

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Good experience with Linux Mint](#)

Hackers - October 25, 2023, 4:28 am

I converted an old personal Windows laptop to Linux Mint (the light version) a few years ago and it was one of the easier installs, with most benefits. The laptop must've been from pre-1010 and could barely function on Windows. With Linux? Felt brand new.

One cool thing with Mint is that my non tech savvy fiancée had literally 0 problems using it, navigating directories, etc. I just read another thread here about Linux being "broken and slow" and I started thinking about which distro for a personal laptop was the easiest to setup and it wasn't Ubuntu or another goto for me. It was Mint. I don't know much about the project these days, but wanted to mention it.

Have you tried mint, and what do you think of it?

LeetSpeed - October 25, 2023, 7:37 am

(Oct 25, 2023 04:28 AM)nodes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I converted an old personal Windows laptop to Linux Mint (the light version) a few years ago and it was one of the easier installs, with most benefits. The laptop must've been from pre-1010 and could barely function on Windows. With Linux? Felt brand new.

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Have you tried mint, and what do you think of it?

Yes Mint is a good linux distro to start on, ubuntu is full of stuff you don't really need compared to mint. mint is lightweight. I've installed mint at a few of my clients locations and all is well with them.

Hackers - October 25, 2023, 9:52 am

(Oct 25, 2023 07:37 AM)LeetSpeed Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yes Mint is a good linux distro to start on, ubuntu is full of stuff you don't really need compared to mint. mint is lightweight. I've installed mint at a few of my clients locations and all is well with them.

Yep, exactly, I am glad to know it wasn't just luck or a one-off good time. I'll probably use it again soon on an old i3 tower.

I like Ubuntu but mostly because I'm used to it, and the server setups aren't bloated like the personal desktop versions can be, but I haven't loaded up Ubuntu on anything with a GUI in years so maybe it's different. Had an alright time working on a client server using Alma, and for PHP Apache I usually rock CentOS but that's also something I haven't done in years now too.

Have you used Mint for servers or only GUI / personal versions (or POS, etc) ?

LeetSpeed - October 25, 2023, 11:42 am

(Oct 25, 2023 09:52 AM)nodes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yep, exactly, I am glad to know it wasn't just luck or a one-off good time. I'll probably use it again soon on an old i3 tower.

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Have you used Mint for servers or only GUI / personal versions (or POS, etc) ?

I use mint just for GUI Desktops, I prefer debain non GUI for servers.

perm - October 26, 2023, 1:43 pm

It's only broken and slow if you use versions and packages that don't get updated.

V?rt - October 26, 2023, 1:50 pm

Mint looks pretty great. I find most linux OS look the exact same though and virtually function the same. It's hard for me to understand the difference. On that note, I've been using parrot for 2 ish weeks now and I'm a fan of it. Wasn't too difficult to understand. I'm just looking to understand the utility more.

Disease - October 26, 2023, 2:14 pm

I remember Mint blowing up and being absurdly popular for quite a while. I don't feel like I hear about it nearly so much these days. Though I imagine it's still very popular for the very reasons you're enjoying it, nodes.

Nothing really ever persuaded me to drop using Fedora as my daily driver OS until WSL made switching to Windows viable. But there's absolutely a market and need for more turnkey desktop solutions like Mint in my opinion.

Betty Blue - October 27, 2023, 4:56 am

(Oct 26, 2023 02:14 PM)Disease Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I remember Mint blowing up and being absurdly popular for quite a while. I don't feel like I hear about it nearly so much these days. Though I imagine it's still very popular for the very reasons you're enjoying it, nodes.

Nothing really ever persuaded me to drop using Fedora as my daily driver OS until WSL made switching to Windows viable. But there's absolutely a market and need for more turnkey desktop solutions like Mint in my opinion. Could be because they got pwned a few years back and people did not take kindly to having malware in their repos

Disease - October 27, 2023, 6:34 am

(Oct 27, 2023 04:56 AM)Deadhead Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Could be because they got pwned a few years back and people did not take kindly to having malware in their repos
Yeah, that would certainly do it.

Hackers - October 27, 2023, 8:07 am

(Oct 27, 2023 04:56 AM)Deadhead Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Could be because they got pwned a few years back and people did not take kindly to having malware in their repos
Ah, I was not aware of this... Do you know if it was a vuln with their core code, or was it a dependency that led to this? I only ask because if it's a dependency that was trusted and it was super obscure, I wouldn't want to put the blame on Mint too much - although either way, that's disappointing to hear.

(Oct 27, 2023 06:34 AM)Disease Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah, that would certainly do it.
Yeah that's definitely something I'll need to think about when considering Mint. For personal laptops

I think it won't matter much, but definitely will have to research what happened w/ this.

Betty Blue - October 27, 2023, 8:12 am

(Oct 27, 2023 08:07 AM)nodes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Ah, I was not aware of this... Do you know if it was a vuln with their core code, or was it a dependency that led to this? I only ask because if it's a dependency that was trusted and it was super obscure, I wouldn't want to put the blame on Mint too much - although either way, that's disappointing to hear.

Yeah that's definitely something I'll need to think about when considering Mint. For personal laptops I think it won't matter much, but definitely will have to research what happened w/ this. Nope. Much more serious actually, I couldn't remember exactly what it was when I said malware in the repos. They hacked the website and replaced the ISO with a backdoored ISO.

<https://www.trendmicro.com/vinfo/fr/security/news/cybercrime-and-digital-threats/linux-mint-website-hacked-iso-downloads-replaced-with-a-backdoor>

Hackers - October 27, 2023, 8:18 am

(Oct 27, 2023 08:12 AM)Deadhead Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nope. Much more serious actually, I couldn't remember exactly what it was when I said malware in the repos. They hacked the website and replaced the ISO with a backdoored ISO.

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Oh, that's rough. I'll definitely look more into it, but that's pretty bad, especially if it was active for a long time.

Kind of surprised they didn't have some sort of hashing verification in place to confirm the final releases are 100% intact and unmodified. That said, maybe the hackers just replaced the checksums and other related data to make it appear 100% safe. If they had full access to repo, and website then they could have done a lot of damage I'm sure.

Sniffles - December 12, 2023, 8:33 am

Nice share I am working with Linux OS in school right now!

Hackers - December 12, 2023, 9:08 am

(Dec 12, 2023 09:33 AM)Sniffles Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nice share I am working with Linux OS in school right now!

Nice, what distro do they have you on? You should start a thread somewhere to talk about what you're learning and see if anyone can help you get ahead!

Euaggelistes - December 13, 2023, 2:59 pm

I personally have tried it out in the past, and I've installed it for others to use too.

It is great for a lightweight OS on a laptop especially.

Hackers - December 31, 2023, 9:24 am

(Dec 13, 2023 03:59 PM)Euaggelistes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I personally have tried it out in the past, and I've installed it for others to use too.

It is great for a lightweight OS on a laptop especially.

Definitely right - there are a few versions of Mint as well - Cinnamon, MATE, Xfce

The Xfce is the most stripped down lightweight version and I have laptops running from early 2000s that can perform basic office duties, YouTube, etc without any issues. I haven't tried Cinnamon or

MATE in years now , but am doing a Mint install soon and am going to try Cinnamon instead of Xfce for a more recent computer I'm getting rid of Windows on.

Euaggelistes - December 31, 2023, 12:51 pm

(Dec 31, 2023 10:24 AM)nodes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Definitely right - there are a few versions of Mint as well - Cinnamon, MATE, Xfce

The Xfce is the most stripped down lightweight version and I have laptops running from early 2000s that can perform basic office duties, YouTube, etc without any issues. I haven't tried Cinnamon or MATE in years now , but am doing a Mint install soon and am going to try Cinnamon instead of Xfce for a more recent computer I'm getting rid of Windows on.

My preference over the three flavors is Cinnamon. It seems that most of the people I've helped with Mint also preferred it.

Anima - December 31, 2023, 1:25 pm

Mint was the first distro I used way back when I was in college, I think the interface is pretty solid.

[NitruX](#) looks quite clean but i've not had a chance to use it yet.

Hackers - December 31, 2023, 3:57 pm

(Dec 31, 2023 02:25 PM)Anima Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Mint was the first distro I used way back when I was in college, I think the interface is pretty solid. [NitruX](#) looks quite clean but i've not had a chance to use it yet.

I've never heard of NitruX, I'll have to check it out