



1 min

▶ **Video:** Module 1 Overview  
1 min

▶ **Video:** Kernel vs. Operating System and Tools  
4 min

▶ **Video:** History of Linux  
3 min

▶ **Video:** UNIX and Linux  
4 min

▶ **Video:** Linux Distributions  
4 min

▶ **Video:** Using Linux Distributions (Demo)  
5 min

📖 **Reading:** Linux Standard Base  
5 min

## History of Linux

### The Creation of Linux

- **Linux** was first announced to the world on August 25, 1991, by **Linus Torvalds**, then a 21-year-old student at The University of Helsinki, in a posting to a **Usenet** newsgroup
- Linus' original motivation was to write a terminal emulator for the purpose of accessing the University's **UNIX** servers
- He began using the **MINIX** operating system, but became frustrated by its licensing constraints (which limited it to educational use) and by the procedures for having changes made

*From: torvalds@klaava.Helsinki.FI (Linus Benedict Torvalds)  
Newsgroups: comp.os.minix  
Subject: What would you like to see most in minix?  
Summary: small poll for my new operating system  
Message-ID: <1991Aug25.205708.9541@klaava.Helsinki.FI>  
Date: 25 Aug 91 20:57:08 GMT  
Organization: University of Helsinki*

*Hello everybody out there using minix –*

*I'm doing a (free) operating system (just a hobby, won't be big and professional like gnu) for 386(486) AT clones. This has been brewing since april, and is starting to get ready. I'd like any feedback on things people like/dislike in minix, as my OS resembles it somewhat (same physical layout of the file-system (due to practical reasons) among other things).*

*I've currently ported bash(1.08) and gcc(1.40), and things seem to work. This implies that I'll get something practical within a few months, and I'd like to know what features most people would want. Any suggestions are welcome, but I won't promise I'll implement them 😊*

*Linus (torvalds@kruuna.helsinki.fi)*

*PS. Yes – it's free of any minix code, and it has a multi-threaded fs. It is NOT portable (uses 386 task switching etc), and it probably never*