

What is Linux?

Linux is a grassroots Unix computer operating system developed by cooperation via the Internet among some of the best programmers in the world. Unix is a true multitasking, multiuser operating system. That is, each user has their own user account and each program runs independently of any others. This offers a high level of system stability in that if one program crashes, the others will continue to run.

Linux offers "scalability" in that it can be customized to run as a desktop workstation, a World-Wide Web server, a fileserver, a supercomputer cluster, or as a router between major computer networks. It can run on hardware as varied as Macintosh, IBM-compatibles, SUN Sparc, and DEC Alpha. Most of the applications for Linux can be downloaded free off the Internet. Linux is a good way to recycle lower-end PCs to build your own home network.

Most importantly, Linux gives you the ultimate control over your computer and what software you can run on it without having to wait or pay for continual upgrades. If you want speed, power, and flexibility, Linux is for you!



The Linux Development Model

Linux is the "core" of the operating system also known as the kernel. Since most of the system software and utilities are developed by the GNU Free Software Foundation, the operating system is most properly called GNU/Linux



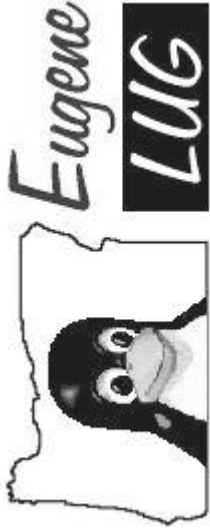
Under the license known as the GNU Public License (GPL), the original writer of the software owns the rights to the software that he wrote, but others are free to add to the application or use any part of the code for another application, provided that the code that they write is then released under the same license. This is very similar to the concept of peer review used in science and technical fields, and was the way that Interactive Computing started at MIT in the 60s.

GPL software allows for the *fast* development of software, since programmers can share work with each other. Most software bugs are fixed within hours and weeks, compared with months and years for proprietary systems.



It might be, if you:

- Want someone to set up your computer so that you can just surf or read E-mail cheaply
- Believe in grassroots movements
- Want to choose your software
- Like to tinker, experiment, and "Roll Your Own"
- Want to learn more about how your computer really works
- Have an older computer that you want to use for something other than a doorstop or paperweight
- Spend a great deal of time on the Internet
- Are tired of system crashes and the resulting loss of data that they bring
- Are a "MS-Windows Power User"
- Work on multiple tasks at one time and want an OS that does the same
- Are into "bleeding edge" computer technologies
- Have used Unix in the past and liked the power of the operating system
- Program in any language
- Are a Computer Professional
- Have a permanent Internet connection and want to set up your own web and FTP site
- Are a Network Administrator who wants to augment or replace your existing network



Eugene Linux Users Group

Eugene Linux Users Group (EUGLUG) is a non-profit organization dedicated to learning more about the Linux operating system, to help others use and learn Linux, to advocate the use of Linux, and to share ideas about Linux.

We meet every Thursday from 6-8pm for clinics covering Linux help and tips, Linux installations, general Linux discussions, and anything else that's deemed worthy. Feel free to show up with a computer for an installation or to fix that problem that's been bothering you for months.

We also meet every 3rd Saturday of the month from 2-4pm for a more "formal" presentation from one of our members or a knowledgeable guest.

We offer technical support and advice via our email list.

Our meeting place is
The PC Training Center
637 West 7th, Eugene, OR
Phone: 485-8436

For more information, see our web site at
<http://eugene-linux.cyber-dyne.com>

GNU/Linux Software

Graphical User Interfaces

X Window System • K Desktop • GNOME Desktop • Enlightenment Desktop *and many others*

Internet

Netscape Communicator • Apache Web Server Zope Web-Site Creation Utility • nftp *and many others*

Office Tools

Wordperfect Office Suite • Applixware Office Suite StarOffice Office Suite • Hylafax Fax Server *and many others*

Graphics

GIMP Graphics Editor • LinuxCAD Drafting and Modeling • QCAD • POV-Ray and Radiance rendering • Sketch vector graphics *and many others*

Games

Quake 1-2 • Quake III Arena • Civilization III: Call to Power • DOOM • Myth II - Soulblighter Railroad Tycoon II *and many others*

Windows Connectivity

SAMBA MS-Windows file and print server • VMWare virtual PC • DOSEMU DOS Emulator WINE MS-Windows Emulator *and many others*

Database and Business

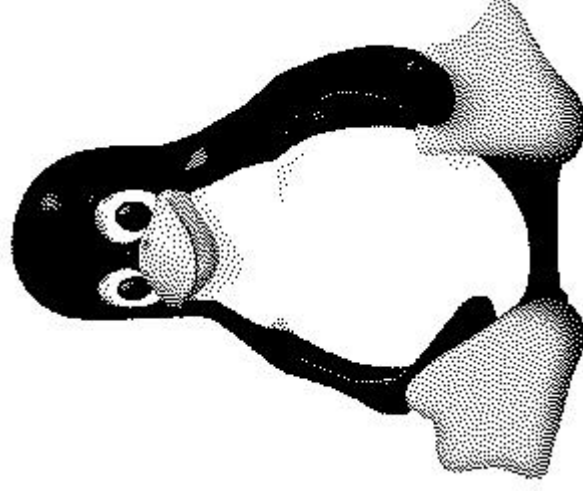
ORACLE • APPGEN E-Business Software POSTGRES • MYSQL *and many others*

Software development

C, C++, PERL, JAVA, Python, TCL/TK, FORTRAN GNU EMACS IDE • VI Editor • GTK/GDK GUI toolkit • GLADE UI editor *and many others*

Most Linux Software is free!

Eugene Linux Users Group



Your local connection to the Open Source Movement