Moving to Ubuntu Linux



Marcel Gagné

Award-Winning Author of the Linux Journal "Cooking with Linux" Column

Moving to Ubuntu Linux

Moving to Ubuntu Linux

Table of Contents

Contents

Acknowledgments

Foreword

Chapter 1 Introducing Ubuntu!

But What Is Linux?

Is Linux Really FREE?

Whats a Distribution?

Linux and the GPL

What Do I Gain?

Security

Stability

Power

Money

Freedom from Legal Hassles

What Do I Lose?

Hardware and Peripheral Support

Software Packages

A Step into the Unknown

Some Tips on Using This Book

Quick Tips and Shelling Out

Meet Your Desktop

Help Me!

The Ubuntu Community

The Linux Documentation Project



Linux User Groups

About the DVD

Its My Philosophy

Resources

Chapter 2 Running and Installing the Ubuntu Live DVD

Ready to Try Ubuntu Linux?

HELP!

Boot Level Options

Taking a Tour of Ubuntu Linux

Famous Places on the Menu

Administering and Personalizing Your System

Installing the Ubuntu Live DVD

Remember to Share

Resources

Chapter 3 Getting Your Hands Dirty (Desktop Overview)

Getting to Know You . . . GNOME

A Few Words About X

Logging In

Becoming One with the Desktop

Your First Application

Windows, Title Bars, and Menus, Oh My!

The Title Bar

On to the Menu Bar

And the Wastebasket?

Resizing Windows

Command Central

A Polite Introduction to the Command Line



Give Me More!

Changing Your Password; Its All About You!

User Security

Much Ado About sudo

I Need More Help!

Logging Out

Navigating Your Ubuntu Desktop

Resources

Chapter 4 Navigating Nautilus

Files, Directories, and the Root of All Things

Wherever You Go . . .

Search Me . . .

Navigating the Side Panel

Navigating Networks

Uh, Roger, Copy That . . .

Creating New Folders

Ive Changed My Mind (a.k.a. Renaming Files)

Copying Files and Directories (and Moving, Too!)

Wait! What About Links?

Which Brings Us to Permissions

Deleting Files and Folders

Other Interesting Places to Visit

My World, My Way

Making Your Home a Home

Chapter 5 Customizing Your Desktop (or Making Your World Your Own)

I Am Sovereign of All I Survey . . .



Changing the Background

Save My Screen, Please!

Moving Things Around

Is That a Theme or a Motif?

Defining Your Own Theme

Adding New Themes

Adding Icons and Shortcuts to Your Desktop

Applets Galore: Back to the Panel!

Miscellaneous Changes

Resources

Chapter 6 Printers and Other Hardware

Yes, It Runs with Linux!

Plug and Play

Printers and Printing

Network Printers

Print JobsWhere Are My Print Jobs?

Getting Familiar with Your Other Hardware

PCI Devices

USB Devices

Modems versus Winmodems

The Winmodem/Linmodem Roundup

What? More Devices?

Resources

Chapter 7 Connecting to the Internet

Before You Begin

Getting on the Net

Connecting to the Net with a Modem



Configuring Your Dial-up Connection

Cable Modems and High-Speed DSL

Going Wireless

The Windows-only Driver Dilemma

Okay, Im ConnectedNow What?

Resources

Chapter 8 Installing New Applications

Linux and Security

Identifying Software Packages

The Simplest Way to Add Applications

Removing Installed Packages

But Wait. Theres More!

The Synaptic Package Manager

Adding Repositories

Installing Software with Synaptic

Keeping Ubuntu Up-to-Date

DEBs, the Shell Way

Great, but Can You Tell Me What Is Already There?

Finding out a Packages Current Release Level

What Is That Strange File?

Using apt-get to Install or Update Software

Graphical or Nongraphical?

Chapter 9 Instant Messaging, and IRC, Too!

Why Jabber?

Instant Messaging with Gaim

IRC: Internet Relay Chat

XChat

Learning More About IRC



Resources

Chapter 10 Surfing the Net with Firefox

Mozilla versus Firefox

Working from Home

Keeping Tabs on the Web, Firefox Style

Go for the Big Screen

Ban the Pop-up Ads, Forever!

Yummy . . . Cookies

The Firefox Sidebar

Extending Firefox

Wrapping UpOther Browsers to Consider

Resources

Chapter 11 Evolution: Email and More!

Be Prepared . . .

Evolution

Sending and Receiving Mail

Your Little Black Book

Attached to You . . .

Other Options

Resources

Chapter 12 Evolution: Keeping Organized

Evolution and Planning

Creating Appointments

Lets Do That Again: Evolution Recurrence

The Makings of a Meeting

Tasks and Other To-Dos

Resources

Chapter 13 OpenOffice.org Writer (It Was a Dark and Stormy



Night . . .)

Getting Started with OpenOffice.org Writer

Write Now!

The Hunt for Typos

What Language Is That?

Saving Your Work

Printing Your Document

Toolbars of Every Kind . . .

Help!

To Word or Not to Word?

Personalizing Your Environment

A Wizard of Words

Navigating Style

Navigating the Rivers of Text

Speaking of Document Elements . . .

More! Give Me More!

Alternative Word Processor Choices

Resources

Chapter 14 OpenOffice.org Calc (Tables You Can Count On)

Starting a New Spreadsheet and Entering Data

Basic Math

Saving Your Work

Complex Charts and Graphs, Oh My!

Magical Totals

Nice, Colorful, Impressive, and Dynamic Graphs

Final Touches

A Beautiful Thing!

Alternatives

Resources



Chapter 15 OpenOffice.org Impress (For When You Need to Impress Someone)

Getting Ready to Impress

Inserting Slides

Adding Color

Printing Your Presentation

Instant Web Presentations

How About a Little Flash? Shocking!

So Whats with the Penguin?

Extra! Extra!

Alternatives

Resources

Chapter 16 OpenOffice.org Base

The Beginning: Creating a New Database

Setting the Table

No Wizards for Me!

Creating Mailing Labels

Further Exploring

Resources

Chapter 17 Digital Art with the GIMP

Ladies and Gentlemen, Start Your GIMP

Easy Logos with the GIMP

Saving and Opening Your Work

Printing Your Masterpiece

Tools, Tools, and More Tools

On to the Tool Icons

Touching Up Photographs



What Is Script-Fu?

Resources

Chapter 18 If Music Be the Food of Love . . . (Ubuntu Linux Multimedia)

Adjusting the Levels

Playing Audio CDs with the Sound Juicer

A Simpler CD Player

Ripping and Burning Songs

Intermezzo: Digital Audio Formats
Using Sound Juicer as a CD Ripper

Playing Your Songs

Can You Feel the Burn?

Burning a Data CD

A Note About Backups

Burning a Music CD with Serpentine

Put Another Nickel In . . .

Rhythmbox

Resources

Chapter 19 Would You Like to Play a Game? (Very Serious Fun)

Ubuntu Preinstalled Games

AisleRiot Solitaire

Ataxx

Blackjack

Five or More

Four-in-a-Row

Freecell Patience

Gnometris



lagno

Klotski

Mahjongg

Mines

Nibbles

Robots

Same GNOME

Tali

Tetravex

Must-Have Linux Games

Frozen-Bubble

PlanetPenguin Racer

Armagetron

More Games! I Need More Games!

Resources

Chapter 20 Turning Ubuntu into Kubuntu

Installing the Kubuntu Desktop

Doing It with the Shell

Resources

Chapter 21 Taking Command of Ubuntu Linux

Linux Commands: An Easy Start

Getting to the Shell

Commands to Know and Love, Part 1

Working with Files

Commands to Know and Love, Part 2

File Naming Conventions

Listing Files with Emotion!

A Peek at Metacharacters



File Permissions in the Shell

Not-So-Hidden Files

Strange Filenames That Just Dont Go Away

More on rm (or, Oops! I didnt really mean that)

Making Your Life Easier with alias

Forcing the Issue

Standard Input and Standard Output

Pipes and Piping

tee: A Very Special Pipe

STDERR

The Road to Nowhere

Linux Commands: Working with Directories

Theres No Place Like \$HOME

More on File Permissions

User and Group Ownership

Who Can Do What?

Who Was That Masked User?

The setuid Bit

Finding Anything

Using grep

Processes

Forests and Trees

Interrupting, Suspending, and Restarting Processes

Killing Processes

Working with Editors

Meet gedit

I Am vi, the Great and Powerful

:q, :w, :wq, and ZZ

Recovering a vi Session



Power vi: Start-Up Options

Other Editor Options

Resources

Appendix A: The GNU General Public License

GNU General Public License

Preamble

GNU General Public License Terms and Conditions for Copying,
Distribution, and Modification

No Warranty

How to Apply These Terms to Your New Programs

Resources

Index

