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1.9. FAQ

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**1.9.1.** Is Bochs Open Source?

Yes! Bochs is released under the [GNU LGPL](http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/lesser.html), much thanks to MandrakeSoft (now called [Mandriva](http://www.mandriva.com)).

**1.9.2.** How do you pronounce "Bochs"?

Phonetically the same as the English word "box". It's just a play on the word "box", since techies like to call their machines a "Linux box", "Windows box", ... Bochs emulates a box inside a box.

**1.9.3.** Who is the author of Bochs?

Kevin Lawton is the primary author of Bochs. There have been bug fixes, enhancements, and code contributions from some few hundred people, so it is not possible to list them all. Recently, Kevin has been working on a PC virtualization project called [plex86](http://savannah.nongnu.org/projects/plex86). In Fall 2002, he made contributed some major CPU speedups and helped with integration and debugging of the x86-64 emulation code.

**1.9.4.**  Who maintains Bochs now?

With Kevin's help, in April 2001, the members of the [bochs-developers mailing list](http://docs.google.com/mailinglist.html#BOCHS-DEVELOPERS) set up a new official Bochs site hosted by [Source Forge](http://sourcefourge.net). The admins on this project are Greg Alexander, Don Becker, Christophe Bothamy, Bryce Denney, Volker Ruppert and Stanislav Shwartsman.

**1.9.5.**  Tell me about performance when running Bochs.

Because Bochs emulates every x86 instruction and all the devices in a PC system, it does not reach high emulation speeds. Users who have an x86 processor and want the highest emulation speeds may want to consider PC virtualization software such as Vmware or VirtualBox (free software). Another related project is [QEMU](http://www.qemu.org/).

**1.9.6.**  Does Bochs use a disk partition to install the OS?

No. It uses a disk image file, which is simply a large file, like any other file, on your platform's disk.

**1.9.7.**  Why can't I use Bochs with my current WinXP installation?

Think about this. If you had two different PC's, they would require different hardware drivers. So you may not be able to safely move a disk drive with WinXP on it, from one to the other. Bochs is no different. It emulates a certain set of hardware devices, and requires each OS be configured for those devices.

**1.9.8.**  Is there a developer's email list for Bochs?

Yes. For instructions on joining, refer to [Section 7.2](http://docs.google.com/mailinglist.html).

**1.9.9.**  Is there an IRC channel for Bochs?

Yes. You will usually find Bochs developers and users on IRC at irc.freenode.net:6667, channel #bochs.

**1.9.10.**  Do you know of any snapshots of Bochs running Windows?

Yes! Look for "Screen Shots" on [bochs.sourceforge.net](http://bochs.sourceforge.net) or on other Bochs sites.

**1.9.11.**  Does Bochs support a CD-ROM?

Yes, a CD-ROM is supported in Linux, Windows, and most BSDs. The CD-ROM drivers for Bochs allow the guest operating system to access the host operating system's CD-ROM data directly.

**1.9.12.**  Does Bochs support a sound device?

Yes, Bochs emulates a Sound Blaster 16 card (ISA, no plug&play) or an ES1370 PCI. Output to the host sound system is implemented for some platforms. See [Section 1.7](http://docs.google.com/features.html) for details.

**1.9.13.**  Does Bochs support a network card?

Yes. Bochs emulates an NE2000 compatible network card (ISA / PCI) or an Intel(R) 82540EM Gigabit Ethernet adapter (PCI). Networking is not supported on all platforms. See [Section 1.7](http://docs.google.com/features.html) for details.

**1.9.14.**  What applications are known to run inside of Bochs?

Well, lot's of different OS's run inside of Bochs, so thousands. I'm assuming you are asking about Windows programs. To give you a few, the following ones from the Winstone'98 tests worked: Access 97, CorelDRAW! 7, Excel 97, Lotus 1-2-3 97, Word 97, PowerPoint 97, Quattro Pro 7, WordPerfect 7.

Also, I've compiled an entire OS kernel inside Bochs before. Not to mention, running DOOM, though at then-pathetic speeds.

**1.9.15.**  I am new to Bochs, how do I start?

You should read [Chapter 4](http://docs.google.com/setup.html) first. Next, you can check [Chapter 9](http://docs.google.com/guests.html) if there specific instructions on how to install your (guest) OS inside of Bochs.

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