# The Linux Kernel documentation

This is the top level of the kernel’s documentation tree. Kernel documentation, like the kernel itself, is very much a work in progress; that is especially true as we work to integrate our many scattered documents into a coherent whole. Please note that improvements to the documentation are welcome; join the linux-doc list at vger.kernel.org if you want to help out.

## Working with the development community

The essential guides for interacting with the kernel’s development community and getting your work upstream.

* [Development process](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/process/development-process.html)
* [Submitting patches](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/process/submitting-patches.html)
* [Code of conduct](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/process/code-of-conduct.html)
* [Maintainer handbook](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/maintainer/index.html)
* [All development-process docs](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/process/index.html)

## Internal API manuals

Manuals for use by developers working to interface with the rest of the kernel.

* [Core API](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/core-api/index.html)
* [Driver APIs](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/driver-api/index.html)
* [Subsystems](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/subsystem-apis.html)
* [Locking](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/locking/index.html)

## Development tools and processes

Various other manuals with useful information for all kernel developers.

* [Licensing rules](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/process/license-rules.html)
* [Writing documentation](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/doc-guide/index.html)
* [Development tools](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/dev-tools/index.html)
* [Testing guide](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/dev-tools/testing-overview.html)
* [Hacking guide](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/kernel-hacking/index.html)
* [Tracing](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/trace/index.html)
* [Fault injection](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/fault-injection/index.html)
* [Livepatching](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/livepatch/index.html)
* [Rust](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/rust/index.html)

## User-oriented documentation

The following manuals are written for *users* of the kernel — those who are trying to get it to work optimally on a given system and application developers seeking information on the kernel’s user-space APIs.

* [Administration](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/admin-guide/index.html)
* [Build system](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/kbuild/index.html)
* [Reporting issues](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/admin-guide/reporting-issues.html)
* [Userspace tools](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/tools/index.html)
* [Userspace API](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/userspace-api/index.html)

See also: the [Linux man pages](https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/), which are kept separately from the kernel’s own documentation.

## Firmware-related documentation

The following holds information on the kernel’s expectations regarding the platform firmwares.

* [Firmware](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/firmware-guide/index.html)
* [Firmware and Devicetree](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/devicetree/index.html)

## Architecture-specific documentation

* [CPU architectures](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/index.html)
  + [ARC architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/arc/index.html)
  + [ARM Architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/arm/index.html)
  + [ARM64 Architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/arm64/index.html)
  + [LoongArch Architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/loongarch/index.html)
  + [m68k Architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/m68k/index.html)
  + [MIPS-specific Documentation](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/mips/index.html)
  + [Nios II Specific Documentation](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/nios2/index.html)
  + [OpenRISC Architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/openrisc/index.html)
  + [PA-RISC Architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/parisc/index.html)
  + [powerpc](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/powerpc/index.html)
  + [RISC-V architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/riscv/index.html)
  + [s390 Architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/s390/index.html)
  + [SuperH Interfaces Guide](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/sh/index.html)
  + [Sparc Architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/sparc/index.html)
  + [x86-specific Documentation](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/x86/index.html)
  + [Xtensa Architecture](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/arch/xtensa/index.html)

## Other documentation

There are several unsorted documents that don’t seem to fit on other parts of the documentation body, or may require some adjustments and/or conversion to reStructuredText format, or are simply too old.

* [Unsorted documentation](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/staging/index.html)

## Translations

* [Translations](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/translations/index.html)
  + [中文翻译](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/translations/zh_CN/index.html)
  + [繁體中文翻譯](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/translations/zh_TW/index.html)
  + [La documentazione del kernel Linux](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/translations/it_IT/index.html)
  + [한국어 번역](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/translations/ko_KR/index.html)
  + [日本語訳](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/translations/ja_JP/index.html)
  + [Traducción al español](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/translations/sp_SP/index.html)
  + [Disclaimer](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/translations/index.html#disclaimer)

## Indices and tables

* [Index](https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/genindex.html)

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