

Getting Started with Linux

(the short version)

What is Linux?

“Linux” is a blanket term for any operating system that is based off of the Linux kernel.

This is Linus Torvalds.



What is a “kernel”

The central module of an operating system that takes requests from the software and translates it into processing information for other parts of the computer.

DISTROS!



What are its advantages?

- It is free.
- No licensing or registration.
- Well maintained.
- Secure.
- Apps are easy to install.
- Damn. Fast.

How do I start?

1. Start slowly with apps.
2. Take it for a test spin.
3. Dual boot.
4. Go native (Mac Linux USB loader)

How do I choose?

Ubuntu:

DistroWatch.com: Ubuntu - Google Chrome

wdi-dc-5-students | Inbox - keithwknox | DW DistroWatch.com: U x

distrowatch.com/table.php?distribution=ubuntu

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DistroWatch.com
Put the fun back into computing. Use Linux, BSD.

Type Distribution Name Go Ubuntu Go
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DistroWatch.com: Ubuntu

Ubuntu

Last Update: 2015-05-27 21:20 UTC



ubuntu

- OS Type: [Linux](#)
- Based on: [Debian](#), [Ubuntu](#)
- Origin: [Isle of Man](#)
- Architecture: [armhf](#), [i686](#), [powerpc](#), [ppc64el](#), [x86_64](#)
- Desktop: [Unity](#)
- Category: [Beginners](#), [Desktop](#), [Server](#), [Live Medium](#)
- Status: [Active](#)
- Popularity: [2 \(1,735 hits per day\)](#)

Ubuntu is a complete desktop Linux operating system, freely available with both community and professional support. The Ubuntu community is built on the ideas enshrined in the Ubuntu Manifesto: that software should be available free of charge, that software tools should be usable by people in their local language and despite any disabilities, and that people should have the freedom to customise and alter their software in whatever way they see fit. "Ubuntu" is an ancient African word, meaning "humanity to others". The Ubuntu distribution brings the spirit of Ubuntu to the software world.

[Popularity \(hits per day\)](#): 12 months: [2 \(1,784\)](#), 6 months: [2 \(1,735\)](#), 3 months: [2 \(1,796\)](#), 4 weeks: [3 \(1,631\)](#), 1 week: [4 \(1,529\)](#)



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[The Official Ubuntu Book \(8th Edition\)](#)

Ubuntu Summary

Distribution	Ubuntu
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How do I choose?

Mint:

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distrowatch.com/table.php?distribution=mint

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DistroWatch.com: Linux Mint

Linux Mint


Last Update: 2014-11-28 01:29 UTC

 **Linux Mint**

- OS Type: [Linux](#)
- Based on: [Debian](#), [Ubuntu \(LTS\)](#)
- Origin: [Ireland](#)
- Architecture: [i386](#), [x86_64](#)
- Desktop: [Cinnamon](#), [GNOME](#), [KDE](#), [MATE](#), [Xfce](#)
- Category: [Beginners](#), [Desktop](#), [Live Medium](#)
- Status: [Active](#)
- Popularity: [1 \(2,919 hits per day\)](#)


Linux Mint is an Ubuntu-based distribution whose goal is to provide a more complete out-of-the-box experience by including browser plugins, media codecs, support for DVD playback, Java and other components. It also adds a custom desktop and menus, several unique configuration tools, and a web-based package installation interface. Linux Mint is compatible with Ubuntu software repositories.

Popularity (hits per day): 12 months: [1 \(2,676\)](#), 6 months: [1 \(2,919\)](#), 3 months: [1 \(3,158\)](#), 4 weeks: [1 \(3,028\)](#), 1 week: [1 \(3,064\)](#)



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Linux Mint Essentials

A practical guide to using Mint for the novice to the seasoned user

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[Linux Mint Essentials](#)

Linux Mint Summary

Distribution	Linux Mint
Home Page	http://linuxmint.com/
Mailing Lists	http://forums.linuxmint.com/viewtopic.php?f=152&t=73603

How do I choose?

Elementary OS:

DistroWatch.com: elementary OS - Google Chrome

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distrowatch.com/table.php?distribution=elementary

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DistroWatch.com: elementary OS

elementary OS


Last Update: 2015-04-12 06:47 UTC

 elementary

- OS Type: [Linux](#)
- Based on: [Debian](#), [Ubuntu](#)
- Origin: [Canada](#)
- Architecture: [i386](#), [x86_64](#)
- Desktop: [Pantheon](#)
- Category: [Beginners](#), [Desktop](#), [Live Medium](#)
- Status: [Active](#)
- Popularity: [7 \(1,007 hits per day\)](#)

elementary OS is an Ubuntu-based desktop distribution. Some of its more interesting features include a new GTK+ and icon theme for GNOME, the Midori web browser, new applications developed in-house (e.g. Dexter, an address book and Postler, an email client), and Nautilus Elementary, a simple file manager.

Popularity (hits per day): 12 months: [9 \(954\)](#), 6 months: [7 \(1,007\)](#), 3 months: [9 \(959\)](#), 4 weeks: [11 \(720\)](#), 1 week: [11 \(704\)](#)



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