



PCLOS

>digital magazine

INCLUDING

- PCLOS on the HP Mini-Note
- VirtualBox Tips
- Linux Media Player Roundup 6.1



FEATURE: KDE 4.1 on PCLOS!





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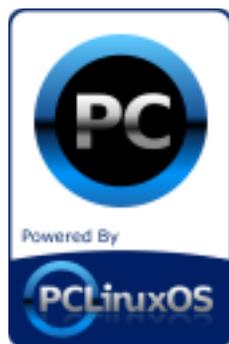
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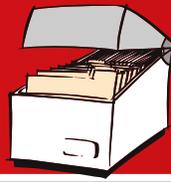
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We finally have our next issue out and I want to apologize to our readers for being so slow in getting the Magazine out to everyone. We are going to go a different route for awhile and release quarterly. What that will mean is that there we be four releases a year and we will have a special one when a new version of PCLinuxOS gets released. The next issue will be in four months from now; if we get loads of articles though we will consider going back to a monthly release cycle. For this issue we have as great article about KDE 4.

Thank you all for your patience and enjoy.





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Part 6

Welcome to part 6 of our series. In this installment, we'll be bringing you Rhythmbox, Songbird, Totem and one of our previously missed media players, Aqualung. Now, on a subject of interest to our readers, I'd like to address a question that was thrown to me not too long back as to why I only covered four media players at a time. The idea behind this is to present you each month with a reasonable number of possible choices from the wide range of Linux media players available out there to make it easier for you to consider each. After each part, you then have an entire month to install, test and evaluate each of them without causing too much trouble or work for yourself. I know that there's no way you'll be able to make a proper decision on each media player to determine if they'd meet your needs or not, so to be considerate I decided to stretch things out a bit to give you enough time to properly take each one

for a test drive if you wanted to before I brought you the next batch.

In short, I was thinking of you, the reader, while coming up with the layout for this series. :) There's nothing worse than a full blown information dump when one is not required or requested. Information dumps are good at times, but when there are a lot of choices that depend a lot on each of our personal tastes, and possibly a lot of homework on your part, a slower pace with good information is usually the best. I hope this helps clear that up. And now, on to our media players!

Rhythmbox

Rhythmbox is a dedicated media player for Gnome which sports some rather interesting features that, while common to other players, seem to perform better, both together and overall. Loading a library is extremely easy, a bit easier than some other players I've encountered. Just a couple of clicks and away you go. It did a splendid job handling my 2500+ song collection with no complaints, and even cataloged everything, grabbed the appropriate album art automatically, sorted by album, category, or whatever I wanted. While it's not a player that suits my tastes, I really can't say many bad things about it. Well, I could actually, but those complaints are mostly aesthetic. The visualization system was easy to activate, being just a click away, and worked incredibly well, producing visuals that were both gorgeous and slightly freaky at times. You should have seen some of the visuals it showed for Jingle Bells. The multiple playlist support is very good, quick to setup, and allows for a lot of flexibility in how to propagate lists. It also includes a powerful click to search system, allowing you to search by artist, album or title.

Its podcast and web radio support are good, even if the built-in default web radio station list is a bit lacking. The five included stations will get you started, but a more



detailed and extensive web radio library system, similar to what BMPx has, would be a lot better. But adding new ones is very easy, so no worries there, even though I still think that a large included list of the best on the web tends to be better than forcing you to have to do your own surfing to find them. Rhythmbox also has an interesting feature you don't see on many other players: lyrics display. You can choose to have the player lookup and display lyrics for you as it plays each song.

Also, don't panic if you find that there's no Last.fm or Jamendo support. It's available via a fairly well designed plugin system that allows you to add just about anything under the sun. The only problem I found with that is that the plugins included with the player seem to be the only ones available right now.

While that's not bad, it could be a lot better. It does include plugins for the Magnatune music store as well as the iPod and MTP capable media players.

I'd explain what MTP is, but as I've found in the past, if you don't know what MTP is, you don't have it, so if it's not enabled for you, then there's no worry because you won't need it right now anyway. But in the future if you do, it's there. The preferences dialog is pretty simple, consisting of four tabs with just a few configurable options. But I wouldn't count that against the player. Sometimes simple is best, especially when all you care about is your music and not a jack of all trades that can mix your tunes and fix your breakfast while it's at it. ;) As for what file formats it plays, since it uses Gstreamer and Xine as it's core, it should only be limited by the formats they can play, which is essentially everything. Rhythmbox is available through the package systems of most major distributions. Rhythmbox is written for Gnome, but will play on any window manager of choice. For more information, please check out the Rhythmbox homepage.

Songbird

Songbird is an all around music management system. It's unique in the fact that it's not just a music management system, it also is a web browser built upon the Firefox framework. Now this isn't to say that Songbird is trying to be the next big Firefox competitor by any means, but the integrated web browser does give Songbird a lot more flexibility than other players, especially in web-centered items like podcasts, web radio and more.

One of the first things that stands out about the player is its library feature. Since the included web browser is directly integrated into the player, it adds a lot of flexibility into the player and the library. Songbird is supposed to be the next big challenger to Amarok and several of the other main stream media players. But I don't think so, at least not yet.



I say this because I found Songbird in a state where I wouldn't consider it ready for primetime. Obviously it is still in early beta, but it has a lot of performance issues with it. Even without loading the library of songs, I found it a bit sluggish and it dragged the system down. Add your music library and things get even more fun as the lag adds up. But aside from the lag, the feature set of Songbird is amazing. If they can fix the lag, they'd have a winning product. Songbird can very easily beat every other player out there with just the total number of raw features it has.

The birdhouse is the default "homepage" for Songbird. It takes you to a special page with music blogs, featured sites and services, and the SkreemR music search engine.

SkreemR is pretty good as a music search engine, finding things I didn't even know were possible to find.

When you get a page full of results, it'll actually index those results, let you preview them, and even download them if you like. A word of warning

though. There's legitimate copyrighted music tracks that get mixed into those search results along with lots of great free stuff. So be sure of what you're downloading before you do it. While I like the idea of such a powerful search engine in Songbird, the involvement that SkreemR has with lots of shady, or even illegal music download sites is a huge turnoff for me, and may be a legal risk for Songbird and its users in the future.

Now if you do decide to download some tracks listed on SkreemR or anywhere else via Songbird, it does an excellent job of tracking what you've downloaded, who it's from and more. Playlists are another great feature. They're very easy to set up and with just a couple of clicks, you can create custom playlists exactly to your liking. And of course, what media player with an included browser would be complete without a well designed bookmarks section. Obviously this is just using the built in Firefox bookmarks, but hey, at least they kept what makes Firefox's bookmarks great. ;)

Songbird also has a complete web media history archive. So if you've listened to some songs on the internet, Songbird keeps a complete cataloged history of that, complete with song details. Songbird's control center is also very reminiscent of Firefox. But the number of configurable options far exceeds that of Firefox. Of course, that's to be expected since you're mixing over half of Firefox's features with Songbird's. The player also has iPod and plugin support to allow you to expand or improve what Songbird offers you.

Songbird also has full featured support for nearly every type of audio file out there, including a few you wouldn't expect. So if it's a standard sound file, Songbird can probably play it. And if not, there's probably a plugin that'll give you that ability. Songbird will run well on any window manager out there, although it seems to function better under KDE. To learn more about Songbird, just check out their homepage.



Totem

Totem is an all around multimedia player that is similar in many ways to both VLC and the Kaffeine media player. Its support of media files is very good as it uses either the Gstreamer or Xine backends for maximum compatibility. Totem can also play audio cd's and even DVD's. One of the things that may interest many more seasoned Linux users is Totem's simple interface. For those who are feature fanatics, liking their players to have everything, including the kitchen sink, Totem won't be for you. But that's Totem's primary selling point, its simplicity. One of the primary uses for Totem in most distributions is its support of DVD's natively. It has full support for DVD menus, which is good news, given that its earlier (pre-2.x) dvd menu support was questionable at best. Totem also makes a good music player, although it seems more tailored to playing movies than music. This is especially true regarding the design of

its playlist. While it can support multiple playlists, the way the playlists function leaves something to be desired. Large media collection support is a bit shaky, and collections over 500 items cause the player to lag severely. Preferences in Totem are limited, but the preferences control center does reveal some interesting features that you wouldn't find in the player in any other way. Things such as TV-out, streaming media and even full visualization support. There's no sign of plugin support anywhere in the player, so it's essentially a WYSIWYG experience with no real chance for the player to grow through the use of plugins. Totem is available by default in most distributions, or via your favorite package manager if it is not already installed. Totem is designed for Gnome, but will run in any window manager. For more information, check out the Totem homepage.

Previously Missed players:

And now we move on to one of our previously missed media players.

Aqualung

Aqualung is a rather interesting media player. It's both minimalistic, and yet it's fully featured. Aqualung is also the only Linux media player that can claim completely gapless play between tracks. One interesting test that was proposed was to take your favorite song, chop it up into pieces, make a large number of different adjustments so that each of the parts were as different from each other as possible, and then load them in your playlist in order. If you do it right, the song should play so flawless that you'd think that it was the original uncut song, with no gaps, pauses or



stutters. That's quite a claim. I wasn't able to test it, but I believe them. One of the things that I found a bit frustrating about Aqualung is that it's not directly intuitive. But after you play with it for a bit, it does start making sense. But you shouldn't need to explore a player for twenty minutes just to figure out how to use it.

A user should be able to master the basics within the first two minutes of using it. Another feature you'll be interested in is the "Music Store". However, it's not what you think. It isn't there for buying music. It's actually your music management tool. With it you can enqueue music, create playlists, rip and encode cd's and more. The main player window is just that. A player. Ripping and playing songs is also very easy. Just pop the disk in, and a couple clicks later you're listening to brand new MP3's, ogg or whatever format files you want to create.

Aqualung also does a good job at handling large media libraries and a wide range of media files, including

everything from popular file formats such as mp3, ogg or flac all the way up to rare formats such as mod, musepack and more. Regardless of what you have running in the background, or how many songs you have playing in the playlist, the player does a very good job of handling all of it. Aqualung also has an extensive ability to expand its support and features through a simple plugin system. The music store and the player both do well at handling ID3 meta data. Streaming support takes a little bit to get working, but it's there if you want it. Aqualung is designed for use in Gnome. For more information on Aqualung, you can check out their project page.

Summary

Well, that's all for part 6. In the next part we'll be exploring VLC, XMMS, Xfmedia, Xine and one more previously missed media player, the "Listen Media Player".





by muungwana

The KDE4 series started its life in January 11th, 2008 with the introduction of KDE 4.0. The third major release of KDE in this series will be on January 27th, 2009. If all goes well, this will be the version of KDE that will be added to the repository as an option to the default KDE3 desktop. This article will try to explain some KDE4 core technologies and why they were introduced in this series.

The transition from Qt3/kde3 to Qt4/kde4 was influenced by two major factors. Qt4 API (Application Programming Interface) changes made it necessary for much of KDE code to be ported to Qt4 and the license change added the possibility of KDE code to be ported to other systems at the same time. The Qt4 license for the first time allowed free software to be written using Qt for all major operating systems (Microsoft

Windows, Linux/Unix and Macintosh computers) and KDE developers decided to take this opportunity to re-architect and rewrite portions of the KDE code base as they were porting it to Qt4 to make it run on other systems.

KDE4 had to be abstracted from the underlying operating systems for it to be ported to other operating systems and allow KDE developers and third party developers who are building KDE applications to work with the same code base. In essence, KDE developers wanted to build a virtual desktop and all hooks to the underlying operating system had to be abstracted and this led to three KDE4 core technologies named Plasma, Phonon and Solid.

Solid

Each operating system has its own way of providing hardware functionality to applications that need them. Solid hides these details and gives a consistent, Qt/KDE API and functionality of these hardware devices to KDE desktop developers and users. Solid allows both KDE users and developers to interact with their hardware in KDE across different operating systems in a consistent and predictable way.

Phonon

Each operating system has its own way of handling media. Microsoft Windows has DirectX, Macintosh computers use Quick Time and the Linux/UNIX world has xine, mplayer, gstreamer, vlc among other multimedia backends. Phonon is primarily aimed for developers and its aim is to hide complexities and details of specific multimedia backends and provide a clean and consistent API that fits very well with the rest of Qt/KDE API. Phonon will allow developers to build their media application



using one API and run their application on multiple operating systems and backends. Critics of Phonon have said it will not be very flexible because it will support features that exist in all backends, and hence will aim for the lowest common denominator. Phonon is a simple system that is aimed to do simple media playback and is suitable to 90% of people's needs. It is not designed to handle complex tasks like video editing or audio mixing. Expecting it to do that is not understanding why it was created.

Plasma

Plasma is the KDE4 desktop shell. Plasma is the most visible core technology of KDE4 and it has received most of the KDE4 criticism. The KDE3 desktop is made up of Kdesktop shell, kicker(KDE3 panel) and superkaramba(KDE3 applets). These components are heavily dependent on the X11 windowing system because KDE was only released on the X11 based system

and most of this code had to be removed to allow KDE4 desktop components to run on other systems.

One of the biggest criticisms from “traditional” desktop users is plasma's “futuristic” desktop ambitions. A “traditional” desktop is a desktop that is found in KDE3 and Windows XP/2000. This desktop is made up of the desktop area and the panel. On the Microsoft Windows Operating system, the panel contains (from left to right) start button, quick launcher area, taskbar, tray area and the clock. The desktop area reflects contents of a given folder in a users home directory. The KDE4 desktop can be made to look like the KDE3 desktop by having a panel containment with the following plasmoids: (from left to right) kickoff plasmoid, pager plasmoid, taskbar plasmoids, tray plasmoid and clock plasmoid. The default desktop activity will also have to be set to “folder view” activity instead of the default “desktop” activity.

Plasma is made up of applets called plasmoids. Certain plasmoids are specialized to containment and activities. Containment are applets that can hold “regular” applets and activities are applets that can hold both containment and regular applets and can have a background image as a wallpaper. KDE4.2 will ship with desktop and folderview activities. Folderview activity, when configured to reflect all contents of ~/Desktop, will give a static and traditional KDE3 desktop area. A default KDE4 desktop uses a “Desktop” activity which allows for a dynamic desktop through various applets functionality that can be hosted on the desktop. Different activities can be “opened” at the same time and each can have a unique set of applets running in them.

The best comparison to plasma activities is virtual desktops,.Opened windows can

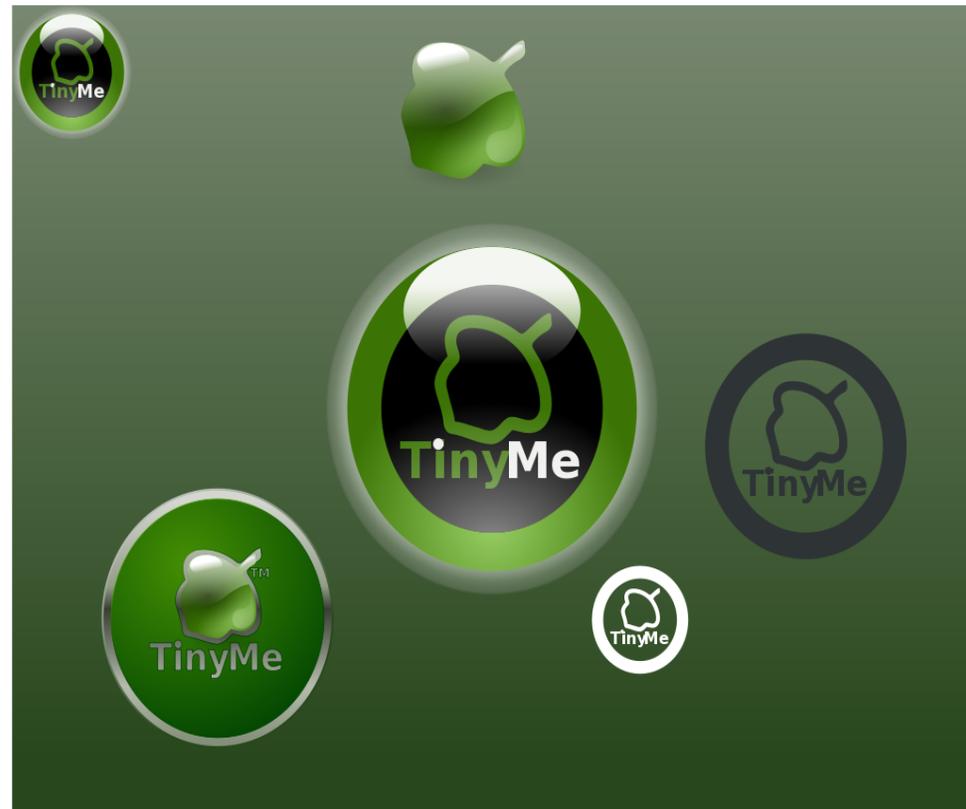
FEATURE



be set to appear on different virtual desktops in KDE3 or within the same activity in KDE4, different applets can be set to appear on different activities but they show up on all virtual desktops within that activity. Applets exist within activities and opened windows exist within virtual desktops and virtual desktops exist within activities. Basically, virtual desktops can be used to separate opened windows to different “workspaces” (in both KDE3 and KDE4) and activities can be used to separate running applets to different “activities” (KDE4 only).

The “futuristic” KDE4 desktop comes from how a user can arrange and interact with these plasmoids on the desktop. Plasma has flexibility built into it that will allow “traditional” people to have their desktop and “futuristic” to have theirs. KDE4 is still young. Some KDE3 features will be re-added, some will be moved around and some will be dropped as KDE developers continue

to refine and polish KDE4. The KDE4 foundation will increase choices to KDE users and will make it possible for developers to take KDE to places it has never been before.





I recently purchased one of HPs netbooks, the HP 2133, the Linux version of course. With the credit squeeze currently biting retailers hard now is a good time to buy. With a list price in the UK of around £350 a few minutes googling found one for £189 including delivery at <http://www.it247.com>. Ordered on Wednesday night, it arrived on Friday morning.

So, what do you get for your money?
Quite lot really.

1.2 GHz processor

1 GB RAM

120 GB Sata Hard Drive

Card reader

Web-cam

Stereo Speakers

Stereo Microphones

Touch pad

2 usb 2 ports

WiFi

Gigabyte Ethernet

Bluetooth

vga-out

8.9 inch high resolution display



Plus a few other bit and bobs all housed in a very solid looking, brushed aluminum case. This is a quality product. Did I mention the keyboard? Everybody remarks on the usability of the 92% full size keyboard which covers the full 10 inch width of the case. The display is the best I have seen on any netbook packing an incredible 1280 x 768 resolution into its 8.9 inch diagonal size.

So where's the gotcha? Nothing is perfect, and the mini-note is no exception. For a start, with all that keyboard there is little room left for the touch pad, and the buttons had to be moved to the sides which makes it a little tricky to use. The 3 cell battery breathes its last in just under 2 hours. While there is a 6 cell replacement available, it sticks out from under the unit making it decidedly less portable which is, after all, what netbooks are all about.

I read some reviews about sluggish performance of the unit. Well yes, it also ships with Vista and XP but running Linux, sluggish? Surely not. Wrong! The version of Linux shipped with this unit is Suse Linux Enterprise Desktop 10, a distribution provided by Novell. All the hardware is recognized and works. With only a little difficulty I was able to get a wireless connection .. Somebody new to Linux might need help here. Having got wireless to connect I decided to get the latest updates and install some software, but despite my best efforts I could find no way of updating



or installing anything. So that's a problem. Add to that the fact that this Linux runs as quick as a government department, but is not as interesting, and the problem gets worse.

The solution is obvious. Rip out Suse and install – what? I started with Google to find out who had had success and with which distro. I came across this useful site <http://mininoteuser.com> and discovered that there was a version of Ubuntu (Minbuntu) developed for this machine. I downloaded and installed it, from a pen-drive as this machine has no CD drive, and I don't have a usb CD drive. The developers have done an excellent job and the installation went smoothly but I couldn't get on-line and I'm sorry but I just don't like Ubuntu and all that sudo nonsense, just my personal opinion.

Now puppy Linux has always managed to find a way to run on my hardware when other, more widely used distros have failed. So, with my

pen-drive newly loaded with puppy Linux, I installed over Minbuntu and bingo! A working system and on-line with wireless. Unfortunately I had to use a generic video driver at a reduced screen resolution. A contender but not for me a winner.

I don't know why I didn't do this before but I suddenly thought why not PCLOS? I have been using this distro for a year and a half now.

Out with the pen-drive and in with Minime. The live CD booted fine from my pen-drive, but instead of presenting me with the familiar desktop I got a strange yellowy glow, obviously a problem with the video driver. I hit control-alt-F2 to take me to a command prompt and logged in as guest. The command drakconf asked me for the root password which in the live CD is “root”. Typing this in brought up a graphical box with various options, I selected Display and tabbed to Ok then hit enter. The graphic card was correctly identified as “VIA hrome9-based cards”but as this didn't seem to be working. I selected “VESA driver (generic)” -> Ok. I then selected Monitor: “Flat Panel 1280x768” and “Resolution: 1280x768 24bpp” then “Test”. After a few seconds of flashing, a box popped asking, “Is this the correct setting?” I answered, “Yes” then “Quit”.

I landed back at the command prompt and typed startx. Success! I had a working desktop. I used my desktop computer to download the Broadcom wireless drivers from the HP website here (this does require access to windows to extract the files). I added the extracted files to the pen-drive and opened up the PCLOS control center, selected “Network & Internet” > “Set up a new network interface” > “Wireless” > “Use a windows driver (with ndiswrapper)” then navigated to the drivers on the pen-drive and selected “bcmwl5.inf”. After filling in the security details for my router and accepting all the following defaults, I was rewarded with a 'success' message.



After selecting wireless connections from the control center, a short delay was followed by a list of local wifi signals. I selected my router and a few seconds later was connected. I was on my way!

I installed the system and had to go through many of the previous steps again to make them permanent. Open synaptic > reload mark all upgrades > apply. Add klaptop & klaptop-utils for power management – done.

What works and what doesn't

usb - works

vga-out - works

web-cam – installed wxCam from synaptic and it recognized it instantly

card reader recognized sd card

sound - works

headphone socket - works but doesn't
blank sound from the speakers

microphone socket ? I don't have a mike to test it
built in microphones – not yet but I haven't really tried
wifi works

Ethernet works

Bluetooth - works

express card slot ? No card to test it with

hibernate & suspend works (Make sure your swap file/partition is big enough.)

keyboard works but so far the only fn keys that work are the screen brightness. I tried acme but I may have to do a bit more research here.

3D effects unfortunately not with the vesa driver which is a pity as this machine with PCLOS and Compiz-fusion would really blow away any criticisms of Linux.

Is it still sluggish? Not at all.

Is it perfect? No, nothing is, but with PCLinuxOS minime it is certainly a big step closer. I can't wait to try the new release when it comes out. Thanks Tex and the gang – much appreciated.



By Dai

I thought I'd pass on some tips on using VirtualBox to make life a little easier for you.

Here are two tips on resolution and shared folders for getting a better experience using VirtualBox.

Resolution

The resolution for my computer is 1274 x 876 (host OS).

To get the guest OS to fit nicely and still see my host, I've changed the resolution in xorg.conf (guest OS) to look like the following:

```
Section "Screen"
Identifier "screen1"
Device "device1"
Monitor "monitor1"
DefaultColorDepth 24

Subsection "Display"
```

Depth 8

```
Modes "1272x896" "1152x864" "1024x768" "832x624"
"800x600" "640x480" "480x360" "320x240"
```

EndSubsection

Subsection "Display"

Depth 15

```
Modes "1272x896" "1152x864" "1024x768" "832x624"
"800x600" "640x480" "480x360" "320x240"
```

EndSubsection

Subsection "Display"

Depth 16

```
Modes "1272x896" "1152x864" "1024x768" "832x624"
"800x600" "640x480" "480x360" "320x240"
```

EndSubsection

Subsection "Display"

Depth 24

```
Modes "1272x896" "1152x864" "1024x768" "832x624"
"800x600" "640x480" "480x360" "320x240"
```

EndSubsection



EndSection

In the terminal type:

```
su
```

then your password

gnome users type:

```
gedit /etc/X11/xorg.conf
```

kde users type:

```
kwrite /etc/X11/xorg.conf
```

add "1272x896" to your xorg.conf file. This will give a nice fit to the guest OS and still give you access to your host at the top and bottom of the screen.

```
xorg.conf (/etc/X11) - gedit
File Edit View Search Tools Documents Help
New Open Save Print... Undo Redo Cut Copy Paste Find Replace
xorg.conf *
Option "DPMS"
EndSection
Section "Screen"
Identifier "screen1"
Device "device1"
Monitor "monitor1"
DefaultColorDepth 24
Subsection "Display"
Depth 8
Modes "1272x896" "1152x864" "1024x768" "832x624" "800x600" "640x480" "480x360" "320x240"
EndSubsection
Subsection "Display"
Depth 15
Modes "1272x896" "1152x864" "1024x768" "832x624" "800x600" "640x480" "480x360" "320x240"
EndSubsection
Subsection "Display"
Depth 16
Modes "1272x896" "1152x864" "1024x768" "832x624" "800x600" "640x480" "480x360" "320x240"
EndSubsection
Subsection "Display"
Depth 24
Modes "1272x896" "1152x864" "1024x768" "832x624" "800x600" "640x480" "480x360" "320x240"
EndSubsection
EndSection
Section "ServerLayout"
Identifier "layout1"
```

Shared Folders

When setting up shared folders so that you can share resources between your host and guest, you must do this in two parts.

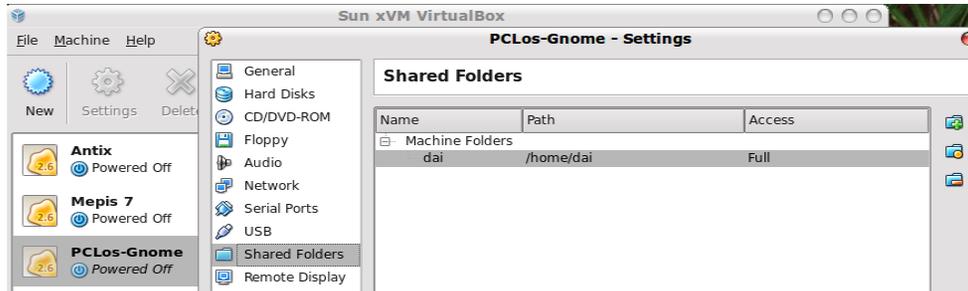
Part 1



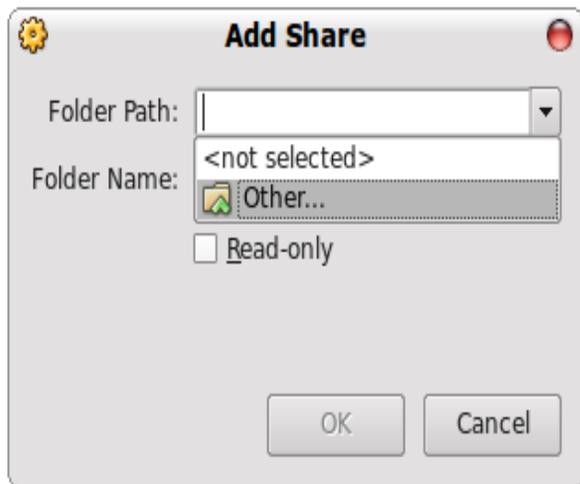


Configuring VirtualBox:

Settings>Shared folders

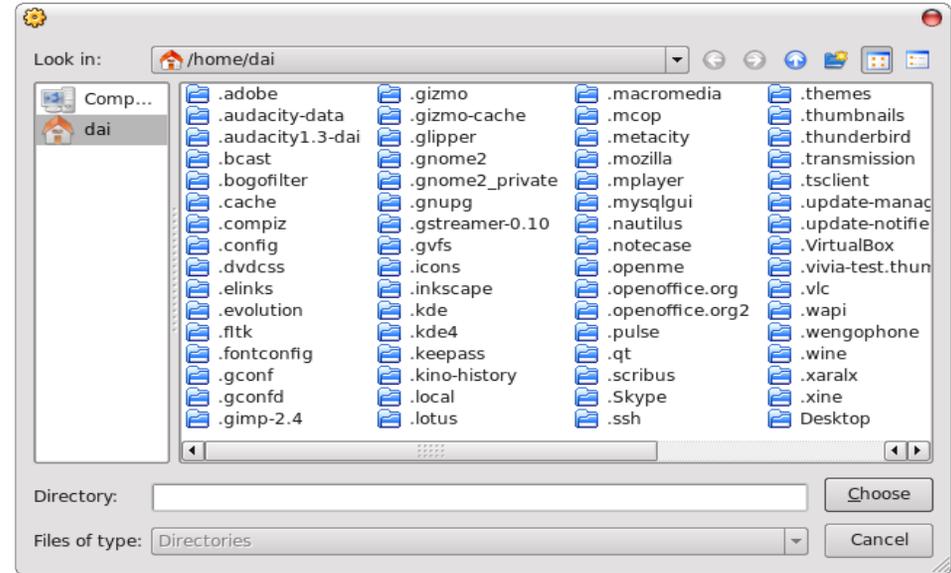


Click on the folder with a plus. In the dialog box that pops up click on the little arrow in the folder path and choose other.



It should open up an image of your home directory. If so click

the Choose button.



Part 2

Now access your shared folder in your guest OS.

In terminal (guest OS) type in:

id

This should give you the output of your group id and user id.

```
[dai@localhost ~]$ id
uid=501(dai) gid=501(dai) groups=81(audio),82(video),501(dai)
[dai@localhost ~]$
```

TIPS 'N' TRICKS



Create a new folder on your desktop as this is where you are going access your host OS home folder (My host OS is Ubuntu so I called the folder ubuntu).

In the terminal type in the following as root (based on your user name, user id, and group id):

```
mount -t vboxsf -o gid=501,uid=501,defaults dai  
/home/dai/Desktop/ubuntu
```

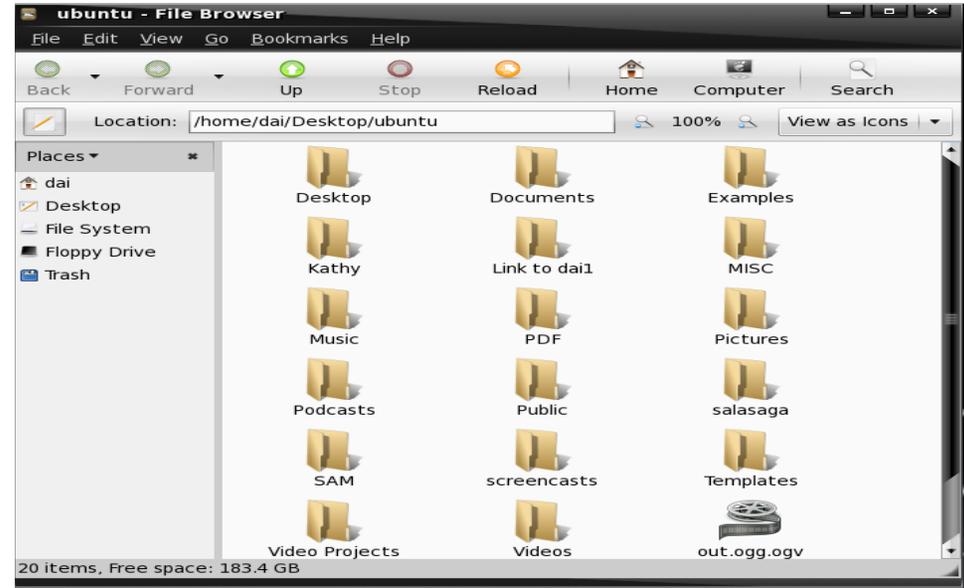
From the line of code this part corresponds to the setup in Virtualbox:

```
mount -t vboxsf -o gid=501,uid=501,defaults dai
```

This part corresponds to the folder on your desktop of your guest OS:

```
/home/dai/Desktop/ubuntu
```

If you go the the folder on your desktop and open it up you should see your host home folder and all it's contents.



If all has gone successfully you will be accessing your home folder of your host OS.





by Papawoob

Just thought I would try and bring everyone a list of currently active PCLinuxOS based distros. If I have missed any, I apologize. If anyone knows of any others that are being actively developed please drop me a note at the Magazine website or at Papawoob@pclosmag.com.

CAElinux

CAElinux is based on PCLinuxOS and is designed for computer-aided engineering. Based on the open-source CAE softwares [Salomé](#) & [Code Aster](#), you can load STEP / IGES geometry in Salomé and start partitioning and meshing your problem in just 5 minutes.

Granular Linux

Granular Linux is an easy-to-use, desktop Linux distribution based on PCLinuxOS. Its main features are a carefully selected set of applications for common tasks, the ability to

customize the distribution, and the inclusion of two popular desktop environments - the flexible KDE and the lightweight Xfce.

Karoshi

Karoshi is a free and open source school server operating system based on PCLinuxOS. Karoshi provides a simple graphical interface that allows for quick installation, setup and maintenance of a network.

Ruby on Rails

Rails Live CD is a specialist distribution providing a pre-configured and fully operating Ruby on Rails development environment on a bootable CD. The distribution is derived from PCLinuxOS.

SAM Linux Desktop

SAM Linux Desktop, a live and installation CD based on PCLinuxOS, is an easy-to-use, fast and clean XFCE Linux desktop for home users. The distribution is enhanced by several popular non-free applications, such as Macromedia Flash Plugin, Java and RealPlayer.

VideoLinux

VideoLinux is a PCLinuxOS-based distribution with focus on DVD backups, video encoding and transcoding, DVD authoring, format conversion and pretty much anything else you want to do with video.



[TinyMe](#)

TinyMe 2008.0 “Final” has been released! TinyMe is a PCLinuxOS-based distribution, which is targeted at older computers and people who want a very light and fast desktop environment. Although TinyMe comes as a small, 200MB ISO, it provides tools for most all of your everyday wants and needs.

[PCFluxboxOS](#)

PCFluxboxOS is a series of remasters of PCLinuxOS catering for different end-user needs. All the following remasters are installable live-CDs and all come with the i586 'Legacy' Kernel 2.6.18.8 for increased compatibility with older hardware. Newer kernels can be installed via Synaptic.

[TinyFlux - Version 1.0](#)

PCFluxboxOS 2008 is currently under development and release should tie in with the release of PCLinuxOS 2008. The aim for the next release will be to

create a truly modular operating system using metapackages to enable users to quickly and easily add groups of applications, all fully configured for maximum performance with your Fluxbox desktop. See TinyFluxdownloads page for full details.

MidiFlux – 0.6b

A large selection of applications in a relatively small ISO 340MB in size.

[Keldix Linux](#)

Keldix is a Linux distribution primarily for the Small business Office and Home Office (SOHO) market. Keldix is a live-DVD built on PCLinuxOS.

[PCLOS Gnome](#)

All new bootsplash, backgrounds, and really nice features, upgraded to a great looking operating system, the best out-of-the-box look and user experience possible!

[Business Edition Linux \(BEL\)](#)

BEL or Business Edition Linux is a business implementation of PCLinuxOS 2007. Our goal is to provide solutions for small business needs using one of the easiest to use Linux Distributions available.

[MythTVOS](#)

MythTVOS 2008 is based on MiniMe 2008 and has MythTV and all plugins installed



and (pre)configured. Just boot from the liveCD, select your TV / SAT / CABLE card and scan for channels...

EeePCLinuxOS

EeePCLinuxOS is a PCLinuxOS remaster specifically for the EeePC.

PCLinux Educator

A new name and a new, initial, new way of releasing. EduLos will now be called PCLinux Educator and will in first instance be distributed as a 'meta'package. This means that you can just use your vanilla PCLinuxOS setup and in Synaptic select one package that will immediately install all softwares that we think are useful as a primary student, a secondary student or an educator.

MiniMe

This is a minimal LiveCD that is bootable, plus it can be installed. Add in your own background, window

decoration, localizations, preferred applications and supporting libraries to fully trick out your desktop. In addition, you can remaster your own custom version of PCLinuxOS. Have fun! You can find the .iso image under the Downloads button at: http://www.pclinuxos.com/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1

Linux EduCD

LinuxEduCD is education-scientist version of livecd type. It can be installed on hard drive but it is not a must. System is maximally simple because for learning purposes in schools. It contains education, graphical, business and multimedia packets.

DFPE

Pre-installed packages for everything concerning the managing and editing of digital images. These are in almost all cases standard PCLOS packages out of the official repositories. In only one case, a package has been upgraded to a newer version and the upgraded packages have been provided upstream to the PCLOS development team.

SaxenOS 2008

SaxenOS is a full fledged Linux office desktop and based on PCLinuxOS. SaxenOS 2008 isn't as lightweight as the former versions. The full OpenOffice package was added to the speedy XFCE desktop. Also, multimedia apps and games were cut in favour of productivity.



Bugnux

Bugnux is a complete Linux (Mandriva) distribution that runs from a single bootable CD and runs entirely in RAM. Bugnux contains an extensive set of Open Source software testing tools that can be used for functional and performance testing. Standalone tools to test GUI applications and Mozilla Firefox extensions pre-installed to aid in web application testing have been packaged. This virtually can turn any PC into black-box testing device without having to install any software.

