

Linux

Linux (/ˈliːnɒs/ (listen) *LEE-nuuks* or /ˈlɪnɒs/ *LIN-uuks*)^[11] is an [open-source Unix-like operating system](#) based on the [Linux kernel](#),^[12] an [operating system kernel](#) first released on September 17, 1991, by [Linus Torvalds](#).^{[13][14][15]} Linux is typically [packaged](#) as a [Linux distribution](#).

Distributions include the Linux kernel and supporting [system software](#) and [libraries](#), many of which are provided by the [GNU Project](#). Many Linux distributions use the word "Linux" in their name, but the [Free Software Foundation](#) uses the name "**GNU/Linux**" to emphasize the importance of [GNU](#) software, [causing some controversy](#).^{[16][17]}

Popular Linux distributions^{[18][19][20]} include [Debian](#), [Fedora Linux](#), and [Ubuntu](#), which in itself has many different distributions and modifications, including [Lubuntu](#) and [Xubuntu](#). Commercial distributions include [Red Hat Enterprise Linux](#) and [SUSE Linux Enterprise](#). Desktop Linux distributions include a [windowing system](#) such as [X11](#) or [Wayland](#), and a [desktop environment](#) such as [GNOME](#) or [KDE Plasma](#). Distributions intended for [servers](#) may omit [graphics](#) altogether, or include a [solution stack](#) such as [LAMP](#). Because Linux is freely redistributable, anyone may create a distribution for any purpose.[

