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User Functions

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Events

There are no upcoming events

Linux Equivalents to Windows Software

Migrating from Windows to Linux v1.87

There are many articles written about the reasons why users may wish to convert to Linux. Frequently cited reasons include the favorable licensing terms, the freely distributable software (with source code), support from the Linux community, improved security, open file formats, the fact that Linux can run on a wide variety of platforms, etc. However, unless a desktop user is provided with real alternatives to the existing software he or she currently uses, migration to a different operating system is going to be very difficult.

This collection of articles aims to dispel the myth that Linux isn't ready for the desktop user to move away from the Microsoft world. If you are contemplating switching from Windows to Linux, please be assured that many of your favorite desktop applications have Linux equivalents, often with a comparable feature set.



For each Linux application, we have compiled a portal page providing an overview of the software, a screenshot of the application in action, a comprehensive list of its features, and links to sites offering information and support on the software such as forums, tutorials, and reviews.

Unlike their Window counterparts, the vast majority of the Linux applications listed below are available to download without charge (a few of the Linux equivalents are commercial, or released under a proprietary license). Popular Linux distributions conveniently include many of the software applications listed below (see our [Linux Distribution Guide](#) if you are unsure what is meant by the term distribution, or if you would like more information on what they offer).

We have also produced a more detailed compilation of the best Linux software in our [Portal Pages & Features](#) section.

Use the dropdown box below to select applications filtered by their type.

Category:

Alternatively, we have also provided a large flat list of all the software included, which is in alphabetical order.

Windows Software	Category	Linux Equivalent
3D Studio Max	3D Computer Graphics	Art of Illusion Blender K-3D
ACDSee	Graphics Viewer	Cornice gThumb Gwenview Imgv
Adobe Acrobat Pro	PDF editor	PDFedit
Adobe After Effects	Realtime Editing	Jahshaka
Adobe Flash Player	Multimedia	Gnash
Adobe Reader	Office Utility	Adobe Reader Evince KPDF okular
Adobe InDesign	Desktop Publishing	Scribus
Adobe Illustrator	Graphics	Inkscape Skencil Xara Xtreme
Adobe PhotoAlbum	Digital Camera	digiKam
Adobe Photoshop	Graphics	CinePaint GIMP Gimpshop

Group Tests

All Group Tests**Top Free Software**

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[9 Groupware Apps](#)
[14 File Managers](#)
[10 Databases](#)
[21 Backup Tools](#)
[21 DVD Tools](#)
[21 Window Managers](#)
[21 Productivity Tools](#)
[9 Terminal Emulators](#)
[21 Financial Tools](#)
[21 Text Editors](#)
[21 Video Emulators](#)
[21 Home Emulators](#)
[42 Graphics Apps](#)
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[42 Scientific Apps](#)
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[10 IRC Clients](#)
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[21 Notable Games \(1\)](#)
[21 Notable Games \(2\)](#)
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[8 ASCII Games](#)
[9 Educational Games](#)
[42 Audio Apps](#)
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[6 Screencasting Apps](#)
[80 Security Apps](#)
[9 System Monitoring](#)
[6 Family History Apps](#)
[11 PDF Tools](#)
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[6 Collection Managers](#)
[7 Calculator Apps](#)
[8 Geometry Apps](#)
Free Console Apps
[14 Multimedia](#)
Programming
[8 Compilers](#)
[9 IDEs](#)
[9 Debuggers](#)
[7 Revision Control Apps](#)
[6 Doc Generators](#)
'Free' Proprietary
[21 Closed-Source Apps](#)
Top Commercial Apps
[42 Games](#)
Free Web Software
[21 Web CMS](#)
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[8 Blog Apps](#)
[6 eCommerce Apps](#)
[5 Human Resource Apps](#)
[10 ERP](#)
[10 CRM](#)
[6 Data Warehouse Apps](#)
[8 Business Intelligence](#)
[6 Point-of-Sale](#)

All Group Tests**Other Articles**

[Migrating from Windows](#)
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[20 Free Linux Books](#)
[Running Linux Under Windows](#)

Older Stories

Sunday 07/06

• [Mobile Phone](#)

		Krita Pixel	Management Made Easy (0)
AOL Instant Messenger	Communication	Kopete Pidgin	Saturday 06/28 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Easy File Comparisons With These Great Free Diff Tools (0)• 9 ASCII Games You'll Want to Play Again and Again (0)
ArcGIS	Geographic Information Systems	GRASS Quantum GIS uDig	
AutoCAD	CAD	K-3D QCad BRL-CAD	
Borland Delphi	Pascal Development	Lazarus	Friday 06/13 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 Remarkable Free Shell Scripting Books (0)
CDex	Multimedia	Grip K3b RipOff Sound Juicer	Saturday 06/07 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Source LDAP Solutions (0)
ChemDraw	Chemical Structures	XDrawChem	
Citrix Presentation Server	Networking	NX Free Server RealVNC Vinagre	Monday 06/02 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delightful ASCII Art Tools (0)
Copernic Tracker	Web site tracking	Specto	
DigiGuide	TV Guide	Maxemum TV-Guide	Saturday 05/31 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Best Tools for Network Inventory Management (0)
Dreamweaver	Web Development	Bluefish Quanta Plus KompoZer Nvu Screem	Sunday 05/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grab 24 Beautifully Scribed Free Programming Books (0)• 6 Invaluable Free Ada Books (0)
Eviews	Econometrics	gretl	
Filezilla	FTP Client	gFTP FileZilla FireFTP KFTPgrabber	Thursday 05/15 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 Best Free Pascal Books (0)
Final Cut Pro	Multimedia Editor	Avidemux Cinelerra Kino Rosegarden	
	Midi Sequencer	EnergyXT2	
FL Studio	Drum Machine	Hydrogen LMMS	<div>Vote</div> What do you find MOST attractive about Open Source software? <div><div><input type="radio"/> Amount of customization</div><div><input type="radio"/> Security</div><div><input type="radio"/> Freedom provided</div><div><input type="radio"/> Speed of development</div><div><input type="radio"/> Quality</div><div><input type="radio"/> Multiple versions</div><div><input type="radio"/> Cost</div><div><input type="radio"/> Potential to contribute</div><div><input type="radio"/> Ability to modify code</div></div> <div><div>Vote</div><div>Results</div></div>
Forte Agent	Usenet newsreader	KNode Pan	
GetRight	Download Manager	uGet DownThemAll! JDownloader FreeRapid Downloader	
Gmail Notifier	Email Tool	CheckGmail Gmail Notifier Mail Notification	
Google Desktop Search	Search Tool	Beagle Google Desktop	
Google Earth	Virtual Globe	World Wind Marble Google Earth	
Guitar Pro	Multitrack editor	TuxGuitar	
Inspiration	Mind mapping	FreeMind Semantik View Your Mind	
iTunes	Media Player	Amarok Banshee Exaile gtkpod Rhythmbox Songbird	
Launchy	Application Launcher	GNOME Do Katapult	
Legacy	Genealogy	GRAMPS	
Logos Bible Software	Bible studies	BibleTime Xiphos	
MATLAB	Numerical computation	MATLAB Octave Scilab	
Mathematica	Computer algebra	Maple Mathematica Maxima	
Meal Master	Recipe Manager	Gourmet Recipe Manager	
Microsoft Access	Database	Kexi LibreOffice Base Apache OpenOffice PostgreSQL	
Microsoft Excel	Spreadsheet	Gnumeric LibreOffice Calc Apache OpenOffice	
Microsoft Internet Explorer	Web Browser	Firefox Konqueror Opera GtkTerm	

Microsoft HyperTerminal	Communications	minicom
Microsoft Money	Money Management	GnuCash
Microsoft NetMeeting	VoIP and videoconferencing	Ekiga
		Google Docs Calligra Suite LibreOffice Apache OpenOffice
Microsoft Office	Office Suite	
Microsoft Office OneNote	Notetaking	BasKet Note Pads Tomboy
		Balsa Evolution KMail Sylpheed Thunderbird
Microsoft Outlook	Email Client	
		Calligra Suite LibreOffice Apache OpenOffice
Microsoft Powerpoint	Presentation	
		Calligra Suite GanttProject TaskJuggler
Microsoft Project	Project Management	
Microsoft Silverlight	Web Application Framework	Moonlight
Microsoft Word	Wordprocessor	AbiWord Calligra Suite LibreOffice Apache OpenOffice
		ArgoUML Dia Calligra Suite
Microsoft Visio	Office Drawing	
Microsoft Visual Basic	Programming Language	Gambas
		Anjuta Code::Blocks Eclipse Geany KDevelop NetBeans IDE
Microsoft Visual Studio	Development Environment	
Microsoft .NET Framework	.NET Development	Mono
mIRC	IRC Client	Konversation XChat
MegaStar	Astronomy	Celestia Stellarium
		GCstar Griffith Tellico vMovieDB
Movie Collector	DVD Cataloging	
		Brasero GnomeBaker K3b Nero Linux
Nero Burning Rom	CD/DVD Burning	
Nero Recode	MPEG-4 encoder	HandBrake
Nero Vision Express	DVD Authoring	KMediaFactory Q DVD-Author
NewsBin Pro	Usenet Binary Downloader	KLibido Pan
		Akgregator BlogBridge Liferea RSSOwl Thunderbird
NewzCrawler	News Aggregator	
		Cream gedit Kate SciTE Scribes
Notepad	Simple Text Editor	
		Kooka
OmniPage	Text Recognition (OCR)	Chandler Evolution J-Pilot Kontact KPilot qOrganizer Spicebird
Palm Desktop	Personal Information Manager	
		Valgrind
Parasoft Insure++	Debugging	
Partition Magic	System Utility	GParted
Picasa	Photo Management	blueMarine F-Spot Picasa
		MPlayer VLC
PowerDVD	DVD Player	
		GnuCash Grisbi kMyMoney Moneydance
Quicken	Personal Finance	
		MyBooks Professional Kile
Quick Books	Financial / Taxation	

Scientific Word	Typesetting	LyX TeXmacs
Skype	Internet Telephony	Skype QuteCom
Soundrec	Audio Recorder	Audacity Jokosher Traverso DAW
SPSS	Statistical Analysis	PSPP R SPSS
Symantec Ghost	Backup	Clonezilla Partition Image PING
Symantec Veritas NetBackup	Backup	Amanda Bacula Keep
Traktor DJ	Disc Jockey Tool	Mixxx
Tweak UI	Utility	Ubuntu Tweak
VideoReDo	Video Editing	Avidemux Kdenlive Lives
VMware Workstation	Virtualization	VirtualBox VMware Workstation
Winamp	Multimedia Player	Audacious Amarok Banshee Helix Player
Windows Calculator	Calculator	SpeedCrunch Endeavour Mark II Konqueror Krusader Nautilus PCMan File Manager Thunar Xfe
Windows Live Messenger	Communication	aMSN emesene Kopete Mercury Messenger Pidgin
Windows Media Center	Home Media Box	XBMC MythTV Freevo
Windows Media Player	Multimedia Player	Kaffeine KPlayer MPlayer Totem xine
WinIso	CD Image File Utility	KIso
WinZip	Compression Utility	File Roller
ZoneAlarm	Firewall	Guarddog Firestarter

The list above is not exhaustive. We welcome suggestions for titles to be added to the existing Linux equivalents, other software you would like us to list, or sites that have relevant information about the already listed software. Send your emails to our resident [webmaster](#). Visit our [changelog](#).

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11 3 Hover to Expand

The table below will provide alternatives to more specialised Windows software, typically software that a systems administrator needs to perform his or her job.

Windows Software	Category	Linux Equivalent
Check Point VPN-1	Virtual Private Networking	OpenVPN
CommView	Protocol Analyzer	Wireshark
HP OpenView Network Node Manager	Network Management	Nagios NeDi OpenNMS Pandora FMS

Microsoft Exchange Server	Groupware	Zimbra
Microsoft Internet Information Services	Web Server	Apache HTTP Server
Plesk	Web Server Administration	Webmin



Last Updated Sunday, September 14 2014 @ 04:56 AM EDT

We have written a range of guides highlighting excellent free books for popular programming languages. Check out the following guides: **C**, **C++**, **C#**, **Java**, **JavaScript**, **CoffeeScript**, **HTML**, **Python**, **Ruby**, **Perl**, **Haskell**, **PHP**, **Lisp**, **R**, **Prolog**, **Scala**, **Scheme**, **Forth**, **SQL**, **Node.js** (**new**), **Fortran** (**new**), **Erlang** (**new**), **Pascal** (**new**), and **Ada** (**new**).

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