Linux Magazine DVD

Xandros Desktop OS Standard version 2 is an intuitive graphical Linux environment. This new release adds usable features such as drag-and-drop CD burning in the Xandros File Manager as well as single mouse click creation of zip and tar file archives.

Xandros delivers a new desktop solution that combines the best of open source technologies with corporate attention to completeness, usability, and support. Xandros based on Debian GNU/ Linux and so can use .*deb* packages. It represents the next step in the evolution of the ultimate desktop.

The Xandros Desktop OS assures rock-solid stability and security, along with the freedom that an open environment provides.

With just four mouse clicks to complete the installation and access to a huge inventory of free Linux software, this is a remarkable operating system for the twenty first century.

To ensure that you have the latest and most quality assurance tested files, we are including the iso images direct from Xandros. To use these CD images you will need to either burn them to a CD using a CD writer or mount them with a loopback device.

The system requires a minimum of 64MBytes of Ram for installation, but 128MBytes or more is preferred.

Communications made easy

Xandros desktop OS has speedy, stable, standards-compliant browsing. You can surf multiple sites in just one tabbed on screen window. You can also turn off those annoying pop-up adverts and banners that seem to be on many websites these days, which in turn will speed up your browsing. Web site cookies and passwords can also be managed on a site by site basis.

Email is made useable once more with automatic spam filtering.

You can keep in touch with others, thanks to a versatile instant messenger that talks to users on MSN, Yahoo, AOL, ICQ and IRC networks.

Multimedia ready

The Xandros Desktop OS Standard edition provides you with the ability to simply write music or data CDs directly from the Xandros File Manager. You can convert your audio CD tracks to WAV files or compress them to the Ogg audio format.

Hundreds of digital cameras are supported so you can make the most of your images.

You can record your own sounds onto the computer from either a stereo or via a microphone.

Streaming audio, MP3 and MIDI files can easily be played – along with MPEG and Macromedia flash movies.

Network connections

MS Windows drives can now be accessed by their drive letter in the Xandros File Manager.

You can seamlessly share files and resources on MS Windows networks.

Need to move files around? Drag & Drop files from anywhere to anywhere, including the Windows network shares and FTP sites.

Share a folder or even a printer with others by simply right clicking on it.

Locate quickly, by name, any computer on a Windows network.

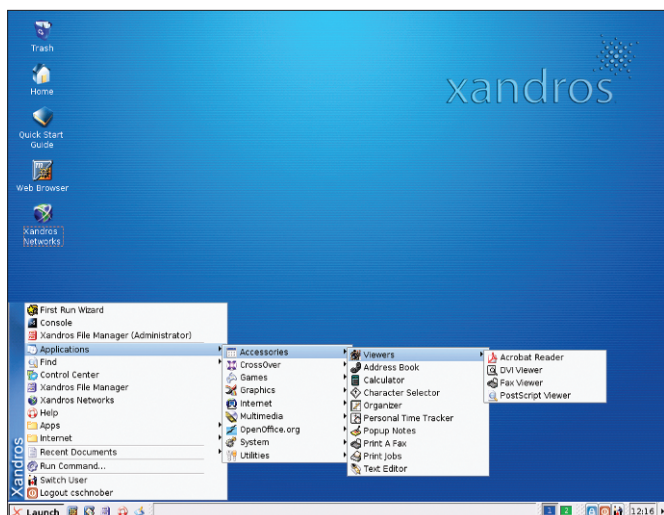Because Xandros is based on Debian, deb packages are the preferred method

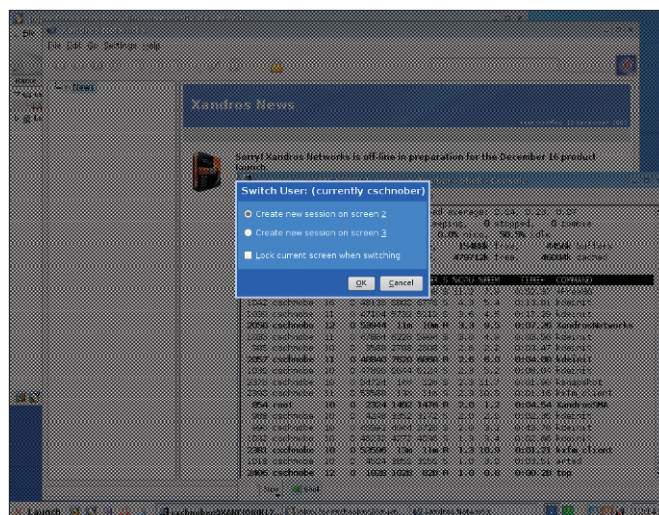Figure 1: Clean menus lead you straight to the program you need

Figure 2: Xandros makes user switching convenient and easy

for installing new applications. However, the alien facility is included with Xandros Linux that allows users to install rpms. Using this method may allow you to successfully install an rpm, but using deb files whenever possible will increase your probability of success and allow you to maintain your system more easily.

Xandros Desktop is based on the Debian 4.0 (sarge) distribution. The graphic desktop environment is created by an enhanced version of KDE 3.1.4. Debian provides a reliable, thoroughly tested foundation to build upon while KDE provides an environment that is stable, used by many, and easy to use.

When combined with the Xandros Installer, file manager, package management interface and other enhancements, these components provide a Linux OS that is unequalled by any other distribution.

Xandros Desktop OS Standard Edition does not have all the features of the deluxe edition such as CodeWeavers CrossOver Office or Plugin. NTFS resizing is not possible when installing Xandros Desktop OS Standard Edition, but you can still resize FAT and FAT32 partitions. Windows XP and Windows NT systems typically use NTFS by default.

The range of supported hardware is impressive. The Xandros Desktop uses
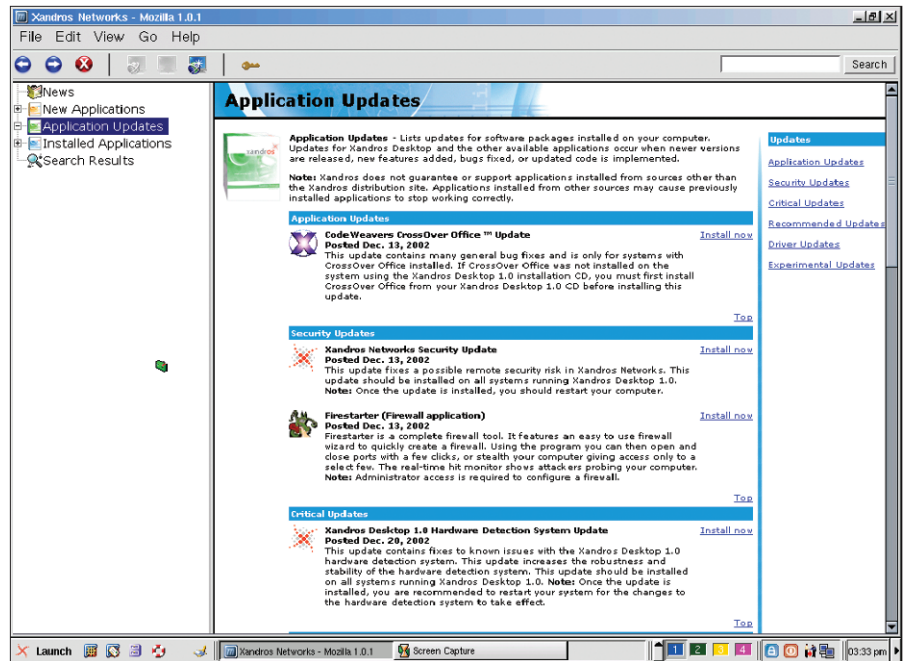

Figure 4: Updating applications is easy with Xandros Desktop OS

XFree86 4.2 which provides accelerated support for video cards based on chipsets including 3DFX, 3DLabs, ATI, Cirrus Logic, Intel, Matrox, nVidia, Number 9, S3, SiS, and Trident. Most other modern video cards will function well using the standard VESA driver. Accelerated OpenGL support is available for compatible Matrox and nVidia based cards. A full list can be found at *http:// www.xandros.com/hcl.html* ■

Features

- Four click install with automatic disk partitioning
- Allocate install space from FAT, VFAT, or FAT32 partitions
- Industry-leading hardware detection & configuration
- Xandros-enhanced desktop
- A single Xandros Control Center for all your settings
- Xandros File Manager
- Xandros Disc Burner
- Windows networking
- Mozilla Web suite
- OpenOffice.org suite
- Online help
- Startup guide on the DVD
- Access to a huge inventory of free Linux software
- Simple menus

Xandros File Manager

The Xandros File Manager is the heart and soul of your daily desktop experience:

- Seamlessly share files on Windows and Unix networks
- Create archives of selected files with a single click
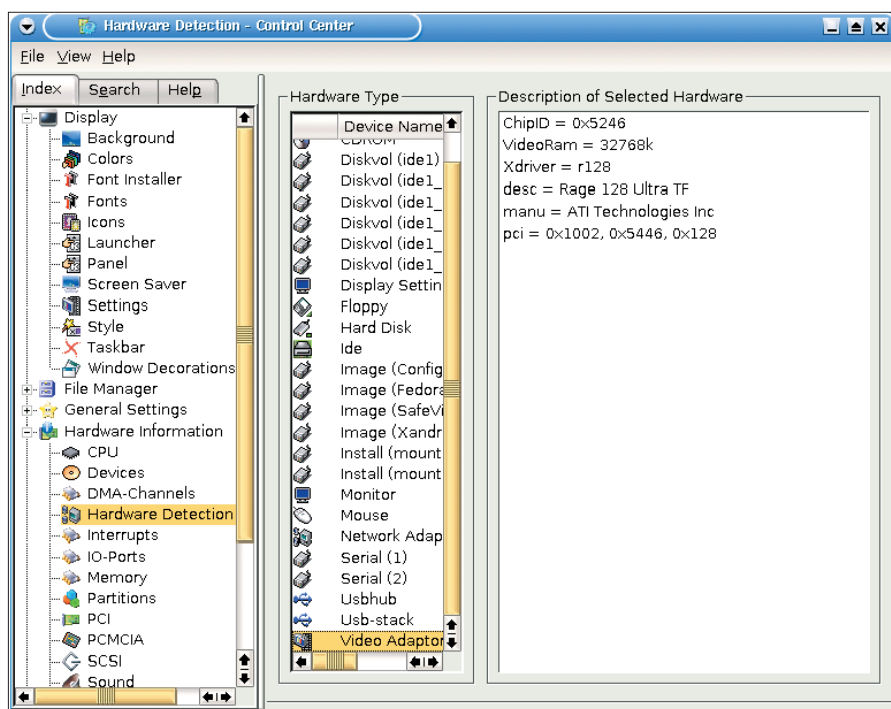- Drag and drop files to create music and data CDs... plus many other features that make XFM the best all-in-one desktop tool.

Figure 3: Xandros' version of the KDE Control Center