

On the DVD



ULTIMATE DISTRO TOOLBOX

This month's *Linux Magazine* DVD offers a collection of small and alternative distros. The DVD boots into a custom menu that lets you select the distro of your choice. Some distros boot Live, so you can try them with no risk to your existing configuration. Linux Mint "Debian," based on Debian's "testing" branch, follows the rolling release approach. Small and frequent updates keep your system continuously up to date, with no need to install new releases over previous versions. PCLinuxOS, in its "Gnome" 2010.12 flavor here, also follows the rolling release path. The MyLiveCD tool lets you create customized Live CDs or DVDs by taking snapshots of your existing PCLinuxOS installation. Puppy Linux is a lightweight Live system that loads entirely into RAM; it responds to user input without the lag typical in other Live distros, so you can remove the disc from the drive while it's running.

TABLE 1: LIST OF DISTROS INCLUDED ON THE DISC

Distribution	Description	Live Boot
Linux Mint "Debian" 201101 [1]	Rolling release based on Debian's "testing" distro	Yes
PCLinuxOS "Gnome" 2010.12 [2]	Rolling release with special tools for creating a customized Live CD	Yes
Puppy Linux 5.2.5 [3]	Lightweight; loads entirely into RAM.	Yes
IPFire 2.9 [4]	Firewall distro can put old, unused PCs back to work.	No
Parted Magic 5.10 [5]	Tool for creating, managing, and troubleshooting disk partitions.	Yes
Zenwalk Core 7.0 [6]	Minimal but extensible; no X server or desktop environment.	No

TABLE 2: SPECIAL BONUS ISOs¹

Distribution	Description
Sabayon_Linux_5.5_x86_E17.iso [7]	Sabayon Linux with Enlightenment version 0.17 desktop environment.
Sabayon_Linux_5.5_x86_LXDE.iso [7]	Sabayon Linux with the LXDE desktop environment.
lupu-525.iso [3]	Puppy Linux 5.2.5.
pmagic-5.10.iso [5]	Parted Magic 5.10.

¹ These images are in the `/iso-images` directory. Burn the ISO image to a CD or DVD – don't just copy the file – and reboot to start the system.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [1] Linux Mint: <http://www.linuxmint.com>
 [2] PCLinuxOS: <http://www.pclinuxos.com>
 [3] Puppy Linux: <http://puppylinux.org>
 [4] IPFire: <http://www.ipfire.org>
 [5] Parted Magic: <http://partedmagic.com>
 [6] Zenwalk: <http://www.zenwalk.org>
 [7] Sabayon Linux: <http://www.sabayon.org>

