

What Real People Do With Linux

In July 2005, we asked members of the Linux Users' Group of Davis what *they* use Linux for, so we can share with you, the visitors of our hands-on demo!

Here are the various answers we got from a handful of people:

Communications

- web browsing
- email
- chat & instant messaging
- weather forecasts

Home Office

- managing bills & budget
- online banking, shopping and bill-pay (using FireFox to be safe)
- receiving faxes (without using a fax machine)

Writing

- writing stories
- writing reviews
- keeping track of characters, plots, storylines, etc.

Graphics

- digital photo organization
- photo manipulation
- creating art

Entertainment

- watching videos
- playing MP3s
- listening to streaming internet radio
- playing video games
- playing online games (e.g., Yahoo! Games)
- ripping and burning CDs and DVDs (audio, video and data)

Linux on (or for) non-computer devices

- programing waypoints into GPS receivers
- recording/watching TV with TiVo
- addresses, calendar, to-do list on a PDA
- listening to MP3 music in the living room

At work (or for *serious fun*)

- for teaching networking & security (students can take Linux and Open Source software home for free, to do homework or to learn more)
- accessing computers at work (via SSH or remote desktop)
- application servers
- mathematical research (using 'clusters' of Linux systems)
- software development

Running Servers

- web servers
- file servers
- print servers
- music servers
- email servers
- game servers

Misc

- *not* getting viruses or spyware
- everything they used to do with Windows

For more information on Linux, Open Source and the Linux Users' Group of Davis (LUGOD), visit our website!

<http://www.lugod.org/>