Introduction to Ubuntu Linux

Geof Goodrum
Washington Area Computer User Group
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Agenda

- System Requirements

- Getting Ubuntu

- Installing Ubuntu

- Desktop Environments

- Ubuntu Software Center

- Maintaining Ubuntu

System Requirements

- Minimum Recommended

    - 512 MB RAM

    - 1 GHz 32-bit x86 processor

    - 5 GB hard disk

    - 800x600 resolution graphics

Getting Ubuntu

- Follow link at http://www.ubuntu.com/

  - Free download (~700 MB) or order CD/DVD

  - 32-bit and 64-bit x86 versions

  - Desktop and Server variants

  - Installers

    - Graphical and Alternate installers

      - .iso images for CD or thumb drive
    - Windows application installer (WUBI)

Installing Ubuntu

- Or run directly from CD or thumb drive

- Easy step-by-step instructions

- All drivers and basic applications included

  - No disk swapping required!

- Built-in partition editor

- Option to encrypt user directory

- Co-exists with Windows

  - Windows application, select at boot, or virtualized

Ubuntu Software Center

- Simplified interface to browse, add, and remove software

  - Resolves dependencies automatically

- Commercial and free software available

  - Over 36,000 titles

- Includes descriptions, screenshots (where available), and user reviews

- Simple search box

- Installation History

Desktop Environments

- Unity (Ubuntu default) – new, simplified user interface

- GNOME 3 Shell – new, developing

- KDE 4 (Kubuntu default) – highly integrated applications

- XFCE (Xubuntu default) – lightweight, traditional

- LXDE (Lubuntu default) – lightweight, traditional

Recommended Add-ons

- Install one of the following to support proprietary codecs (e.g. MP3, AVI, WMV, WMA)

  - Ubuntu restricted extras (if you have licenses already) or

  - Fluendo Complete Playback Pack (or Fluendo Windows Media Pack)

- DVD Player

  - libdvdread4 package (follow this link) or

  - Fluendo DVD Player

Selected Applications

- Winetricks, Wine Windows Program Loader
  - Install and run Windows applications under Linux
- gufw, ufw
  - Easy to configure software firewall
- GIMP Image Editor
  - Create raster images, edit photos
- Stellarium
  - Render view of celestial objects

Interface Enhancements

- GLX-Dock
  - Mac-like dock
- CompizConfig Settings Manager
  - Advanced eye candy, but risks system lock-up
  - See CompositeManager (link)
- Conky
  - Highly configurable on-screen status monitor
- XplanetFX http://mein-neues-blog.de/xplanetfx/
  - Render view of earth as background image

Maintaining Ubuntu

- Update Manager
  - Not unusual to have daily updates
  - Encompasses entire system (applications, OS)
- Release Schedule
  - Standard releases every six months with eighteen month update support
  - Long Term Support (LTS) releases every two years with three (five) years update support
  - See https://wiki.ubuntu.com/LTS

Questions?

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