The Debian Manual for Rookies

This manual which describes my Debian machine is written for beginners in the CS field. After the whole lecture of this manual you will be a master of Debian! (or not...)

First steps...

First of all, you are logged in a Debian session, you have probably at this moment an interface like this:



Some office softwares...

Firefox

If you want to run a web browser (like Firefox), you have to left-click with the mouse to the green logo at the top-left corner then you left-lick to 'Internet' section (with the Earth logo) and then you left-click to 'Firefox ESR' program.

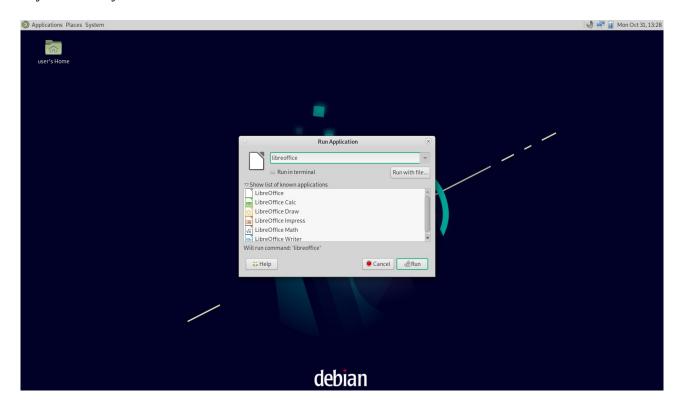
Tip: If you want to close an active window (active window is when the mouse cursor is focused on a window), you have to simultaneously press the '**Alt**' and '**F4**' buttons with the keyboard.

Gimp

If you want to edit some pictures, you can run 'Gimp', it's the best free alternative to Photoshop, for this, you have also to left-click with the mouse to the green logo then you left-click to 'Graphics' section and you left-click to 'GNU Image Manipulation Program' or 'GIMP'.

LibreOffice

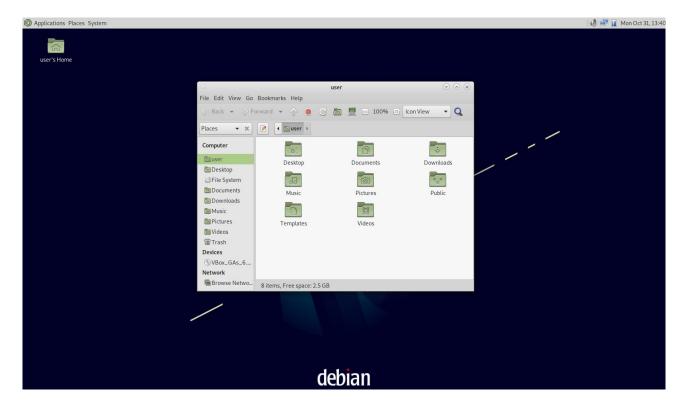
You can also use the famous word processing software named 'Libreoffice', it's useful to write some courses or exercises by teachers, it's also the most popular alternative to 'Microsoft Office'. To run quickly this program, you can simultaneously press 'Alt' and 'F2' buttons with key keyboard and you search 'Libreoffice' like this:



Tip: You have to press simultaneously '**Ctrl**' + '**C**' (or '**Ctrl**' + '**Shift**' + '**C**' in the terminal) to copy a text and '**Ctrl**' + '**V**' (or '**Ctrl**' + '**Shift**' + '**V**' in the terminal) to paste a text that you have copied.

Explore the desktop...

If you want to explore your files, like photos, PDF documents, videos, etc. You can left-click with the mouse to 'Places' section at the top of the Debian panel, then you left-click to 'Home folder', this window will appear:



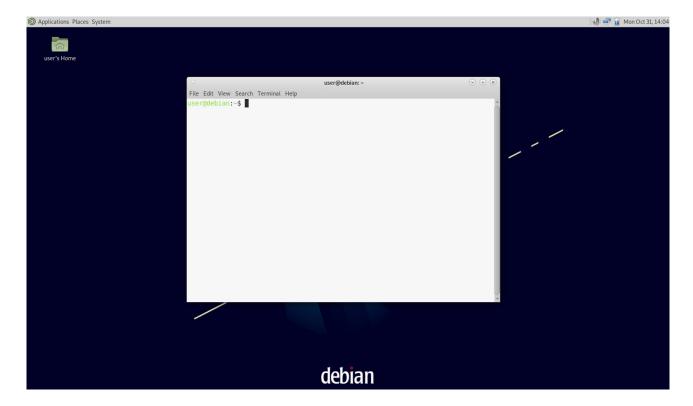
The interface of this file explorer is as inituitive as Windows file explorer, you have the traditional folders like 'Documents', 'Downloads', 'Music', etc. these folders are stored in your Home 'folder', the screen capture at the top show the 'Home' folder'.

Tip: Press simultaneously '**Alt**' + '**Tab**' to switch between programs (like Libreoffice, Firefox, or File Explorer).

Terminal

Now, we will talk about the most interesting program, this program runs constantly a processus named 'Bash', this processus is powerful and allows to execute commands in order to interact with the system.

To open the terminal, you can do the same thing than Firefox or LibreOffice or you can press simultaneously 'Ctrl' + 'Alt' + 'T', you should have this:



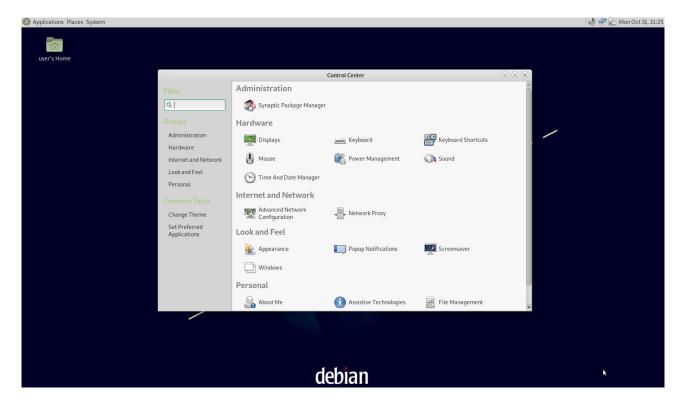
There is a lot of commands, but here we will list the most basic commands: When you run the terminal, the current directory is the 'Home' folder.

- **cd** [**path**]: Change the current directory to this path (ex : cd Documents).
- **ls** : Listing all directories/files in the current directory.
- **mkdir** [directory_name] : Create a directory in the current directory.
- mv [path_directory_or_file] [path_directory] : Move a directory or a file in another directory.
 - **cp [file] directory** : Copy a file in a directory.

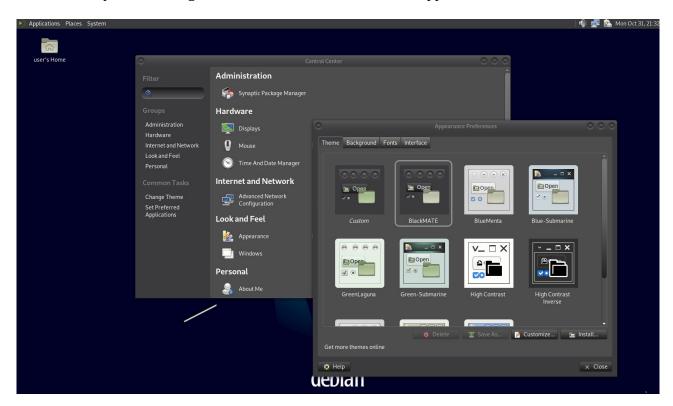
Tip: Press simultaneously '**Ctrl**' + '**a**' to put the black cursor at the start in the terminal or press simultaneously '**Ctrl**' + '**e**' to put the black cursor at the end in the terminal.

Set up your Debian

Finally, you can set up a lot of things in your Debian like the mouse, keyboard, appearance, etc. For this you can left-click with the mouse to 'System' section at the top of the Debian panel, then you left-click to 'Control Center', this window will appear:



For instance, you can change the color of the windows in the 'Appearance' section



(633 words)