

Why Does Damn Small Linux Rock?

Four (and more)
Reasons to Use
Damn Small Linux

What is Damn Small Linux (aka DSL)?

- Fully useable desktop that is small and fast
- Mobile
- Extensible
- Secure
- Contains a wealth of utilities and programs to get work done.
- A CREDIT CARD SIZED LiveCD (50mb)

DSL is Damn Small and Damn Fast

- Shipping by default with Keith Packard's kdrive and fluxbox, no resources are wasted.
- Also ships with everything needed for a complete office workstation: Firefox for web, Sylpheed for email and FLwriter for word processing.
- The whole system can be loaded to ram in as little as 128Mb, making the system bleeding fast.

DSL is mobile.

- Created, from the ground up, as a LiveCD/USB key distribution. Take your data and your desktop with you.
- Save your settings to a USB key with encryption, or to a remote FTP, ensuring that your sensitive data is safe.
- Optionally, you can HD install it for a installed operating system.

DSL is extensible.

- Very modular architecture, making it possible to make your DSL install as lean or as bloated as **you** want it.
- myDSLs can be stored on your harddrive, a USB key or directly on your CD and are loaded dynamically and automatically into your system on boot.
- Based on Debian, so anything you can get via apt is also very easily installed.

DSL is secure.

- It's a Linux distribution, so its security is inherently decent – I use decent lightly. **BSD**
- It's also LiveCD/USB Key distro – meaning that a malevolent user will not be able to get your data unless they get your key.
- DSL 1.0 will feature security and redundancy enhancements such as encryption on USB keys and saving settings to a remote FTP instead of a simple USB key backup.

Making your own distribution

- DSL comes with everything you need to make your own custom ISO remaster of itself.
- All of this can be done in RAM.
- The process is relatively simple, it is used by many NPOs to deliver affordable computing solutions to needy families and under funded school systems.
- Using myDSL package system is simple.

Zaurus.



Derivatives of DSL

- These distro's may or may not give credit to DSL, but it is known that they use our code/scripts/base.
- Feather Linux (Lightweight Linux Desktop)
- Dyne::bolic (Full Multimedia Distribution)
- Flonix
- A Port of DSL to the XBOX
- More extensive list to follow --

Imitators...

[Pilot Linux](#)

[Bonzai](#)

[Bloody Stupid](#)

[Local Area Security](#)

[Insert](#)

[distccKNOPPIX](#)

[Danish DSL](#)

[AFROS \(Atari Running on Any Machine\) Live CD](#)

[bootable Counter-Strike server](#)

[Luit Linux](#) 65 MB, XFCE and ROXFile

[Lamppix](#) Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP, Perl

[XAMPP](#) Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP, Perl

[Echelon Linux](#) network services monitoring

[Christian Linux Live CD](#)

[Hikarunix](#) is dedicated to the ancient game of Go.

[Pud Linux](#) looks to be a very nice Chinese language derivative

[DSL XBOX](#) x-dsl.org

[KioskCD](#)

[ELE](#) -- focus on privacy related software

[Folding@Home Server](#)

DSL's popularity

- Damn Small Linux has been in the Top 10 continuously on DistroWatch for the past few months, beating several mainstream distros.
- Recent enhancements have made it much more popular and useful.
- DSL continues to be **the** innovative LiveCD solution for users looking for a minimal but not feature lacking distribution.