How I installed the Awesome window manager from the git repository.
I hope this would save someone some hassle, I am using Debian lenny. In ubuntu it was an altogether a much different experience.

First you want to get the repository. Open a terminal and type:
$git clone git://git.naquadah.org/awesome.git

then you'd need a million and a half dependencies, I think that these are the only ones, If I've missed anything or if there is something here that you don't actually need please let me know

as root or with sudo:
*$*vi /etc/apt/sources
and add the following line:
deb ftp://ftp.debian.org/debian testing main

apt-get install x11proto-core-dev cmake gperf imagemagick libxdg-basedir-dev libimlib2-dev libglib2.0-dev libcairo2-dev asciidoc liblua5.1-0-dev libpangomm-1.4-dev libxcb-randr0-dev libxcb-xtest0-dev libxcb-xinerama0-dev libxcb-shape0-dev libxcb-event1-dev libxcb-aux0-dev libxcb-atom1-dev libxcb-keysyms1-dev libxcb-icccm1-dev libxcb-image0-dev libstartup-notification0 libstartup-notification0-dev libev-dev libxcb1

then optionally get the documentation building tools(also as root or sudo):
$apt-get install doxygen asciidoc luadoc

then
$cd awesome
$make
$make install # as root or with sudo

Copy the awesome config file
$mkdir ~/.config/awesome
$cp awesomerc.lua.in ~/.config/awesome/rc.lua

Then you'd need to tell X to open awesome
$vi .xinitrc
and
$vi .xsession
if it's an empty file just add "exec awesome". If not change what ever is there (twm, gnome, kde...) to awesome

log out, and click session, then select "run X client config" (or whatever the equivalent is) and log in.

note: There might be some extra steps you need to take before the make & make install checkout http://awesome.naquadah.org/wiki/Awesome-3-git-debian
and the README file from that page.

and that's it. Please let me know of anything else.