



# Linux Magazine DVD

Red Hat Enterprise offerings. The project goals are designed by Red Hat and openly developed with general participation.

Red Hat states that Fedora Core is intended to be the logical upgrade path for previous users of Red Hat Linux.

## New Software

Similar to recent Red Hat Linux versions, Fedora Core 2 uses the Anaconda installation tool. This can work in both text-only mode or be fully graphical, depending on your resources. It is also possible to use a Kickstart disk to make installations automatic, which is useful if you have many to carry out. You can copy the information off the DVD onto a hard disk for either hard disk or network installations.

The Core 2 version of the Fedora Project contains SELinux. This is a new option that is disabled by default, but by entering

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selinux
```

at the boot prompt, it can be enabled. SELinux stands for Security Enhanced

Linux and uses Mandatory Access Control (MAC) within the kernel as opposed to Discretionary Access Control (DAC). Rather than just relying on a user's identity and file permissions for controlling who can run what process as is the case under DAC, the MAC system allows for a greater variety of control. Both role-based access control and Type Enforcement are used to control the access to processes and thus give more security to your system and thwart crackers. For more information on SELinux see <http://people.redhat.com/kwade/fedora-docs/selinux-faq-en/>

Not only do we get a more secure Linux, but Fedora has changed its graphical heart. Rather than using the Xfree86 X11, Fedora Core 2 has X.org's new X11R6.7.0 windowing system. The internal core of any Linux system is the Linux kernel upon which it is built. Fedora Core 2 is based on the current 2.6 Linux kernel.

For desktop and workstation users, the key information is that the GNOME desktop environment is now fixed at 2.6 and the KDE is updated to 3.2.2 version. Fedora Core 2, brings a whole new set of

Linux Magazine is proud to present yet another cutting edge Linux distribution. Fedora is the new name for the community supported version of Red Hat Linux. The project is sponsored by Red Hat and the Fedora project acts as a testing and proving ground for the latest technology. When the technology has proven stable enough, it will be used to build the Red Hat Enterprise Linux distribution.

Fedora is based within the community, and as such, it has community set release dates. These are expected to be about every 4 to 6 months. The Linux Magazine Fedora Core 2 DVD is the latest full release and has an estimated life expectancy of over six months.

The community is encouraged to help shape the Fedora project and thus future

## Why run Fedora?

Because Fedora is both part of Red Hat in that they direct the development, and part of the community. It can be thought of as the standard Linux distribution for most Linux users and the development future of the biggest Linux company.

With this in mind, it can act as a good learning base for those who want to discover the joys of Linux and possibly enter a career as a sys admin in the future. All the underlying features within Fedora are present on the majority of other Linux distributions. If you learn how Fedora works and can control it like a pro, then you can probably handle most things found in any Linux that you might come across in a corporate situation.

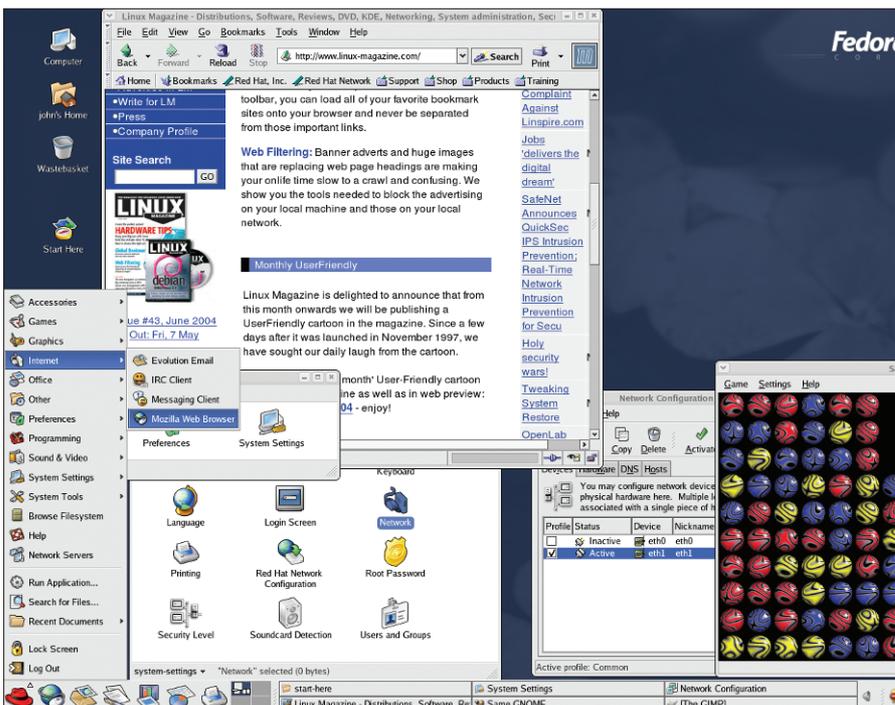
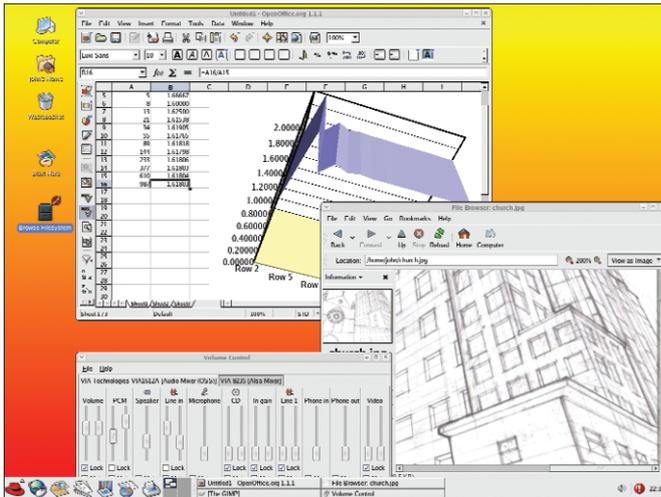
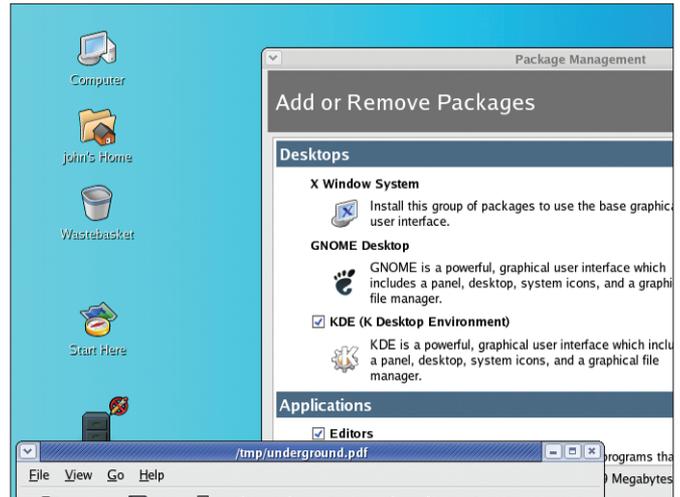


Figure 1: The GNOME desktop with Mozilla, Same, and network configuration.



**Figure 2: Nautilus browsing a file, OpenOffice spreadsheet and volume control.**



**Figure 3: Using Fedora for hardware browsing, while viewing a Pdf image and installing the KDE packages.**

software that is both refreshing and exciting, such as Gimp 2.0, which now has CMYK support and Samba 3.0. The latter now has ActiveDirectory support and a new authentication system.

The choice of packages may, at first, be a little overwhelming, but it does mean that you get to try many applications before you have to settle on a particular program. For example, you may prefer to do all of your web browsing using either Konqueror from the KDE setup, or Nautilus 2.6 from the GNOME setup. Both of these tools are file managers that have built in support to aid web browsing. If those are not enough, you can always revert to the popular Mozilla 1.6.2, or try a more cutting edge browser such as Epiphany.

After browsing you may want to chat with friends. Why not fire up XChat and join the Internet Relay Chat groups that are helpful in solving technical problems? If you do not need the instant answer, then you can always use news-readers such as Pan or Knode.

For those who prefer something a little

different now and again, you can change the whole window manager. Metacity, a lightweight system, or Sawfish for more serious use are included.

For those readers who need to get a little work done with the system, OpenOffice 1.1.1 takes a central role. This, however, does not limit you choice with both KOffice and the GNOME office applications such as Gnumetrics and Abiword still being available.

Developers need not worry as a whole host of tools, languages and compilers are on the DVD including Perl, Python and the new GCC34

The fun side has still been left in this future technology platform with quick action games including Chromium, and the civilization building simulator FreeCiv. Multimedia is covered with cdparanoia, cdrecord, grip, Rhythmbox and of course, xmms.

### Hardware Requirements

200MHz Pentium processor or better for text only, 400MHz or better for graphical installation.

520MB hard disk (minimum), 870MB (server), 2GB (Personal), 2.5GB (Workstation), 5.5GB (everything).

64MB RAM for text only install. 192MB minimum graphical installation, 256MB or greater recommended.

### Objectives of Fedora Core:

- Create a complete operating system equivalent to competing operating systems, designed and built for the benefit of the community by members of the community.
- Use only open source software to build the operating system.
- Development work will take place within each package individually. The Fedora Core will update to new versions when security is enhanced and new features added to each package.
- Provide a platform for developing open source software.
- Adopt and develop new features and upgrades to be on the leading edge of open source technology.
- Usability should be paramount in configuration and feature design.
- New releases should be adopted rapidly and upgrades should be easy, without disturbing configuration.
- Popular packages should be included, where they meet strict quality control standards, as long as Red Hat is legally able to do so, even when they are not a part of the commercially supported products.
- The operating system calls for the establishment of technical standards for all packages to ensure a consistency of quality at all times.
- Provide a timetable for feature freezes for future versions.
- Provide, where possible, timely security patches and application updates.
- Allow third parties to produce packages that are easily incorporated into Fedora to enhance the user's choice.
- Promote and encourage an internationalization of language support for the system and applications.
- Ensure that the Fedora project remains free to download in RPM, SRPM and ISO image formats
- Allow for a rapid rate of change where needed.