

■ **Freedom** Debian is comprised entirely of Free Software. By Free Software, we don't just mean zero cost, but also the Freedom to use it how and where you want, share it with your friends, read and modify the source code, and distribute those changes to other people. This means Debian can be used with no limitations - even in commercial environments! Debian is the largest collection of ready-to-install Free Software on the Internet.

■ **Community** The Debian project is a 100% volunteer effort aiming at producing a world class Open Source operating system. There are currently about 1,000 people from around the world developing the Debian system, each with roles ranging from package development through quality assurance, security, policy, and strategy. The Debian project is engaged to the principles of software freedom and openness. Its commitment is plainly stated in the Debian Social Contract published at [http://www.debian.org/social\\_contract](http://www.debian.org/social_contract). The Debian Free Software Guidelines describe the criteria that licenses for software included in the Debian operating system must meet. The Open Source Definition is a derived work of the Debian Free Software Guidelines.

■ **Continuity** The Debian packaging system permits a seamless transition to newer program versions without the requirement to begin a new installation from scratch, and it won't delete your old configuration. Dependencies between programs are handled automatically: If a package which you want to install requires another package, the installer takes care of it. You can install and upgrade using disks, CD-ROMs, or over a network connection.

■ **Stability** Debian has no commercial pressure and will not release a new and possibly unstable version just because the market requires that. The Debian maintainers always test the system thoroughly and attempt to remove all known bugs before releasing a new version.

■ **Portability** Debian is available and runs equally well on the following architectures: Alpha, ARM, HP PA-RISC, IBM S/390, Intel x86, Intel IA-64, Motorola 68k, MIPS/MIPSel, PowerPC, SPARC.

## Included with Debian GNU/Linux

Actually, the complete Debian GNU/Linux distribution fits barely on 6 CDs (architecture-dependent precompiled binaries, even more CDs with source). Inside you'll find:

- ▶ the full set of GNU utilities, editors (emacs, vi, ...), network clients (telnet, ftp, finger, ...), web browsers, privacy tools (gpg, ssh, ...), email clients, and every little tool you can think of
- ▶ full set of network protocols (PPP, TCP/IP, Apple™ EtherTalk, Windows™ SMB, Novell™, ...)
- ▶ development tools for the major programming languages (and some of the more obscure ones as well) like: C, C++, Objective-C, Java, Python, Perl, Smalltalk, Lisp, Scheme, Haskell, Ada, and more
- ▶ the X11 Window System, complete with dozens of window managers and the two leading desktops: Gnome and KDE
- ▶ the  $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}/\text{L}_{\text{A}}\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$  document preparation system, PostScript™ and Type1 fonts and tools, the Ghostscript PostScript™ interpreter, and a complete XML/SGML/HTML development environment
- ▶ GIMP, the GNU Image Manipulation Program (a free alternative to Photoshop™)
- ▶ a complete set of office applications: WYSIWYG editors, calendars, spreadsheets, databases, etc.
- ▶ relational databases, like PostgreSQL, MySQL and development tools (application servers, server side scripting languages)

## Want to know more?

Simply point your browser at <http://www.debian.org/>. If you need any information or help you can join the IRC channel #debian on [irc.debian.org](http://irc.debian.org), or one of the Debian mailing lists. See <http://www.debian.org/MailingLists/subscribe> for instructions.

If you want to install Debian GNU/Linux, you can download the install floppies from <ftp://ftp.debian.org/> and then go for a network install, or order some Debian CDs. Debian does not sell CDs itself but provides Official CD Images that numerous vendors print and sell.

For details about the Official CD Images simply go to <http://www.debian.org/CD/>.

## Debian Social Contract

1. **Debian Will Remain 100% Free Software**  
We promise to keep the Debian GNU/Linux Distribution entirely free software. As there are many definitions of free software, we include the guidelines we use to determine if software is "free" below. We will support our users who develop and run non-free software on Debian, but we will never make the system depend on an item of non-free software.
2. **We Will Give Back to the Free Software Community**  
When we write new components of the Debian system, we will license them as free software. We will make the best system we can, so that free software will be widely distributed and used. We will feed back bug-fixes, improvements, user requests, etc. to the "upstream" authors of software included in our system.
3. **We Won't Hide Problems**  
We will keep our entire bug-report database open for public view at all times. Reports that users file on-line will immediately become visible to others.
4. **Our Priorities are Our Users and Free Software**  
We will be guided by the needs of our users and the free-software community. We will place their interests first in our priorities. We will support the needs of our users for operation in many different kinds of computing environment. We won't object to commercial software that is intended to run on Debian systems, and we'll allow others to create value-added distributions containing both Debian and commercial software, without any fee from us. To support these goals, we will provide an integrated system of high-quality, 100% free software, with no legal restrictions that would prevent these kinds of use.
5. **Programs That Don't Meet Our Free-Software Standards**  
We acknowledge that some of our users require the use of programs that don't conform to the Debian Free Software Guidelines. We have created "contrib" and "non-free" areas in our FTP archive for this software. The software in these directories is not part of the

Debian system, although it has been configured for use with Debian. We encourage CD manufacturers to read the licenses of software packages in these directories and determine if they can distribute that software on their CDs. Thus, although non-free software isn't a part of Debian, we support its use, and we provide infrastructure (such as our bug-tracking system and mailing lists) for non-free software packages.

## Debian Free Software Guidelines

### 1. Free Redistribution

The license of a Debian component may not restrict any party from selling or giving away the software as a component of an aggregate software distribution containing programs from several different sources. The license may not require a royalty or other fee for such sale.

### 2. Source Code

The program must include source code, and must allow distribution in source code as well as compiled form.

### 3. Derived Works

The license must allow modifications and derived works, and must allow them to be distributed under the same terms as the license of the original software.

### 4. Integrity of The Author's Source Code

The license may restrict source-code from being distributed in modified form *only* if the license allows the distribution of "patch files" with the source code for the purpose of modifying the program at build time. The license must explicitly permit distribution of software built from modified source code. The license may require derived works to carry a different name or version number from the original software. (This is a compromise. The Debian group encourages all authors not to restrict any files, source or binary, from being modified.)

### 5. No Discrimination Against Persons or Groups

The license must not discriminate against any person or group of persons.

### 6. No Discrimination Against Fields of Endeavor

The license must not restrict anyone from making use of the program in a specific field of endeavor. For example, it may not restrict the program from being used in a business, or from being used for genetic research.

### 7. Distribution of License

The rights attached to the program must apply to all to whom the program is redistributed without the need for execution of an additional license by those parties.

### 8. License Must Not Be Specific to Debian

The rights attached to the program must not depend on the program's being part of a Debian system. If the program is extracted from Debian and used or distributed without Debian but otherwise within the terms of the program's license, all parties to whom the program is redistributed should have the same rights as those that are granted in conjunction with the Debian system.

### 9. License Must Not Contaminate Other Software

The license must not place restrictions on other software that is distributed along with the licensed software. For example, the license must not insist that all other programs distributed on the same medium must be free software.

### 10. Example Licenses

The "GPL", "BSD", and "Artistic" licenses are examples of licenses that we consider "free".



# debian

## Debian GNU/Linux

### The Universal Operating System

Debian is a free operating system (OS) for your computer. An operating system is the set of basic programs and utilities that make your computer run. At the core of every operating system is the kernel. It is the most fundamental program on the computer: it does all the basic housekeeping and lets you start other programs. Debian is currently based on the Linux kernel and includes more than 9,500 packages of utilities and applications. Almost 1,000 developers are working hard to maintain Debian's high quality.