Subject: OT:Linux on an old laptop...?
Posted by Kim on Sat, 14 Apr 2007 22:26:36 GMT

Hi,

I've got an old Panasonic Toughbook and I'm thinking of loading it with Linux to make it my future workhorse. It's a little slow for XP, and only has 128MB of ram and a 300MZ (I think?) processor. I'm hoping a Linux install might allow state of the art functionality without hogging resources. I could upgrade to 256MB of ram if required, but that's the max the machine will take.

Anybody have a recommendation as to a good Linux distro to use? I've heard a lot of talk about both Debian and Unbuntu. Anybody know which of these might be most likely to be my friend?

Cheers,
Kim.

Subject: Re: OT:Linux on an old laptop...?
Posted by TCB on Sun, 15 Apr 2007 23:17:35 GMT

Ubuntu if it's your first try with linux. The best thing about Debian and Ubuntu is that they use the same packaging system, apt. Debian is one of the most 'pure' linux distros, we're hardcore about non free libraries and such, but with Ubuntu you get the ease and quality of apt without the sometimes tricky setup issues with Debian.

Also, the Ubuntu forums are very newb friendly, while the Debian community can be a bit cranky. It's mostly bitter old geeks like me and we expect you to RFTM.

I'm not a Red Hat type, but apparently Fedora also is pretty good with hardware recognition these days as well. And supposedly rpm doesn't suck quite as much as it used to.

TCB

"Kim" <hiddensounds@hotmail.com> wrote:
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Subject: Re: OT:Linux on an old laptop...?
Posted by Kim on Sun, 15 Apr 2007 23:35:27 GMT
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Thanks for that.

I've already downloaded Ubuntu so I may give it a shot. I'm not a total newb,
however I do tend to simply google every time I need to actually do anything
on Linux more than edit a text file. ;o) Ubuntu sounds like the ticket.

Cheers,
Kim.

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