

“Gentoo is all about choice.”

— Daniel Robbins, the founder of Gentoo

Portage

Portage is our official package management system. Portage currently offers over 13,000 packages—all waiting for you to install them. That number grows daily!

Ebuilds

Ebuilds are like software installation recipes. They tell Portage how to download, unpack, prepare, compile, test and install a package.

When it comes to modifying a package’s installation routine, Ebuilds show their real advantage: After all, they are just plain text files. Simply edit them using your favorite text editor!

USE flags

Even within the realm of a single package, Gentoo can offer you choices: Imagine a multimedia player like VLC. It supports lots of different formats and provides dozens of plug-ins.

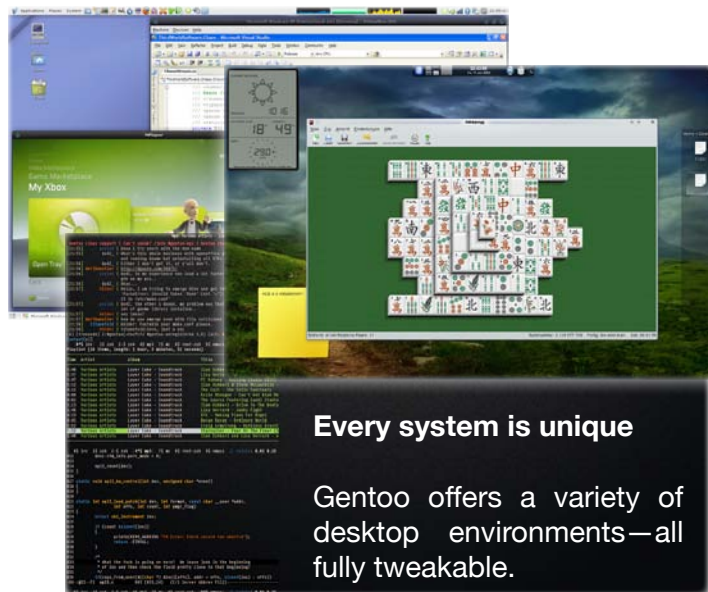
Every system is unique, as are the needed and the unwanted features.

Gentoo allows you to explicitly enable or disable particular features of a package.

For instance, you’d like a VLC with a graphical user interface, support for OGG and Theora, but without the plug-ins for formats like MP3 or DVD. Here’s how you put that in Gentoo’s terms:

```
USE="X theora ogg -mp3 -dvd"
```

Makes sense, doesn’t it?



Every system is unique

Gentoo offers a variety of desktop environments—all fully tweakable.

The space on these six pages is too limited to present Gentoo thoroughly. So, please do not hesitate to fire all your questions at our booth staff! They look forward to interesting conversations.

Our homepage has more details on all the topics mentioned in this leaflet:

<http://www.gentoo.org>

The Gentoo discussion forums:

<http://forums.gentoo.org>

Visit us on IRC (more channels are on our web site):

<irc://irc.freenode.net/#gentoo>

The Gentoo Wiki lives at:

<http://www.gentoo-wiki.com>

And mailing lists can be found here:

<http://gentoo.org/main/en/lists.xml>

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It's all about choice.



gentoo linux™

www.gentoo.org

Welcome to Gentoo!

We develop Gentoo, a top-notch Linux® meta-distribution made for dynamic environments. Whether you need a decent desktop operating system, a server framework or embedded solution, Gentoo will undoubtedly deliver results.



The Gentoo Foundation is the base of the Gentoo project which is extensively working on Free Software. Gentoo unites developers from all around the globe, each of them an expert in a particular field, but all share a passion for Open Source.

More than “just” software

Software is only one part of a solution. Gentoo provides you with a complete solution: Software, documentation and support, your personal Linux one-stop-shop, so to say.

Welcome to Gentoo!

— Larry the Cow
The Gentoo Mascot



Did you know...

...that Gentoo’s active Security Team provides **security updates on a daily basis?**

...that Gentoo is supported on a **multitude of architectures?** amd64, x86, alpha, hppa, ppc, ppc64, sparc, ia64, arm and mips to name a few.

...that by using “Gentoo Prefix” you can have the features of Gentoo, including most of the packages available in Portage, on systems like **FreeBSD, Solaris or Mac OS X?**

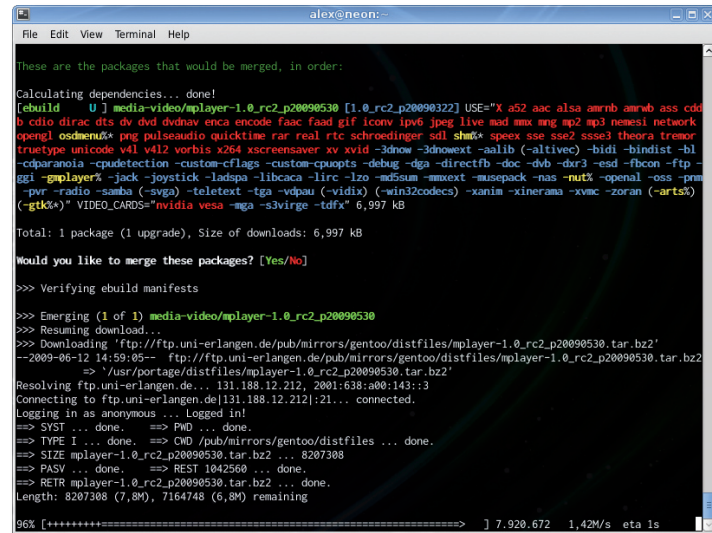
...that Gentoo isn’t just a hype? **Gentoo exists since 1999**, that’s over 10 years!

...that corporate customers love Gentoo? For instance, **Engine Yard™**, the leading Rails Cloud provider counts on Gentoo.



...that Gentoo handles **binary packages** just fine?

...that Gentoo is named after the Gentoo Penguin, which is the fastest swimming penguin?



Portage in action: emerge mplayer

A new Linux—Every 30 minutes

Gentoo is brought to you as a “rolling release”—so there is no “Gentoo 5.0”, rather the distribution is renewed all the time. New and improved packages reach our users within 30 minutes after addition.

Installation

When installing Gentoo, one uses a snapshot built from the current Gentoo portage tree. The snapshot is updated every two weeks so that a fresh Gentoo installation is never lagging behind our active development.

The Handbook

As you know by now, Gentoo is all about choice. That makes it hard to install a Gentoo system exactly according to your wishes just by clicking a few times. That’s why we have created the **Gentoo Handbook**. In 10 steps, it guides you through the installation of a Gentoo system. The Handbook offers sensible alternatives wherever possible while minimizing room for error.

Documentation and Support

Besides the Handbook, Gentoo offers excellent official documentation resources covering various topics: Installing and configuring X, KDE, Gnome, Bluetooth, how to use Gentoo as a home router, and much more.

But it goes even further: The **Gentoo Wiki** is a place where Gentoo experts share their knowledge in community documentation.

Is your question still not answered? You’re not alone! Come by the **Gentoo Forums** which contain almost 5 million posts, or visit **#gentoo**, one of the biggest IRC channels on Freenode.