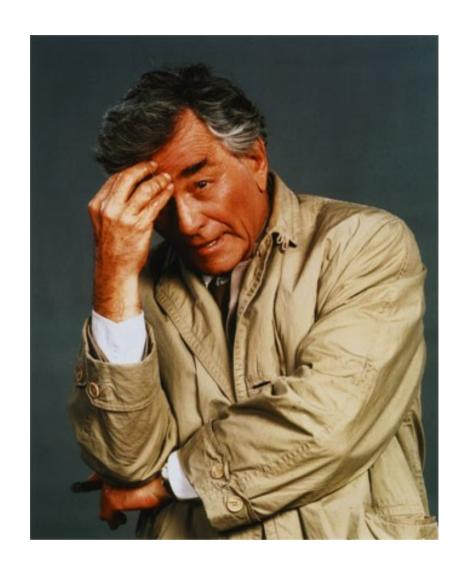


Linux has ~1% as many viruses

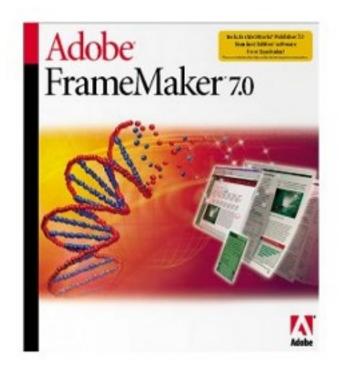


Munich, Niedersachsen, France, Spain, China, Russia, Brazil are using desktop Linux

Reasons: flexibility, independence, cost



OK, I'm convinced, I should try Linux. But there's just one more thing:















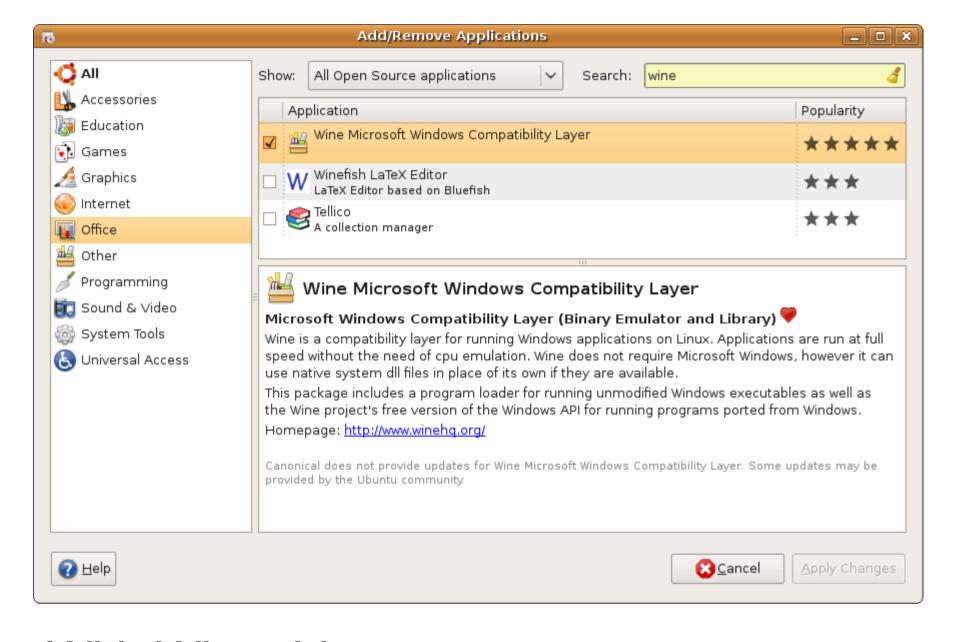
I need this one app, can I take it with me?



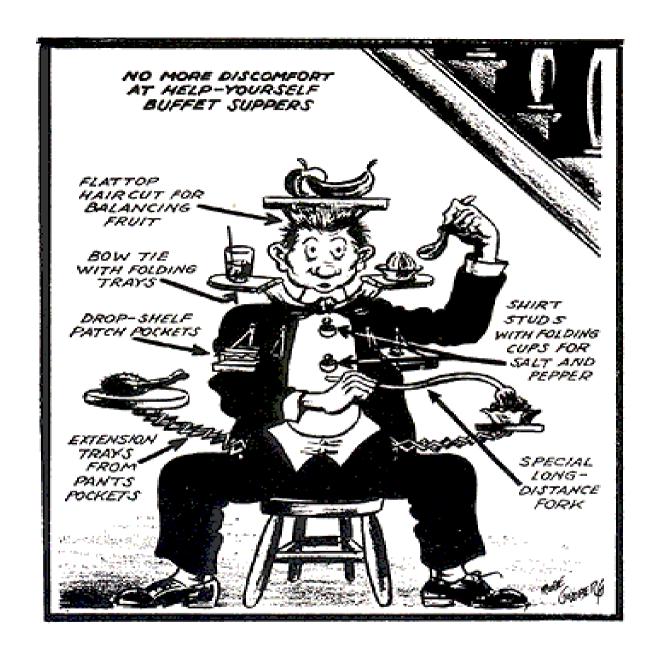
You could use VMWare and Windows, but then you still have to deal with Windows licensing and upgrades



Linux cloned Unix Can't we clone Windows, too?



With Wine, Linux now runs many apps. Just add it in "Add/Remove Applications"



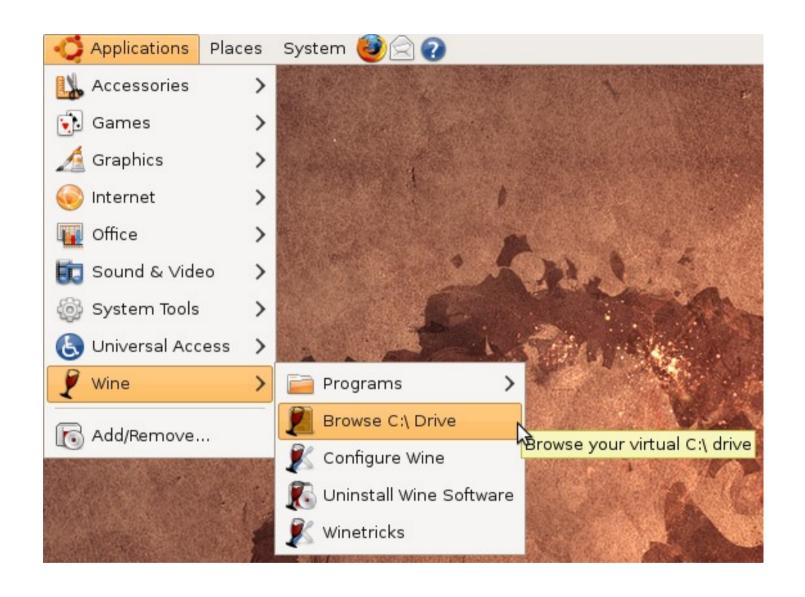
But isn't Wine complicated to use?



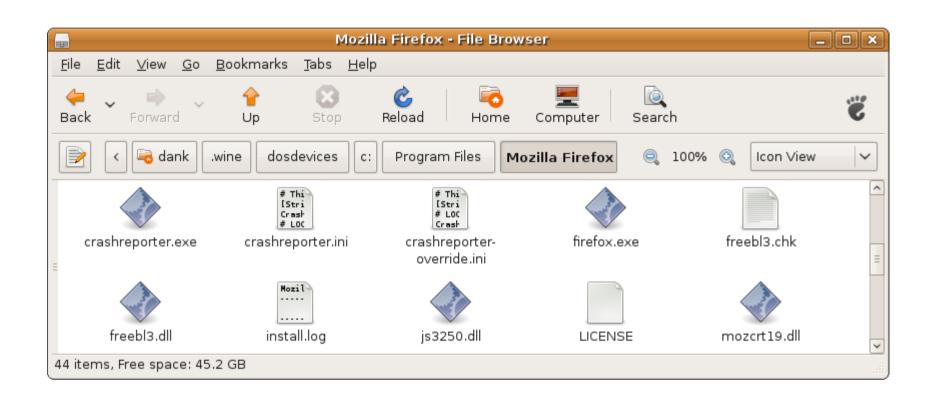
To install a Windows app, just double-click its installer



The app then shows up in the menu



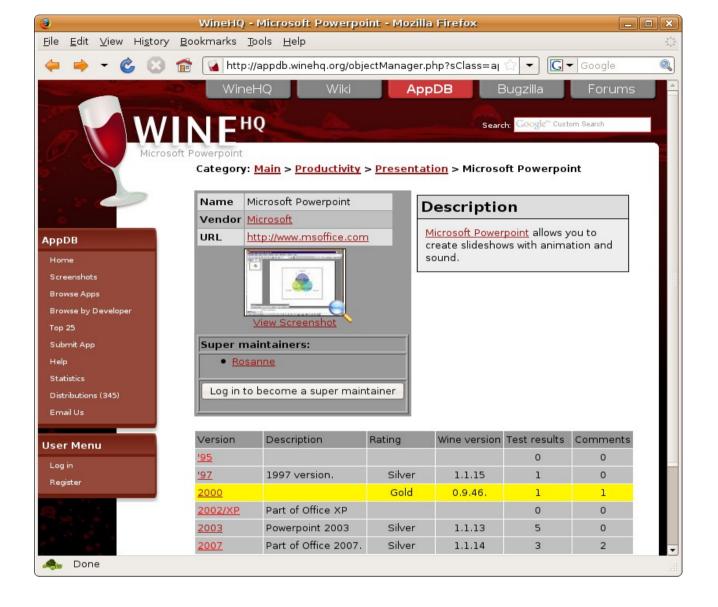
And its files show up in wine's C: directory



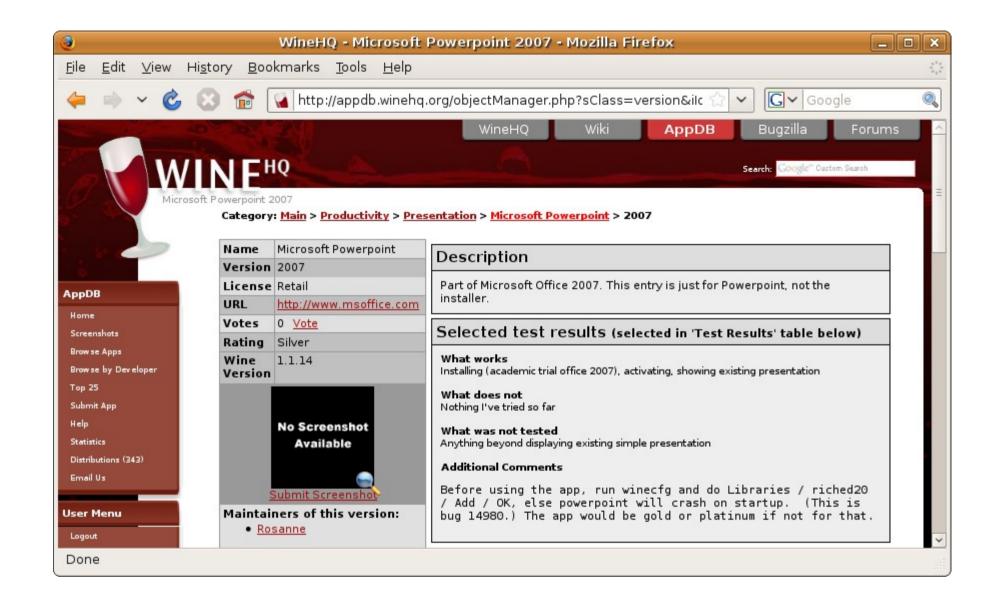
Here's what Firefox's files look like



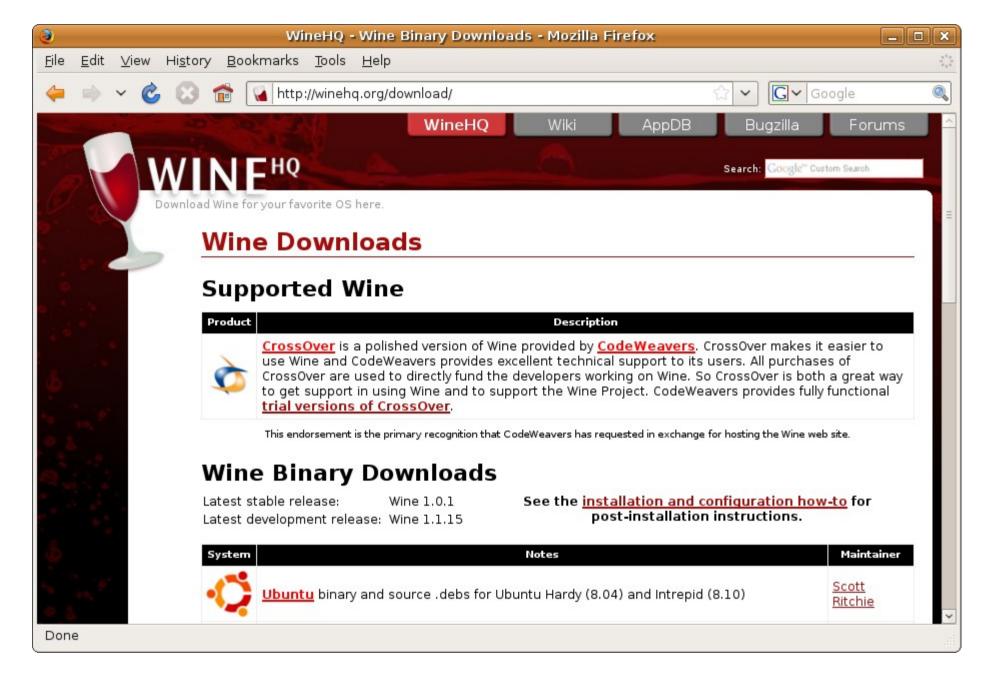
Wine is a work in progress
WineHQ.org is where to go for support



Wine's App Database is your friend Check here before trying a new app

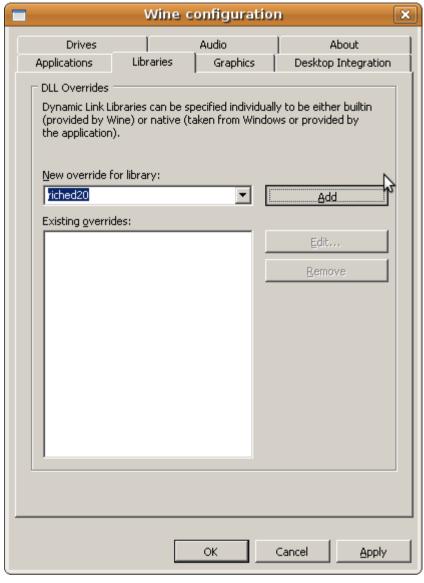


The appdb says Powerpoint 2007 needs a configuration tweak and wine-1.1.14 or later



Newer versions of Wine can be downloaded from winehq.org





Tweaks are done with Winecfg
Six mouse clicks and one word later,
Powerpoint is happy

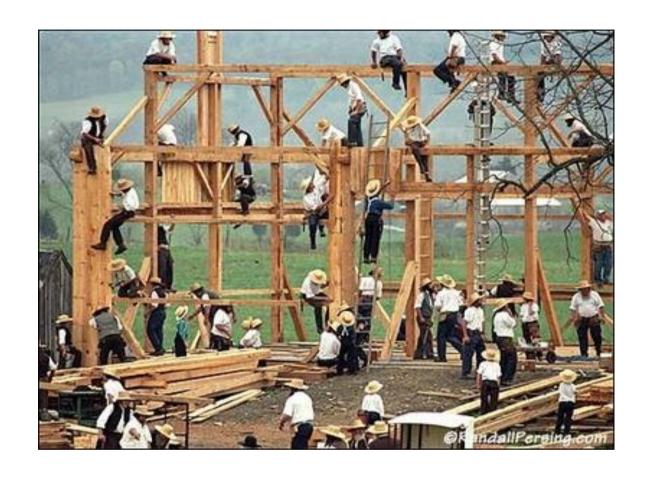


Missing libraries or fonts can be installed with Winetricks



Heinzelmaennchen?

Wine is free? But programmers have to eat! How can free software be sustained?



Free software can be sustained if the community is large enough



The Wine team is dozens of volunteers plus ~10 paid programmers



But should you try Wine?



Things That Don't Work Yet:

WPF / XAML

Some copy protection schemes

Some USB drivers (e.g. iPhone sync)

Win64 support

Direct3D 10

If you need **dozens** of apps to work perfectly

or you don't want to help track down problems

then
Wine probably isn't ready for you

If you need **a few** apps to work perfectly

and you are willing to help track down problems

then
Wine might be ready for you

But first, try to switch from Windows apps



to open source or Web apps



because direct support is always better



Case studies

Kindl & partneři Advokátní kancelář Chomutov, Czech Republic

Computers: 10

Native Apps: Firefox, OpenOffice

Wine apps: ASPI (Czech legal software)



Xavier School Manila, Philippines

Computers: 600

Native Apps: Firefox, OpenOffice, Notes

Wine apps: Winplot + custom VB6 apps



City of Munich Germany

Computers: Windows(12800), Linux(1200)

Apps: Firefox (all), OpenOffice (8000)

Wine: GeoInfo, WS_FTP, a legal app (250)



What if something goes wrong?

Free support options (forums, chat, FAQ, doc, wiki, bug tracker):

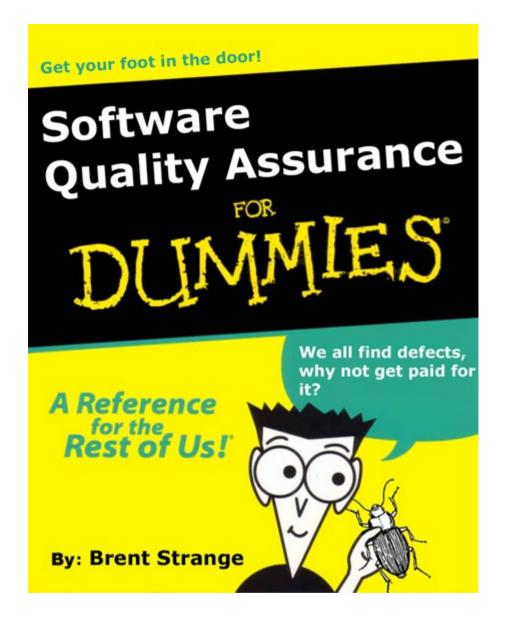
Wine: www.winehq.org/help

Ubuntu Linux: help.ubuntu.com

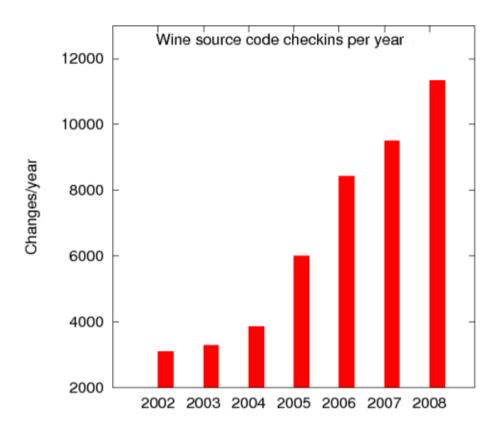
Commercial paid support options:

Wine: codeweavers.com/support or codeweavers.com/services

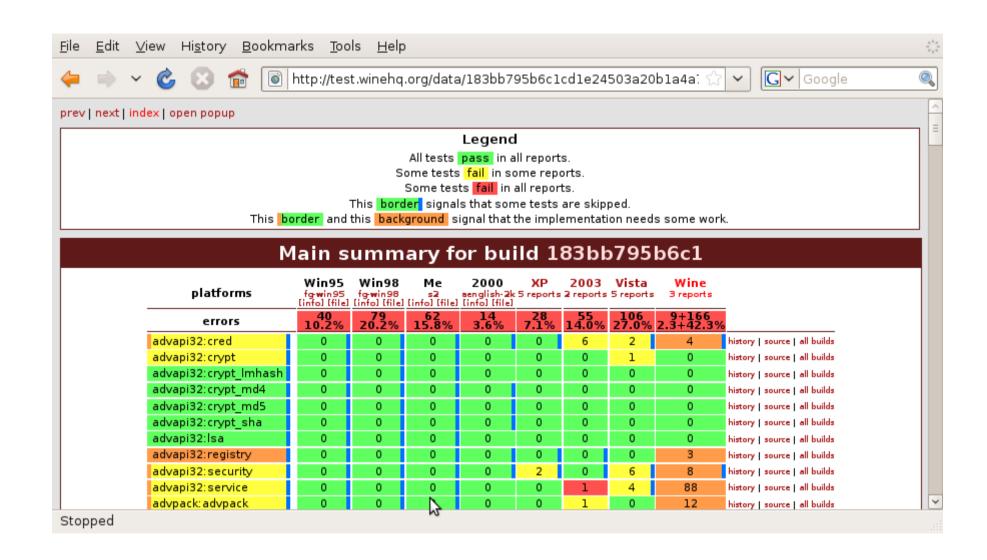
Ubuntu Linux: ubuntu.com/support or canonical.com/services



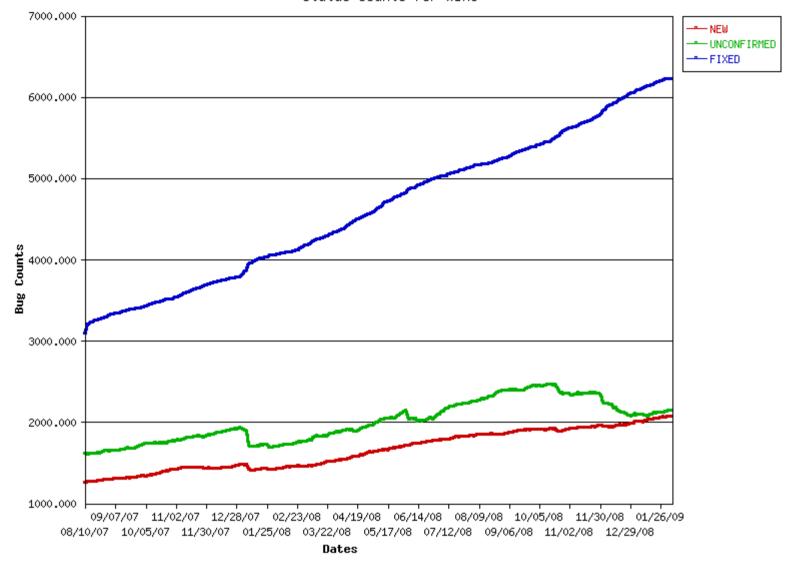
But what about quality? Is Wine developed with care?



True, Wine is developing rapidly



but each change passes rigorous tests



and bugs are tracked and fixed steadily

QUIZ

If it costs 10 million EUR to fix all Wine bugs, and EU has fined Microsoft 1.7 billion EUR,

- 1. Can you think of an effective way for the EU to stimulate competition in the operating system market?
 - 2. How much would each of CeBIT's half-million visitors have to contribute to fix all known Wine bugs?



Questions? See kegel.com/cebit

The opinions expressed in this talk are my own, not those of my employer