

Applied Operating System Study Guide

Module 2

LINUX OVERVIEW, INSTALLATION AND ENVIRONMENT FAMILIARIZATION

LINUX OVERVIEW

What is Linux?

- Unix-like
- Free
- Open Source
- Network operating system
- Developed under the GNU General Public License (GPL), the source code for Linux is freely available to everyone.

Who developed Linux?

- Linus Torvalds
- University of Helsinki in Finland
- 1991
- He used special educational experimental purpose operating system called Minix (small version of Unix and used in Academic environment). But due to Minix limitations. Linus felt he could do better than the Minix. So he developed his own version of Minix, which is now known as Linux.

How to get Linux?

- Download over the net
- Order CD from Linux distributions
- Versions/types of Linux operating system are called Distributions.
- CentOS is one of the most used Linux Distribution for enterprise and web servers. It is a free enterprise class Operating system and is based heavily on Red Hat enterprise Distro.

Other Linux Distros are as follows:



Where can I use Linux?

- Server OS

- Stand-alone OS

As a server OS, it provides different services/network resources to client. Server OS must be:

- Stable
- Robust
- Secure
- High Performance

Linux as Server OS



Linux as Stand-alone OS

Linux offers bundled applications such as follows:

- Open Office (Writer, Impress, Calc)
- Graphics/image-editing software (Gimp)
- Software development (Phyton)
- Internet, e-mail, chatting
- Small personal database management system, etc.

Major Components of Linux

- Kernel
- Shell
- File System
- Communication/Networking
- Text Processing
- Programming
- System Management
- Online Documentation
- Graphical Environment