
Subject: Re: Linux Question

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Wed, 16 Feb 2005 20:19:56 GMT

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>> However, I thought I should give
>> you a warning. I'm a very technically astute person, and very much a
>> Linux supporter, and the software is pretty easy to install, but I still
>> have lots of problems with hardware configuration. Linux is going to
>> remain a minority operating system until they make hardware
>> configuration a lot easier.
>
> No, I don't need any warnings. I *know* this. :-)

How do you *know* this when you've never done an install before? Hmmmm.
Do you just inherently believe the FUD that Micro\$oft sends your way? ;-)

Honestly, I'd be surprised if you had any major hardware problems. Having done a lot of Linux installs over years, unless a machine has something really quirky about it, the install will more likely than not just sail through and things will Just Work(TM). I have been really amazed at how easy the installs have gotten and how automagic the autodetection has become. If there's going to be hardware that doesn't get configured just right, it will most likely be something along the lines of a modem (specifically WinModems), sound card (specifically sound cards built-in rather than being an actual card), or some brand-spanking new device that doesn't yet have a driver. For the machine you mentioned and what you're going to be doing with it, I'd be really surprised if there is a problem in the install or autodetection.

> I also know that 75% of the IDL users who run
> Linux have their machines configured so that there
> is no hope they will ever understand the first thing
> about color in IDL, but that's another story, and one
> I hope to address if I ever get the damn OS installed. :-)

Huh? What's that all about? Color works fine. Back in the IDL 5.x days, color wasn't so good. I needed to put the magic color commands in my ~/.Xdefaults to resolve some color problems, but I haven't needed that for a long time. I'm not sure when the problem was fixed, but I know that I didn't need the work-around for IDL 6.0. Color works exactly the same in Linux as it does in other operating systems.

-Mike
