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iSHARE

it is power

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Department Of Computer Science UG

Ishare

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Editorial

We would like to wholeheartedly thank our honorable Chairman, Secretary, Executive Director and Principal for their continuous encouragement and constant support for bringing out the magazine. We profoundly thank our Head of the Department for encouraging and motivating us to lead the magazine a successful one right from the beginning. Ishare serves as a platform for updating and enhancing upcoming technologies in Information and Communication. We are grateful to all the contributors to this magazine so far. The magazine has been sent to almost 60 Institutions in and around Tamilnadu. So far we have received feedbacks and appreciations from various Institutions.

We would be very pleased to receive your feedbacks. Please send your feedbacks to ishare@ksrcas.edu

By,

Editorial Board

CONTENT

HUB OF KNOWLEDGE
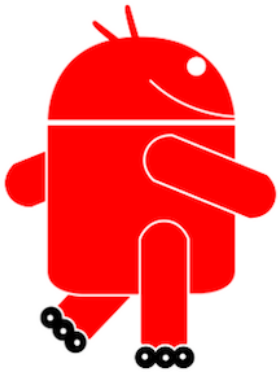
1. OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARES

1) *Replicant - Fully Free Android Distribution*

Replicant is **entirely free and open source distributions of Android** on several devices including both phones and tablets. You can install apps from F-Droid store a GPLv2 client app that comes configured with a repository hosting only free as in freedom applications.


Operating system : Linux/Android
Purpose : Free os for phone/tablets
Targets : User who wish to have a full control over the

mobile phone with strong privacy settings
License : Apache License 2.0/GPL 2.0

2) *Miro Video Converter*

This is an open source, cross-platform application to convert videos from and to various formats, including formats suitable for devices such as Android/iOS phones. It is simple and easy to use software to **convert almost any video to MP4, WebM (vp8), Ogg Theora** format. Miro Video Converter is based on FFMPEG and act as a front end to FFMPEG command line tools.
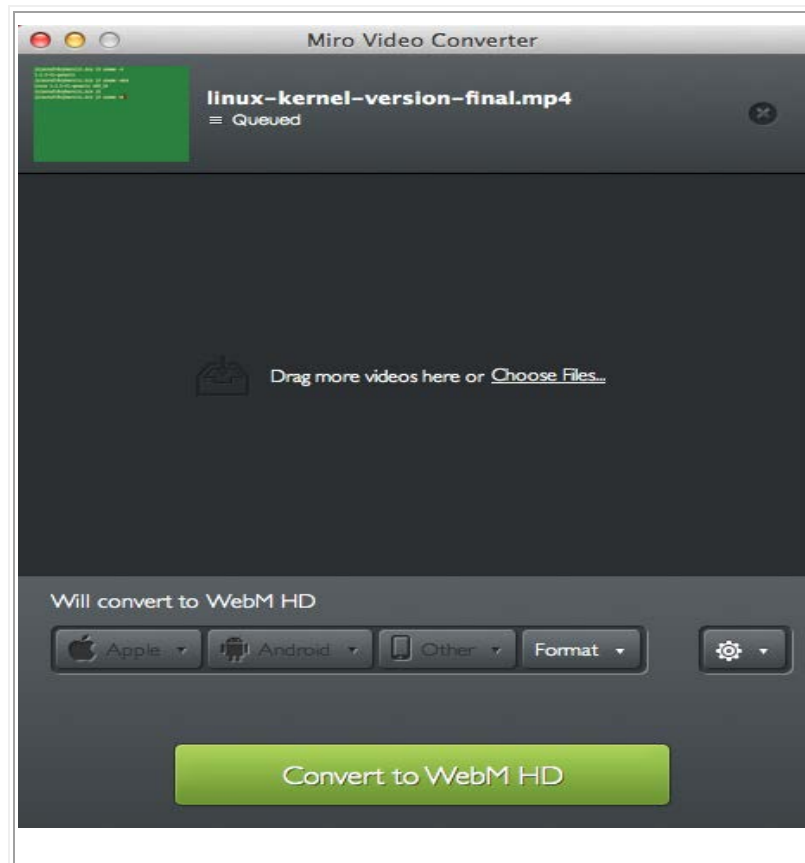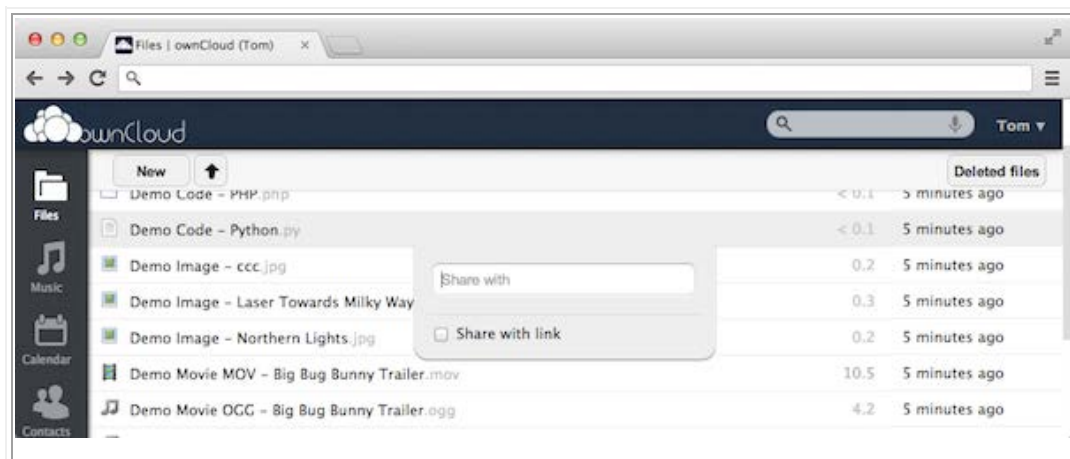
Operating system : Cross-platform
Purpose : Video converter
Targets : Multimedia users
License : GPL

3) *Owncloud - Dropbox Alternative For Cloud Storage Service*

An **alternative to Dropbox** to **run cloud on my own server** at home and office. This software is open source software, and it is self hosted. This software is easy to install and quite useful. I started to use it for syncing files and other data There are clients available for MS-Windows, OS X, Linux, and mobile apps for iOS and Android devices (or simply access data using the ownCloud web frontend).


Operating system : Cross-platform
Purpose : Cloud storage (Data synchronization)
Targets : Home users/IT departments/Sysadmins

License : AGPLv3

4) *Docker - Freebsd Like Container+Api For Linux*

The FreeBSD jail provides an operating system-level virtualization partition a FreeBSD-based serve into several independent mini-systems. We can do the same with Linux using OpenVZ. Linux Containers (LXC) is a virtualization method for running multiple isolated Linux systems. Docker extends LXC. It uses LXC, cgroups, Linux kernel and other parts to automate the deployment of applications inside software containers. It comes with API to runs processes in isolation. With docker we can pack WordPress (or any other app written in Python/Ruby/Php & friends) and its dependencies in a lightweight, portable, self-sufficient container. We can deploy and test such container on any Linux based server.

Operating system : Linux amd64
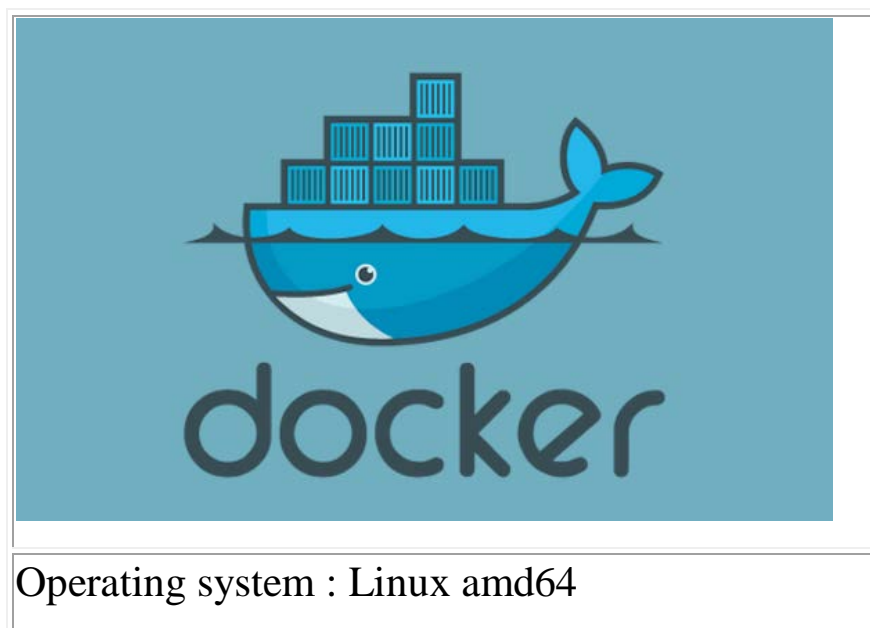
Purpose : OS level virtualization
Targets : DevOps/Sysadmins
License : Apache License 2.0

5) *Adminer - A Lightweight And Full-Featured Database Management Tool*

Adminer is a full-featured database management tool written in PHP. Conversely to phpMyAdmin, it consists of a single file ready to deploy to the target server. Adminer is available for MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQLite, MS SQL and Oracle. **Install this for clients who are new** to PostgreSQL/MySQL. The software acts as a drop-in-replacement for phpMyAdmin with a better user interface, better support for MySQL features, higher performance and more security.

Operating system : Cross-platform

Purpose : Database management
Targets : DBA/new users
License : Apache License or GPL 2

6) *Mariadb - Drop-In Replacement For Oracle Mysql Server*

MariaDB is a community-developed fork of the MySQL server. MariaDB is going to be default in many popular Linux distro and open source project. Red Hat will switch the default database in its enterprise distribution, RHEL (including its clones such as CentOS), from MySQL to MariaDB, when version 7 is released in 2014.

Operating system : Cross-platform
Purpose : RDBMS
Targets : DevOps/Sysadmins
License : GPL/LGPL

7) *Racktables - Manage Your Data Center Assets Like A Pro*

It is is a datacenter asset management system. With this software one can document hardware assets (such as server, workstations, routers, switches and more), network addresses, space in racks, networks configuration and more:

1. List of all devices, racks, and enclosures you've got

2. Mount the devices into the racks

3. Maintain physical ports of the devices and links between them

4. Manage IP addresses, assign them to the devices and group them into networks

5. Document your NAT rules, describe your loadbalancing policy and store loadbalancing configuration

6. Attach files to various objects in the system

7. Create users, assign permissions and allow or deny any actions they can do

Operating system : Cross-platform			
Purpose : IDC asset management system			

Targets : Sysadmin/DevOPS/IT Managers
License : GPL

8) *Apache Cordova - Create smartphone app just with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript*

Apache Cordova is a free and open source framework that allows you to create mobile apps using standardized web APIs. We can create apps that work on iOS, Andriod, BlackBerry, Windows, Ubuntu and other phone based operating systems. We write code once and run on selected mobile platforms with little or no change at all. PhoneGap uses Apache Cordova.

Operating system : iOS, Android, webOS, Symbian, BlackBerry, Ubuntu Touch, Windows Phone, Windows 8
Purpose : Build native mobile apps
Targets : Developers
License : Apache License 2.0

9) *Angry IP scanner - ipscan tool*

Nmap is an open source security tool for network exploration, security scanning and auditing. ipscan (Angry IP Scanner) is an alternative to nmap command. It is also an open-source and cross-

platform network scanner designed to be fast and simple to use. It scans IP addresses and ports as well as has many other features.
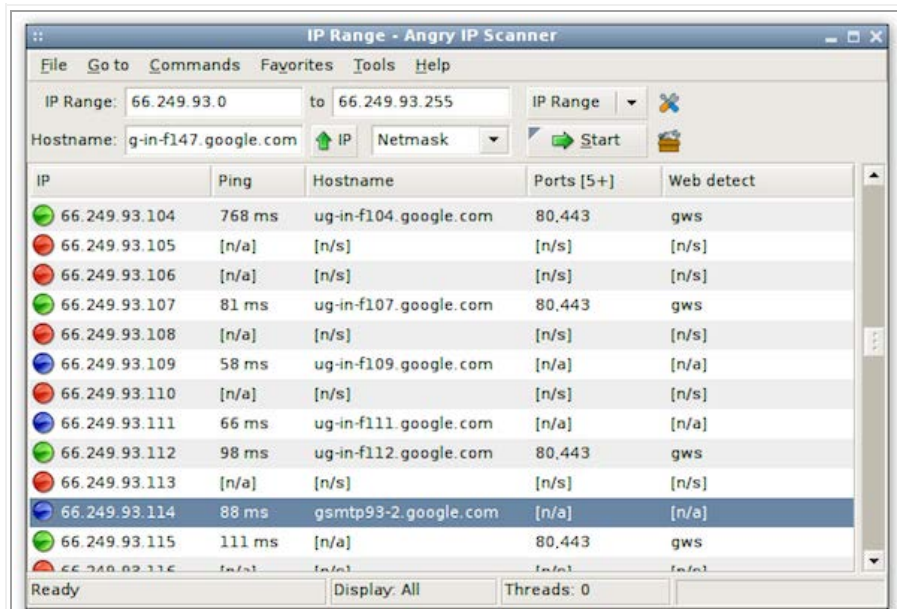
| Operating system : Cross-platform |
| Purpose : Network scanner |
| Targets : Sysadmin/Network administrators |
| License : GPL 2 |

10) *Jekyll - Create simple static blog*

Drupal, Typo3, WordPress and many other content management system (CMS)/blogging software dynamically create feature rich content. However, we may not need all the all features and complexity offered by modern CMS based systems. For example, a WordPress based blog like nixCraft requires multiple VMs, CDN for static assets,

caching engine such as memcached, PHP, mysql database, comment moderation, and on going updates. A growing trend is to keep your blog simple by avoiding CMS and use static HTML generators that offers the following benefits:

- No more complex setups i.e. no databases/php/caching engines required.
- No more comment moderation.
- Pesky updates.
- Static files are more secure.
- Easy to scale or cache on edge/CDN nodes.
- Provides all the blog-aware visual bells and whistles such as categories, pages, posts, Permalinks, and custom layouts.

Operating system : Cross-platform
Purpose : Blogging system
Targets : Bloggers who wish to follow KISS principal.
License : MIT License
Similar apps: Haskell based Hakyll, Ruby based nanoc, Python based Pelican.

11) *TurnKey Linux - Deploy open source apps on VM or the clouds*

We can setup a open source software such as WordPress, Drupal, ZenCart, and over 100+ other software easily with TurnKey Linux. It is a virtual appliance library that integrates and polishes the very best open source software into ready to use solutions. Each virtual appliance is optimized for ease of use and can be deployed in **just a few minutes on bare metal, a virtual machine and in the cloud/in physical server**. TurnKey Linux is based on Debian 7.2 with automatic security updates for all packages. It also includes a web management interface, web shell, and simple configuration console. This is often to **deploy development server** in the cloud.

Operating system : Linux

Purpose : Virtual appliance library
Targets : Sysadmin/Developers/DevOPS
License : Free software licenses

12) *DokuWiki - Create a personal wiki*

DokuWiki is a simple to use and highly versatile open source wiki software that doesn't **require a database**. Easy to install on Linux or Unix-like operating systems with the following features:

1. Ease of use and low system requirements.
2. Built-in access control lists.
3. Customization using large variety of extensions, plugins, and templates.

Operating system : Cross-platform
Purpose : Documentation
Targets : Wiki users.
License : GPL 2

13) *MediaGoblin - An alterative to Youtube/Flickr/Soundcloud*

GNU MediaGoblin is free software, decentralized media publishing platform. We can **host and share videos, music, and images**

using MediaGoblin. It is an a**lternative to major media-publishing services** such as Flickr, deviantArt, YouTube, Soundcloud, etc. It is written in Python and SQL.
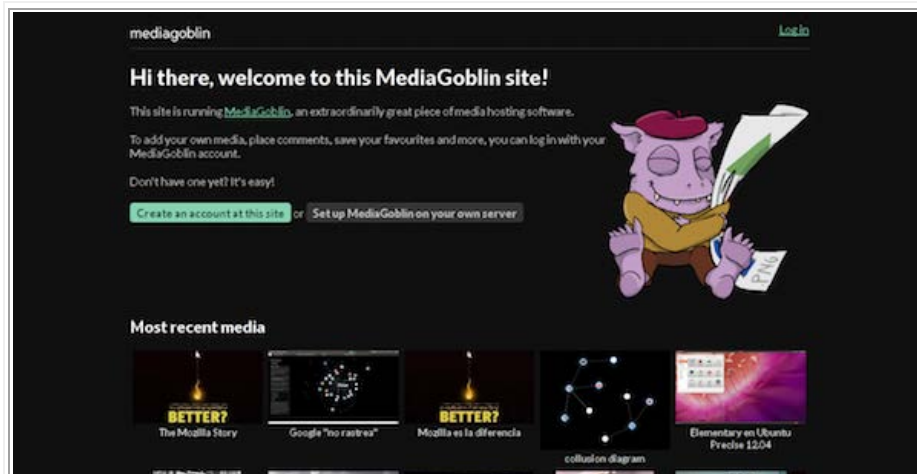
Operating system : Linux/OSX/MS-Windows
Purpose : Sharing many forms of digital media
Targets : Freedom respectful media sharing self-hosted service
License : AGPLv3/CC0

14) _Scrollout F1 - Create email firewall gateway_

Scrollout F1 is **easy to use and setup email firewall gateway** system. It includes anti-spam and anti-virus protection for Microsoft Exchange, Postfix, Exim, Sendmail, Qmail and others. It runs on Debian and Ubuntu Linux operating systems. This is **perfect software for filtering incoming messages** and other features are as follows:

1. TLS/SSL encryption with Perfect Forward Secrecy for SMTP & HTTPS

2. Virus scanning and different Quarantine per domain

3. Tagging and blocking SPAM at domain level

4. Geographic filtering for Sender IP, Server IP, URL IP and TLDs

5. Verifies incoming emails for DKIM and signs outgoing emails (2048 bits RSA)

6. Protection against fake messages that appear to come from your domain or from yourself

7. Protection against executable files, malicious content, scripts and more

8. Protection against forged domains like (fake) yahoo.com, gmail.com etc.

9. Whitelist and Blacklist

10. Simple web interface for management
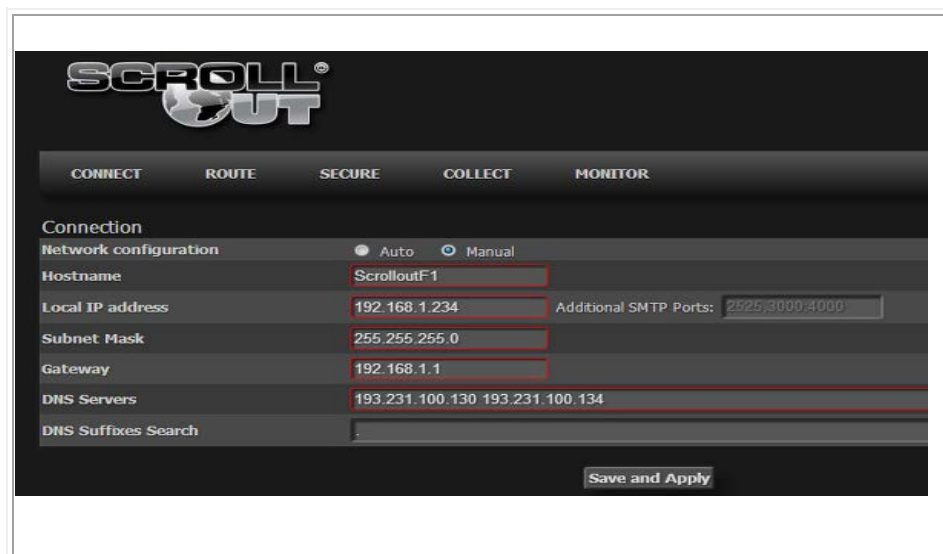
Operating system : Linux
Purpose : Firewall and anti-spam gateway for MS-Windows/Linux/Unix-like email servers
Targets : Sysadmin
License : GPL

15) *Observium - Network observation and monitoring system*

Observium is free and open source software written in PHP/MySQL. It collects data from devices using SNMP and presents it via a web interface. It includes support for a wide range of network hardware and operating systems including Cisco, Windows, Linux, HP, Dell, FreeBSD, Juniper, Brocade, Netscaler, NetApp and many more. It provides historical and current performance statistics, configuration visualization and syslog capture.
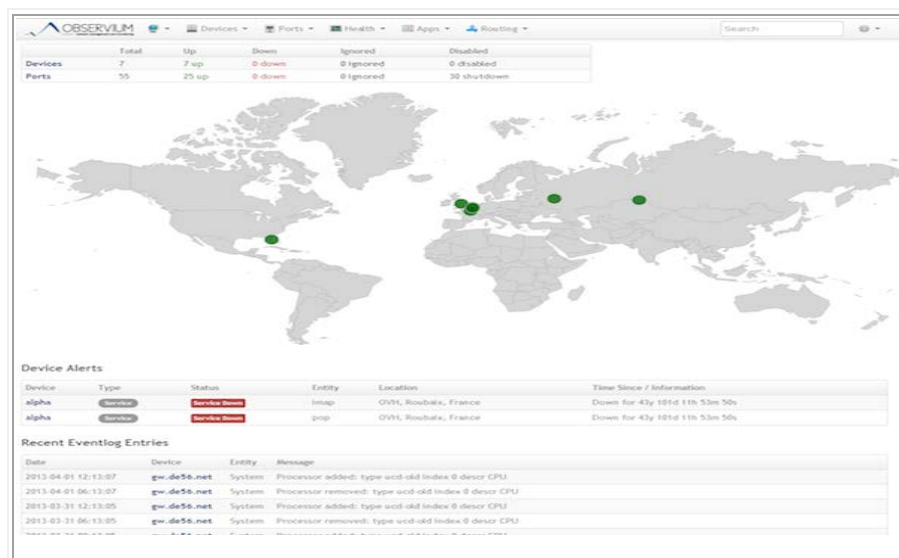
Operating system : Linux/Unix-like
Purpose : Network monitoring
Targets : Sysadmin
License : Observium License

(Continued in next issue)

2. THE NOVICE GUIDE TO BUY A LINUX LAPTOP

All major laptop (notebook) hardware is supported by Linux. The important things to take into account when looking to buy a Linux powered laptops are as follows to avoid any hardware compatibility problems. Selecting correct specification is important.

Laptop Usage

First, you need to decide and define the purpose of your laptop. Linux laptop can be used for simple office tasks and browsing the Internet or sending e-mails, than a mid-range laptop may be good enough:

1. Define your budget

2. Define screen size notebook (13" or 15" or 17")

3. Define your tasks such as Internet, sys admin, software development, some gaming using Win Vista / 7, dual booting etc.

4. How many hours of battery life do you need?

5. Define optical media types - Do you want to watch movies using DVD or Blu ray? Do you want to burn DVDs?

6. To play games you need a top spec laptop. Please note that Linux has limited support for popular PC gaming titles. So you need to dual boot your laptop with MS-Windows operating systems.

7. Finally, some people prefer desktop replacements with mobile workstations.

In short, decide how you are going to be using the Linux laptop.

Central Processing Unit (CPU)

CPU is the brain of your laptop. Linux supports all sort of mobile cpus. Linux does supports SMP cpus on servers and it does support portables cpus too. The following are well known mobile cpus:

- Intel Atom
- Intel Core 2 Duo
- Intel Core i5 Duo
- Intel Core i7 Duo or Quad

- AMD Athlon 64 Mobile

- AMD Turion 64 X2

The speed range from 1.3GHz to 2.2GHz or more. The number of cores plays an important role too. Naturally, a quad core CPU should be able to increase the number of calculations. This is useful when you run multiple applications, you will get fast and smooth response from the system. The Intel Core 2 Duo or AMD Turion 64 II (dual core) is pretty popular choice for CPU. My advice is go for 64 bit CPU with 64 bit Linux distro.

Video Card and X Server

This is the most important part in Laptop which is used by X Windows. However, selecting correct Video card is important; otherwise you will end up with 3D hardware accelerated card with 2D Linux driver or just basic display. So make sure your video card with 3D acceleration is supported under Linux. Nvidia has pretty good support with a proprietary driver which can deliver full 3D acceleration with 24 bit color. On other hand ATI drivers are open source. My advice is simple visit the following driver pages and make sure your video card is fully supported including 3D acceleration:

- ATI/AMD Linux drivers

- Nvidia Linux drivers

- Linux Graphics drivers from Intel

Look at X.org to check, if your graphics card / chipset is supported or not.

Low End Video Cards

The following list summaries low end fully supported Linux video cards:

- Intel GMA 4500MHD
- Intel 945GM
- Intel 950 GMA
- Intel X3100 GMA
- NVIDIA Quadro NVS 160M (256MB)

Mid to High-End Video Cards

The following list summaries mid-high end priced fully supported Linux dedicated video cards (useful for playing 3D videogames or engineering Linux apps or video / photo editing):

- NVIDIA Quadro FX 880M (1024 MB)
- NVIDIA Quadro FX 2800M (1024 MB)
- NVIDIA Quadro NVS 3100M (256 or 512 MB)
- NVIDIA GeForce 9300M GS
- NVIDIA GeForce 9300M

- Intel GMA X4500 HD

- ATI FirePro M7740 (1024 MB)

- ATI Radeon HD 3650 (512 MB)

- ATI Mobility Radeon HD4650 (1024 MB)

Finally, make sure external X display to your desktop monitor is fully supported. This can come handy when you want to watch movies, play games or do business presentation.

RAM

RAM (Random Access Memory) is another factor which can boost your speed easily, especially if you use RAM intensive apps like virtualization desktop software (e.g., VMWare or VirtualBox), photo editing (e.g., Gimp), video editing etc. 2 to 4 GB should be more than sufficient for most apps. A few high end laptops can support upto 16GB ram and Linux can access more than 4GB ram using PAE or 64bit kernel out of the box.

Hard Disk

Hard disk is used to store all your data and boot into Linux. Hard disks are cheaper, nosier and stores data on moving parts called rotating platters. You can have 7200rpm drives. Another option is to use SSD (Solid State Drives) as storage device which offers the following benefits:

1. Speed (2 times faster than hard disk)

2. Lighter and quieter (no moving parts)

3. Consume less power

4. Faster booting time.

You can add additional storage using USB or Firewire ports (i.e. external hard disk). My advice is go for SSD.

Optical Disk

Linux does support DVDs, Blu ray and other optical formats. This is useful for playing DVDs or backing up data via DVD/CD burner. DVD burner is fine for most applications. But, if you are interested in playing movies using Blu ray (HD DVD / Blu Ray disks), you will need to get Blue ray optical drive which can *read and write DVDs too*. However, the AACS 'Digital Rights Management' system in most HD-DVD and all Blu-Ray discs attempts to stop consumers from exercising fair use rights, including - playing purchased Blu-Ray and HD DVD films using Open Source software. To play Blu ray you need the latest version of mplayer and DumpHD to perform the decryption necessary to play the film. If you can afford go for Blu ray. See how to play Blu-Ray and HD DVD video under Ubuntu Linux.

Power Management: Suspend and Hibernate

Linux supports both AMP (Advanced Power Management) and ACPI (Advanced Configuration and Power Interface) which allows you to hibernate the system to a disk partition using swsusp (Software Suspend). It is a suspend-to-disk implementation in the 2.6 series Linux kernel. However, some laptop may give you problem with swsusp. You may also need to compile kernel to include swsusp support. Make sure you get ACPI compliant BIOS and you should be fine with power management. Some time you may need to download a patch from 3rd party or vendor site to enable suspend and hibernate support under Linux.

Wireless 802.11

Another hardware device may not work at all; if you do not pay attention to wireless devices. Most laptops comes with on-board 802.11 (a/b/g/N) wireless cards. Not all card supported so make sure you get Intel Pro series card such as 3945 or Atheros based cards. My advice is use Google to search for your driver or use specialized databases (a more or less complete listing of wireless devices with information about the chipset they are based on and whether or not they are supported in Linux) to search for your laptop card.

Biometric Fingerprint Scanner

Fingerprint scanners are security systems of biometrics. If you work for Government, DoD, police, security industries and, if data security and authentication is your top priority, you need "Biometric Fingerprint Scanner". Every fingerprint is special and different from each other. You can use Linux PAM to hook fingerprint reader with KDM, GDM, sudo, su and many other services. The fingerprint scanners on the following models are known to work:

- IBM ThinkPad T and X series selected models
- Dell Latitude selected models
- HP Pavilion (selected model)

Please refer the following additional pages and make sure your laptop model is supported:

- The fprint project aims to plug a gap in the Linux desktop: support for consumer fingerprint reader devices.
- Fedora project wiki page describing supported devices and software for fingerprint devices.

Fn key (BlueKey) Support

Fn, or Function, is a modifier key on many keyboards, especially on laptops, used in a compact layout to combine keys which are usually

kept separate. It is mainly used for the purpose of changing display or audio settings quickly, such as brightness, contrast, or volume, and is held down in conjunction with the appropriate key to change the settings. These features may be supported under Linux via driver or software. I found most laptop from reputed manufacture (such as Dell, IBM) does supports Fn keys.

Ports

The following are common ports for laptop:

1. **USB** - It is well supported under Linux for external hard disk, pen, mouse, keyboard and much more.

2. **FireWire** - It may or may not work out of box. In most cases you need to compile the Linux kernel so that you can access Zip drives, hard drives, and CDRW/DVD drives. However, support is limited.

3. **eSATA** -External SATA provides a variant of SATA meant for external connectivity. It allows you to connect external SATA hard drives directly to the SATA bus. You get faster speed as compare to USB or Firewire external hard disks. This may or may not work out of box.

Sound

Most on board sound card should work fine with Linux. You can play all sort of music file such as .mp3, .wav, .ogg and much more. Linux comes with various playback and mp3 players.

Docking Station (Port Replicator)

A Docking station and port replicator provides a simplified way of "plugging-in" an electronic device such as a laptop computer via common peripherals. You can plug desktop monitor, keyboard, printer, mouse, Palm Pilot and so on. Most docking station should work out of the box. Just confirm this with your vendor.

Ethernet (NIC)

Most NICs are supported but it is a good idea to go through Google and make sure your Ethernet card is supported. Usually, Intel and Broadcom (tg3) Ethernet cards are well supported. Usually, most drivers are included in running kernel. In rare case you may have to compile the kernel or driver to support your Ethernet card.

Tip: Test Your Laptop With Linux (Try Before You Buy)

Most vendors have a showrooms and shops. Visit nearest shop with Linux Live CD (such as Knoppix or Ubuntu or Fedora) and ask them to boot laptop using Live CD. See if it works or not; boot into

Linux. Make sure you can see X Windows, connects to the Internet via wireless card and so on. If you get 100% result, then just purchase it.

Recommend Linux Distribution

Linux is all about choices. Mostly recommended are:

1. Ubuntu (any flavor) Linux - For the average user, with a strong focus on usability and ease of use and installation.
2. Fedora Linux - Another popular disro for the average user with rpm based packages. Fedora is also popular among Windows and UNIX sys admins.
3. OpenSuse Linux - Easy to use and certified on selected HP / IBM laptops.
4. Debian Linux - For the advanced users, sys admin and academic researchers.
5. Slackware Linux - One of the oldest distro, preferred by sys admins, BSD lovers and academic researchers.

Linux Laptop Vendors

Now, you know how to choose a laptop, especially you need to pay attention to wireless, video card and Ethernet card. And here is exact model names & number that will be fully compatible to LINUX and vendor website.

1. Dell sales Ubuntu Laptop in **USA, Canada, UK, France, Germany, Spain and Latin America**. Dell India also sales high end Redhat Linux based laptop for business use.

2. HCL provides Ubuntu / Redhat / Fedora Linux based laptop in **India**.

3. Acer India provides Aspire series Linux based laptop in **India**.

4. HP Novell / Sues Linux certification and support matrix for HP laptops.

5. Asus Linux based eeepc netbooks in **USA, India, UK, and various other places** across the globe.

6. EmperorLinux provides Linux laptops with full hardware support under Linux in **USA**.

7. LinuxCertified provide Linux laptop and support in **USA**.

8. Linuxemporium provide Linux laptop and support in **UK**.

9. System76 provides Ubuntu Linux laptop and support in **USA and Canada**.

10. Zareason provides Ubuntu Linux laptop in **USA**, but claims to ship to many **other places across** the globe.

3. TOP 10 OPEN SOURCE WEB-BASED PROJECT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Project management software is not just for managing software based project. It can be used for variety of other tasks too. The web-based software must provide tools for planning, organizing and managing resources to achieve project goals and objectives. A web-based project management software can be accessed through an intranet or WAN / LAN using a web browser. No need to install any other software on the system. The software can be easy of use with access control features (multi-user). The project management software is used for all the projects (for e.g. building a new cluster farm) for issue / bug-tracking, calender, gantt charts, email notification and much more.

Use the following top 10 software for personal or business use. Keep track of all the projects in one place and finish them successfully on time.

1: Codendi

Codendi is an open-source collaborative development platform offered by Xerox. From only one interface, it gathers, all the needed

tools for software development teams: management and versioning of code, bugs, requirements, documents, reporting, tests etc. It is mainly used for managing software project processes.

2: Redmine

Redmine is a flexible project management web application. Written using Ruby on Rails framework, it is cross-platform and cross-database. It includes calendar and gantt charts to aid visual representation of projects and their deadlines.

3: ProjectPier

ProjectPier is a Free, Open-Source, self-hosted PHP application for managing tasks, projects and teams through an intuitive web interface. ProjectPier will help your organization communicate, collaborate and get things done Its function is similar to commercial groupware/project management products, but allows the freedom and scalability of self-hosting.

4: Trac

Trac is an open source, web-based project management and bug-tracking tool. Trac allows hyperlinking information between a computer bug database, revision control and wiki content. It also serves as a web

interface to a version control system like Subversion, Git, Mercurial, Bazaar and Darcs.

5: Project HQ

Project HQ is a collaborative open source project management tool, similar to Basecamp and activeCollab. Project HQ is built on open source technologies like Python, Pylons and SQLAlchemy and is fully database independent. Project HQ uses a structured workflow to assist you in managing your projects.

6: Collabtive

Collabtive is a web-based project management software that is being published as Open Source software. The project was started in November 2007. It strives to provide an Open Source alternative to proprietary tools like Basecamp or ActiveCollab.

7: eGroupWare

eGroupWare is a free open source groupware software intended for businesses from small to enterprises. Its primary functions allow users to manage contacts, appointments, projects and to-do lists.

It is used either via its native web-interface, making access platform-independent, or by using different supported groupware clients,

such as Kontact, Novell Evolution, or Microsoft Outlook. It can also be used by mobile phone or PDA via SyncML.

8: KForge

KForge is an open-source (GPL) system for managing software and knowledge projects. It re-uses existing best-of-breed tools such as a versioned storage (subversion), a tracker (trac), and wiki (trac or moinmoin), integrating them with the system's own facilities (projects, users, permissions etc). KForge also provides a complete web interface for project administration as well a fully-developed plugin system so that new services and features can be easily added.

9: OpenGoo

It is a complete online solution focused on improving productivity, collaboration, communication and management of your teams. OpenGoo main features include document management, contact management, e-mail, project management, and time management. Text documents and presentations can be created and edited online. Files can be uploaded, organized and shared, independent of file formats.

10: ClockingIT

ClockingIT is a free Project Management solution, which helps your team stay focused and on top of things.

4. PRESENTATION TOOLS

Presentation Assistant

Shareware

The program allows you to draw on the screen during presentations. You can also zoom and draw various shapes and texts on certain portions of the screen. You can play background music and open any document easily during the presentation. With the screen annotation tools, you can draw all kinds of lines, rectangles, circles, or add text marks or picture marks on the screen.

ActivePresenter

Shareware

ActivePresenter is a screen capture application. The program helps you make your presentations more interactive with the help of various tools and features. The developer also offers various video tutorials that can help you understand and use the program more easily.

iPixSoft Flash Slideshow Creator

Shareware

iPixSoft Flash Slideshow Creator is a program that helps you turn digital photos and video clips into flash slideshows, thumbnail galleries, flash albums and flash presentations. The program contains designed templates, transition effects, text captions and background music.

Wondershare PPT2Video Pro

Shareware

This application converts PPT files to videos. One of its most remarkable advantages is the fact that it supports a very wide range of output video formats (including popular ones like AVI, MP4, 3GP, FLV, MOV or MPEG). It offers a lot of predefined profiles that let you quickly create video files which are perfectly compatible with various devices such as Zune, iPod, iPad, iPhone, etc.

Power Presenter RE II

Freeware

Turn your screen into a Whiteboard/Blackboard with Microsoft PowerPoint. Its just like working with a natural pen on paper. Save all handwriting, annotation and notes whenever necessary within a presentation. The Power Presenter Kit provides the best functionality to record your notes and replay your presentation.

AnvSoft Photo Flash Maker Free

Freeware

Transforming your static photo albums into attractive and interactive Flash videos can be as simple as selecting your photos, a theme, and one of the ways of publishing and sharing it that AnvSoft Photo Flash Maker Free's wizard offers you. The program supports all the most popular image file formats and comes with a wide variety of templates, themes, and video effects and transitions.

Leawo PowerPoint to Video Pro

Shareware

Leawo PowerPoint to Video Pro is a powerful application that enables you to convert PowerPoint presentations to video files. It can convert any kind of PowerPoint presentation, may it be PPT, PPTX, PPS, PPTM, etc, to a large variety of video file formats, including popular ones like AVI, FLV, MP4, WMV, MOV, ASF, MKV, and so on.

iSpring Presenter

Shareware

iSpring Presenter simply adds a tab to the PowerPoint ribbon, and provides you full access to e-Learning features. With this program you can create course content in PowerPoint, enhance it with video

narrations, create branching scenarios and publish it to mobile-ready formats.

FLAC frontend

Open source

FLAC Frontend is an open source program that accepts WAVE, W64, AIFF and RAW files for encoding. It supports outputs such as FLAC or OGG-FLAC files. It is able to decode FLAC files, test them, fingerprint them and re-encode them and it also supports drag-and-drop.

Easislides

Freeware

Easislides is a small presentation program that helps you present and project lyrics, prayers or any other texts, including ones written by yourself. The projection can be made in two different languages simultaneously, which makes this software very useful especially in an international meeting. The program can also be used to project lyrics for the church chorus.

AnvSoft Photo Flash Maker Platinum

Shareware

AnvSoft Photo Flash Maker Platinum is a powerful tool that will help you create some great looking slideshows from your images and videos. This application features an impressive amount of transition

effects and theme templates, so you will be able to quickly come up with some stunning results.

Ivideon Server

Freeware

It's easy and economical to deploy and you can set it up on a PC using either a web camera or an IP camera. Once the video surveillance system is up and running, you'll be able to watch video from absolutely anywhere connected to the Internet. It's suitable for home use if you want to keep an eye on your flat or house when you're away.

IDroo

Freeware

IDroo - Online educational multiuser whiteboard Main Features: * FREE for non-commercial use * Collaborative meetings with many participants (10 or even more) - Insert simple and complex mathematical equations - Draw and write your ideas - Express your mind through images

Lumion Free

Freeware

The idea behind Lumion Free is to enable anyone to create awesome videos, images and real-time presentations of architecture, urban planning and design. You can even save your projects and there's

no time limit. Lumion Free is not for commercial use and not for business purposes or any other potential income sources.

Photo to Movie

Shareware

Allows you to create impressive slideshows from individual image files. With Photo to Movie you can add background images and music, transition effects, and titles very easily. Furthermore, you can also add motion effects that allow you to zoom your photos in or out while rotating them. And these are only some of the many features available.

Hi Slider

Shareware

Hi Slider is a powerful WYSIWYG and fully customizable application that helps you create any jQuery Slider with no coding at all. The program enables you to publish responsive jQuery image slideshows, seamless WordPress slider plugins, amazing website sliding banners and fancy JavaScript slideshow presentations.

MotionStudio

Shareware

MotionStudio 4 is an easy-to-use, all-in-one multimedia authoring software, that combines image, sound, interactivity and animation for you to create stand-alone, royalty-free, executable files. It is an ideal

solution for creating your slide shows, interactive and animated stories, educational materials or just "pictures to EXE" for your auto-run CD-ROM.

BlazeVideo SmartShow

Shareware

BlazeVideo SmartShow is an easy-to-use video creator which allows users to create movies, edit videos, and liven up movies with wonderful pictures, video clips, various fantastic effects, templates, stylish titles, transitions, music as well as editing tools, and export it to various portable devices or abundant video formats.

CD Art Display

Freeware

CD Art Display 2.0 is a free program that displays the album art of a song/video your are currently playing in a skinnable format. It automatically detects the music or any kind of media that is currently playing in the media player and it displays it as a skinnable gadget on windows desktop.

ThunderSoft Flash Slideshow Factory

Shareware

ThunderSoft Flash Slideshow Factory allows you to create animated slideshows with your favorite photos. The virtual photo albums you create with this tool look wonderful, and you will be able to share them in several ways. You can decorate your slideshow with animated clipart or you can also add sounds.

pptPlex from Microsoft Office Labs

Freeware

pptPlex is an Office Labs experiment that uses Plex technology to give you the power to zoom in and out of slide sections and move directly between slides that are not sequential in your presentation. Although this project is no longer being developed or supported, based on popular demand, the download is available for anyone who might have missed it.

OpenLP

Open source

From a more developer orientated perspective, it gives you the freedom to inspect the code and make sure that it's not malicious, it gives you the freedom to change it, and it gives you the freedom to "fork" the project and make your own. This gives you, the end user, a few freedoms.

Ulead CD & DVD PictureShow

Shareware

Create high-quality slideshows in three easy steps using Ulead CD & DVD Picture Show 4! Select your photos from any of your drives or import them automatically from your digital camera, chose one of the Instant-Show themes available and burn your slideshow to CD or DVD. Personalize it by adding menus, music, text, narration, transitions and digital effects, all in minutes and with amazing results!

Presentation To Video Converter

Commercial

Presentations to Video Converter allows you convert PowerPoint presentations into AVI or mp4 Video without using PowerPoint! The converting process allowing human interaction on PowerPoint content during conversion. Anybody can convert a PowerPoint ppt or pps file to Video! it is simple and powerful. Features: PowerPoint is NOT required! Convert full-featured presentations created in ALL PowerPoint versions! Converter supports opening password-protected Microsoft PowerPoint presentations. Video Conversion support. Audio Conversion support. mp7 video support (3ivx codec required) Supported most of codecs installed on user systems Movie width and height determination. Auto determination of Movie duration. Easy settings and nice interface. User can control Movie over capturing.

iPixSoft Video Slideshow Maker

Shareware

iPixSoft Video Slideshow Maker is a powerful application that allows you to create video slideshows from your own photos. Besides the simple video slideshows, it can use your pictures to create photo albums, HTML5 video galleries and photo presentations.

TurningPoint 2008

Demo

TurningPoint is an add-on to Microsoft PowerPoint that enables educators, trainers and presenters to develop and administer real-time assessments of participants within their PowerPoint presentations. Turn PowerPoint slides into dynamic interactive polling presentations.

Powerbullet Presenter

Freeware

Easily create slick Flash presentations for business, sales or educational uses. Simple drag and drop interface means no technical expertise required. Publish to the ubiquitous Flash format. Drop in sounds (MP3 or WAV files), images (PNG, GIF, JPEG) or Flash files (SWF). Create animations on any element in the page. Create page transitions with the click of a button. Now with fullscreen playback, auto-advance, sound sync and executable creation.

Flash Slideshow Maker Pro

Shareware

Other than creating flash slide show to power your websites, you can also burn the animated photo shows to CD-R/RW, DVD-R/RW, DVD+R/RW Disc. Except the flash files, the original photos can be saved on the disc as well, it's an ideal way to backup your photos too.

Wondershare PPT2DVD Pro

Shareware

This powerful application lets you convert PowerPoint presentations (PPT files) to multimedia DVDs or to video files of a large variety of formats. It makes it possible to view the PowerPoint presentations on DVD players or on portable devices that support only specific types of video files.

yBook

Freeware

yBook is an e-book reader for those who refuse to give up the paper books. There are people who only read paper books and have never liked reading on the computer. The reasons are varied. Some people say that the monitor hurts their eyes. Well, yBook attempts to solve that problem by adding a texture to the background of the reader.

gPhotoShow Pro

Shareware

The program can be used to make photo slideshows easily. The file can be saved as a screensaver or standalone EXE screensaver. You get various features such as the Scrapbook mode, where several small pictures are overlapped over a background image. The PhotoWall mode displays a mosaic of small pictures. When the screen is full, it will start to scroll.

ConceptDraw MINDMAP Professional

Shareware

ConceptDraw MINDMAP is a professional tool for business and personal use that provides a set of diagrams and mapping techniques for the organization of ideas and information and the way they should be implemented. The program features a beautiful and organized user interface that allows you to fully edit your diagrams as you wish.

astah professional

Shareware

Astah professional is an exciting new way to navigate your business. Whether you run a large corporation or a small start up - your business is changing every day. Simple meetings and memos don't cut it anymore. By utilizing UML and a variety of diagramming methods,

Astah gives you the power to create detailed, but clear illustrations for every aspect of your business.

Del Mp3 Karaoke

Freeware

Del Mp3 Karaoke is an all-in-one application that represents much more than just a Karaoke file player. It's also a Karaoke editor, sound recorder, MIDI mixer, synchronizer, and more. It comes with a lot of features and a wide range of customization possibilities. The appearance of the window that displays the text of the songs can be configured in every little detail.

Slide Effect

Shareware

Slide Effect is a Windows presentation software to create advanced slideshows with just a few mouse clicks. You can add your pictures and movies to the presentation with just a few clicks, create standalone slide presentations and share them with your company or with your friends. You can also create movies and publish them on your favorite web page or on a Video DVD.

muvee Life Story Style

Freeware

muvee Life Story Style is a stylepack for the software muvee Reveal X. muvee Reveal X is a software with wich you can turn your photos and videos into entertaining movies,capture photos and videos from multiple devices.The software even has a full hd support included.

Autoplay Menu Designer

Shareware

Autoplay Menu Designer is a tool for building interactive autorun menus for CD, DVD, USB and more. It doesn't require any programming skills. The program supports a wide range of actions that add interactivity to the menu. Users can click buttons or links to run applications, open documents, open URL links, show or hide objects, play sound, change texture and shadow.

AutoRun Pro Enterprise

Create and edit a professional autorun/autoplay interface and generate autorun and presentations files for CD/DVDs in a WYSIWYG environment.

Leawo PowerPoint to DVD Pro

Shareware

Leawo PowerPoint to DVD Pro is a powerful tool that lets you convert PowerPoint presentations into video files or burn them onto complete multimedia DVDs. When creating the multimedia DVDs from

your PowerPoint presentations, this handy tool ensures that all the original animations, sounds, transitions, movie clips and internal links are being retained.

MyPoint Connector

Freeware

MyPoint Connector is a program that can remotely control PowerPoint presentations running on your computer. It is designed to significantly improve the experience of a presentation for both the speaker and the audience. MyPoint PowerPoint Remote and Zero Conifg (Bonjour) are required to automatically detect MyPoint Connector on the local network.

Livewire

Freeware

Livewire is a sophisticated software package for designing and simulating electronic circuits. Switches, transistors, diodes, integrated circuits and hundreds of other components can all be connected together to investigate the behaviour of a circuit. There are no limits to what can be designed and no loose connections or faulty components to worry about.

Presenter

Freeware

An easy to use network utility program designed to allow multiple users on a TCP/IP network to view the realtime screen image of your computer. Just install the server program on your computer and the client program on the remote computers and you are ready to go

Lasershow Designer QuickShow

Shareware

Lasershow Designer QuickShow is especially designed for first-time and part-time laserist. Lasershow Designer QuickShow come from Pangolin, makers of the top selling and most-awarded laser software. Lasershow Designer QuickShow makes it easier than ever to do high-quality laser shows.

Presentation Pointer

Shareware

Presentation Pointer is a program that adds cursor highlighting abilities, visual and audible mouse click effects. It allows you to draw on a "live" screen to point out whatabouts and whereabouts of the things you are demonstrating, to zoom in and zoom out the screen and still use its usual utilities.

iPixSoft Flash Gallery Factory

iPixSoft Flash Gallery Factory is a program that helps you make professional flash gallery from photos, video clips and music using transition effects and cliparts. You can easily present photo/video in gallery mode and output as SWF Flash, EXE file, HTML5 video or common video format file.

Serato Video

Shareware

Serato Video is an expansion pack for Serato DJ enabling you to manipulate video playback with supported Serato DJ Hardware. It comes with a library of transitions and effects, you can add your own images and text to your video mix and record your set with the Video Recording feature.

(Continued in next issue)

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skype

It is a telecommunications application software product that specializes in providing video chat and voice call.