Linux Mint Debian Edition – ideas and sources of improvements

to make better our beloved Mint'Debian 6th edition !

From user's feedback came great improvements...

Summary

From user's feedback came great improvements...

I. Wifi : when asking the key, make it possible to enter it directly

it's one of the very simple but a bit annoying problem, you might just sighing when realizing that the popup little window asking for wifi key, just doesnt focuses immediately on the proper field to enter it, and requires.. a tab each time before you want to type it directly.
Its looks like a bit very simple, but with lof of AP, each time, at a moment it's frustrating to have to do so when the wifi key is requested.. Perhaps "text-focus" directly into the "password field", to avoid a "tab" keystroke each time.. ?

From user's feedback came great improvements...

II. the invasive update manager, whom appears after 13min of bootup

it's there also something a bit bizarre : instead of automatically enable them, and to notify the user he could manage it within a simple screen, that screen come until a choice has been made. Until it's done, it will never stop to popup after 13 mins of uptime, at the foreground. A bit annoying too. Maybe to just put it as a notification, in the right bottom corner, instead taking back the focus while busy one something else ?
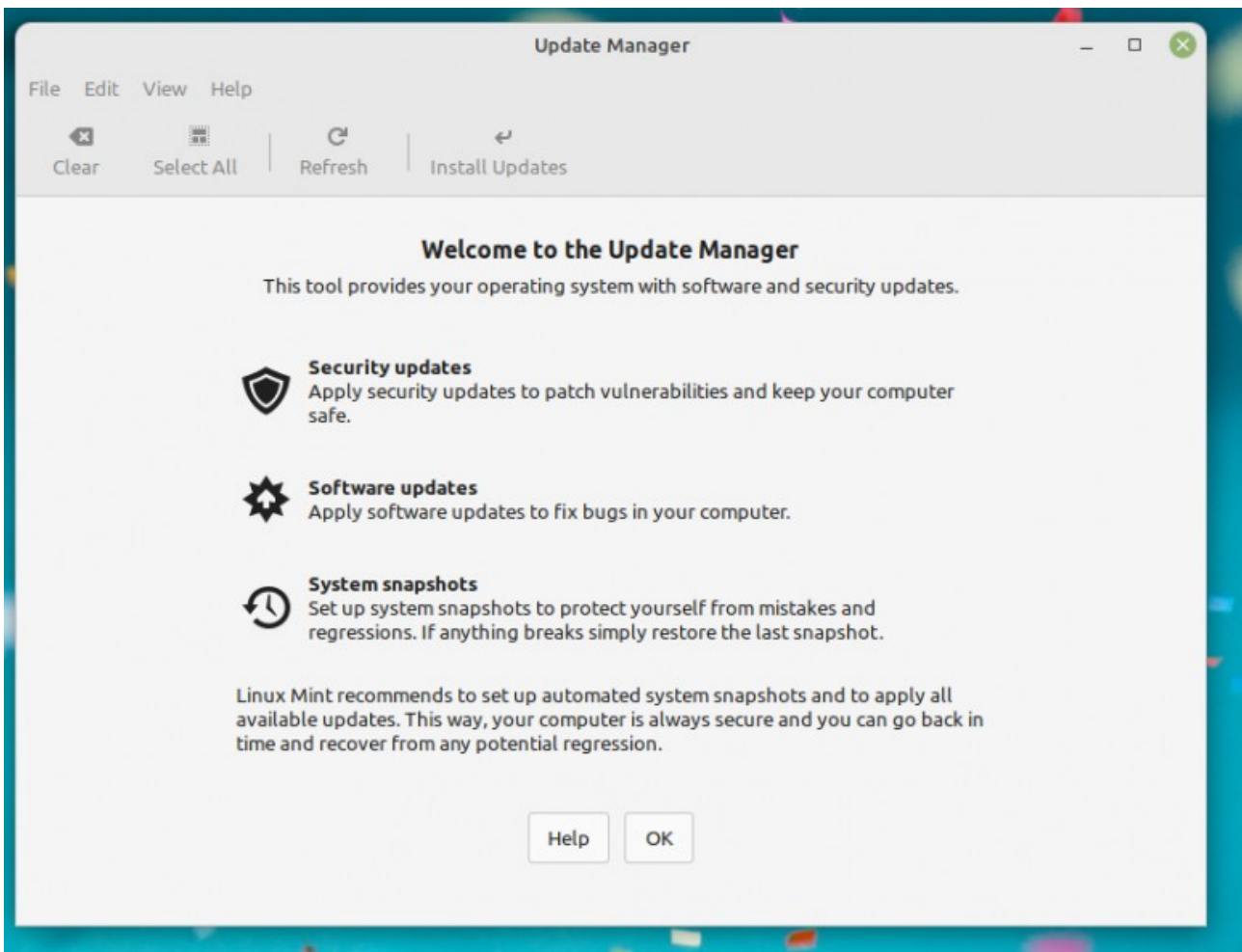
From user's feedback came great improvements...

III. openssh-server is not installed by default

This looks like a security feature, but at least would be one if openssh-server would be installed but not enabled by default : the ssh server is not included within the distro. Eh. It's one of the most used tool in the modern unix/linux environment. It's so used, and so useful, that some user might have noticed it's not included by default. More strange, for a end user distro based on.. a server one !

A good idea would be ….
- either to install it and disable it by default,
- or simply to install and enable it, with the following prerequisite,

  as a security label :
- port-knocking based configuration
- fail2ban based configuration
- white list of ssh-allowed registred users

...the most important : the usage of secret key to replace the usage of password

IV : Wifi too far, key asked even if the correct is registred

It's something I experience : when wifi is too far or disconnect, interface ask-back for the wpa key again, even if it's already registred (with the correct key) in the profile/system…
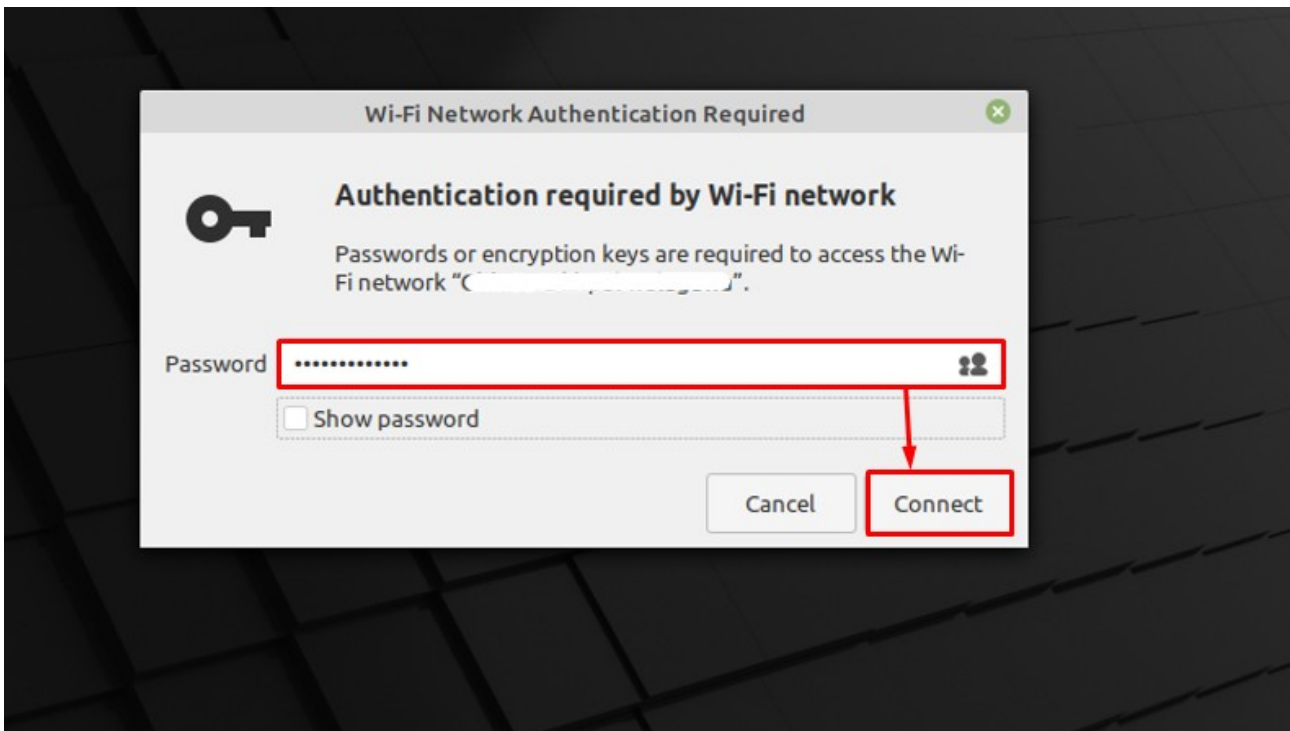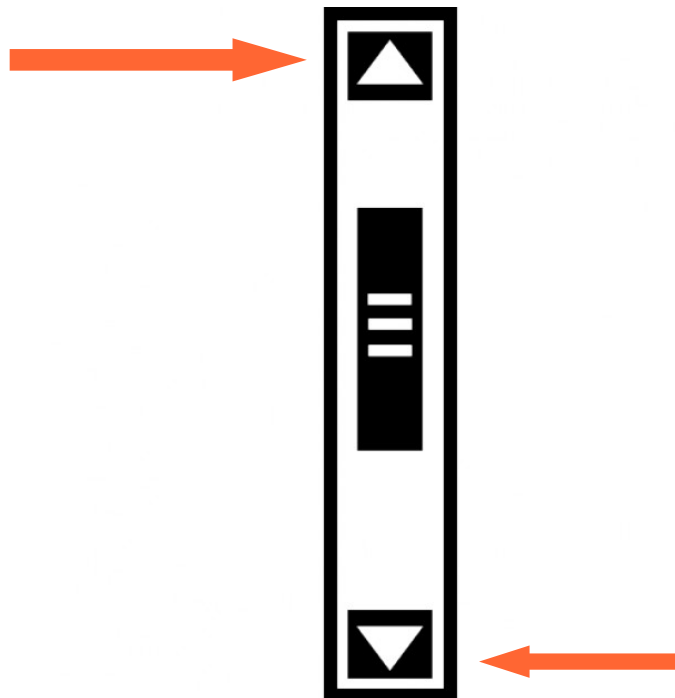

From user's feedback came great improvements...

V : /var/log/, avoid gigabites of logging

Why not @weekly crontab to rm -rf /var/logs and avoid gigabites of logging ?
On low spacedisk installation, it's not so hard to see that after few months of usage, the logs could take up to few gigabites of space disk usage. It's something whom can (or might be) corrected, eg with a 1month+ logs removal !

VI : Bring us back our up/down arrows ! :O

where are gone the up/down arrows on the left/right of windows??
it was very practical, it's now unfortunately very unconvenient to see their disappearance..

From user's feedback came great improvements...

VII : SSH : Show the number of failed attempts ..

when logged into root user : it might be a good security warning to see the number of failed connection attempts in ssh, to see if somebody tried to get the superuser rights !

VII. Enable the magic keys, by default

It's probably one of the most userful necessary features that linux kernel proposes, but few only distros add it : the magic keys. You might have noticed they are not enabled by default. They should be, on every linux/unix distro : they are more useful than you think !
In a way, when the computer runs lot of activity, with several heavy or more heavy software, it's obvious that a crash could happen. But that doesnt means the computer will restart, or properly restart. A salvage reboot is excluded, so either a win/altg/printscreen/F is required to kill a huge-memory consumption, or definitely kill the Xorg server, using K instead of F.
That first one saved a lot of data by killing firefox or other software that used mainly to view data, not create/modify.. And allow the possibility to save unfiled notes within xed or others little notepad or LO writter application, whenever the computer didnt responded just few minutes ago..

That's why, bring the default magic keys, might be an absolutely prequesite in the daily usage, especially on old computers !

From user's feedback came great improvements...