

Powys LINUX Users Group

Introduction to
**Linux and
Open Source Software**

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Introductions

What do you know about
Linux and Open Source?

What do you want to get
out of these sessions?

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Linux is (only)
a Unix-like "Operating System"

A range of other software is
needed to provide the equivalent
to MS Windows

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For a server, or other system with no graphical user interface (GUI) we need to add:

"Command shell" to type instructions

Essential utility programs

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For a graphical user interface (GUI) we also need to add:

An "X Window System" to manage display screens and human input devices

A "Desktop Environment" to support GUI programs

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Open Source X Window software:

- X.Org
- XFree86

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Open Source Desktop Environments:

- KDE
- Gnome
- Xfce
- Enlightenment
- and many more...

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A "Linux Distribution" usually has:

- one or more versions of the Linux OS
- a collection of utility programs
- one or more X Window systems
- one or more Desktop Environments
- a collection of application software
- a default configuration for all software
- installation and update facilities

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Popular Distributions:

- Ubuntu (Gnome, KDE, Xfce)
- OpenSUSE (KDE, Gnome)
- Fedora (Gnome, KDE)
- Debian (Gnome, KDE)
- Mandriva (KDE)
- Slackware (KDE)

plus hundreds of others

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Example "Live CD" distro – SLAX

Boot from CD and choose
Slax Copy to RAM

Wait for CD to eject
then remove CD

