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Subject: Re: Linux Question

Posted by [Chris Lee](#) on Wed, 16 Feb 2005 23:05:03 GMT

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In article <MPG.1c7d36d72026efed98991b@news.frii.com>, "David Fanning" <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Ok, you Linux guys,  
> I have to break down and install Linux so I can sort out some X Windows  
> problems with my IDL widgets. Which flavor is the easiest to install for  
> the, uh, less technically astute members of our esteemed organization?  
> :-)  
> Cheers,  
> David  
> P.S. I'll probably put it on an old DELL laptop I have around here and  
> have been using as a doorstop.

I would vote for Knoppix, since that's what I'm using right now. It's a Debian distribution with a good hardware detection at bootup. If you download the LiveCD you can try it in the laptop without any installing. That will at least tell you whether the laptop will have any chance of running other distributions.

At work, there are various IDL versions running on both Redhat 7.3, 8.something and Debian sarge/unstable. Even though IDL says in quite a few places that it's designed for Redhat Enterprise edition (or I guess Fedora core 2)....You didn't really think the Linux users in this group would all give you the same answer did you? Don't forget to lean to use IDLWAVE, the IDLDE under linux is.... not good.

As for the color, that's the way it's meant to be dammit ! I don't need no stinking true color :), 256 colors - a few special ones (CMYK,RGB,W) are plenty.

Anyway, my GUI frontend to the PSEUDO function is so much fun to play with, I hardly get any work done anymore.

Chris.

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