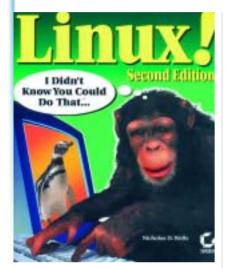# LINUX! I DIDN'T KNOW I COULD DO THAT…

2ND EDITION

ALISON DAVIES

This completely revised and updated edition covers many of the latest programs to use with Linux. It covers aspects from text-based tools to the latest KDE and Gnome tools in an easy-to-read format. Difficult concepts are explained in a simple manner such as using encryption or automating tasks. Written by an ex-director of Caldera, the book is based mainly on using Red Hat and admits that many of the aspects it covers are automatically on the latest editions of Red Hat and other distributions.

It covers a lot of programs, many included on the enclosed disc, and gives a good flavour of what is available, such as Xmorph. There is an interesting section on games, some of which I recognise from earlier incarnations on pre-PC computers, and a nice section on Video4Linux, how to install TV tuner cards.

There is a big section on Apache Web servers and it also covers, more unusually, fax servers and Voice Over IP. It concludes with the usual section on creating an emergency disk.

The book is aimed at people who actually want to do things with Linux and who may be stuck in a Windows environment. It is a good book to dip into with many one or two page information blocks. I was impressed that the part on calculators included reverse Polish notation and the programs included on the disc should add interest to my system. ∎
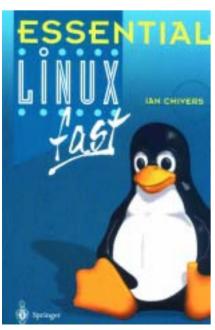
Info
Author: Nicholas D.Wells
Publisher: Sybex
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ESSENTIAL LINUX FAST

At last – A UK English, step-by-step guide to using Linux! Ian Chivers takes Red Hat and SuSE and explains installation and use in a clear, easy-to-follow fashion. Where there is a difference in the systems he mentions this and there are plenty of screenshots to illustrate the points he makes. He admits that where he had problems with the hardware not being supported that later developments may have changed the situation and gives a Web address for the most up-to-date information.

It is written in an academic style with bibliographies after each section for further information. It covers starting with a Windows machine and installing Linux – he uses various versions of Red Hat and SuSE. It goes on to setup networks and security. The second half of the book deals with using UNIX commands and installing additional programs including emulators for most programming languages.

The book is aimed at people who are knowledgeable about computers and programming, but who are beginners when it comes to Linux and would get a system up and running in a day by following the instructions. A good read through of the book should also allow an informed choice of distribution and some idea of the hardware that is supported.

A good, no nonsense book with just the right amount of information to let you do the task of getting a system running with the minimum of effort. You can then get on with the rest of your job, secure in the knowledge that Linux will run itself. ∎

Info
Author: Ian Chivers
Publisher: Springer
Price: £15.95
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