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Introduction to Linux - A Hands on Guide

This guide was created as an overview of the Linux Operating System, geared toward new users as an exploration tour and getting started guide, with exercises at the end of each chapter. For more advanced trainees it can be a desktop reference, and a collection of the base knowledge needed to proceed with system and network administration. This book contains many real life examples derived from the author's experience as a Linux system and network administrator, trainer and consultant. They hope these examples will help you to get a better understanding of the Linux system and that you feel encouraged to try out things on your own.

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0

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01-29-2009, 07:23 AM

#1

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stenrulz

LQ Newbie

Registered: Jan 2009

Posts: 4

Rep:

**Start a Debian based OS with out X (no gui, only console)**

Hi, i would like to know how to start a Debian based OS without X (no gui, only console) by editing or adding a line in gnu grub. Does any one know how to do this? I need to install some video drivers before it will load the GUI. Thanks a lot

Last edited by stenrulz; 01-29-2009 at 07:24 AM.



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01-29-2009, 07:43 AM

#2

utanja

Member

Registered: Apr 2004

Location: Europe:Salzburg Austria

USA:Orlando,Florida;

Distribution: Debian

Posts: 625

Rep:

Quote:

Originally Posted by **stenrulz**

Hi, i would like to know how to start a Debian based OS without X (no gui, only console) by editing or adding a line in gnu grub. Does any one know how to do this? I need to install some video drivers before it will load the GUI. Thanks a lot

Just eliminate either loading gdm, or kdm now your system will load at the gui...
you can use sysvconfig at root to stop these initial services..

01-29-2009, 11:16 AM

#3

rizwanrafique

Member

Registered: Jul 2006

Distribution: Debian, Ubuntu,

openSUSE, CentOS

Posts: 147

Rep:

Quote:

Originally Posted by **stenrulz**

Hi, i would like to know how to start a Debian based OS without X (no gui, only console) by editing or adding a line in gnu grub. Does any one know how to do this? I need to install some video drivers before it will load the GUI. Thanks a lot

Code:

```
# update-rc.d -f gdm remove
```

Or whichever display manager (kdm/xdm) you're using.

To restore it back:

Code:

```
# update-rc.d -f gdm defaults
```

01-29-2009, 03:10 PM

#4

farslayer

Guru

Registered: Oct 2005

Location: Willoughby, Ohio

Distribution: linuxdebian

Posts: 7,232

Blog Entries: [5](#)

Rep:

boot the system..

CTRL+ALT+F2 - to get to a command prompt so you can login as root

/etc/init.d/gdm stop - Shut down gdm/X

aptitude update

aptitude install build-essential module-assistant

m-a update

m-a prepare

OK now you are ready to install/compile your nvidia or ATI drivers..

 01-29-2009, 04:24 PM

#5

stenrulz

LQ Newbie

Registered: Jan 2009
Posts: 4**Original Poster**Rep: 

it will not fully load up. It dies loading the linux video drivers that do not work 100%. I need a to edit some thing in gnu grub to disable Start X (GUI).

 01-29-2009, 05:50 PM

#6

utanja

Member

Registered: Apr 2004
Location: Europe:Salzburg Austria
USA:Orlando,Florida;
Distribution: Debian
Posts: 625Rep: 

We gave you a few alternatives. None work? Strange....
How did you install Debian? You only need a base system for CLI. (no gui).

 01-29-2009, 06:39 PM

#7

stenrulz

LQ Newbie

Registered: Jan 2009
Posts: 4**Original Poster**Rep: 

I said that it was a Debian based os. It is untangle firewall/router OS. I really need to know how to disable the GUI. Thanks

 01-29-2009, 06:40 PM

#8

stenrulz

LQ Newbie

Registered: Jan 2009
Posts: 4**Original Poster**Rep: 

I need a way of editing the info in gnu grub. Thanks a lot

 01-29-2009, 10:21 PM

#9

farslayer

Guru

Registered: Oct 2005
Location: Willoughby, Ohio
Distribution: linuxdebian
Posts: 7,232
Blog Entries: [5](#)Rep: 

You don't disable X by editing grub.. My post told you how to boot the system, get to a command prompt then shut down gdm/x
I even included directions on how to install the compile environment and Kernel headers so you could compile a nvidia or ATI driver.. if you know a better way then please share, but what I posted has always worked for me on Debian based systems.

 01-30-2009, 12:20 AM

#10

stratotak

Member

Registered: Sep 2005
Distribution: Today Debian .
Tomorrow ..??
Posts: 386

Rep: 

Have you booted in single user mode yet? On debian it has 2 entries in grub. Multiuser and single user. If you boot using single user it boots to a root password command. You can do your repairs from a cli. If it doesn't have a single user mode entry in grub.. you can use "e" to edit the grub command and add single to it and then enter "b" to boot.. it should boot as single user... then you can use nano to edit xorg.conf and change driver to vesa and see if that gets gui working.

Like this

```
/boot/vmlinuz-2.6.26-1-686 root=/dev/hda1 ro single
```

Last edited by stratotak; 01-30-2009 at 12:21 AM. 01-30-2009, 03:49 PM#**11****utanja**

Member

Registered: Apr 2004
Location: Europe: Salzburg Austria
USA: Orlando, Florida;
Distribution: Debian
Posts: 625

Rep: 

How did you install the system initially?

 10-01-2010, 11:55 PM#**12****citrusblast**

LQ Newbie

Registered: Oct 2010
Posts: 1

Rep: 

I've asked around on the Untangle forums about this very issue, a while back, and gotten the response from the developers that, because of the way the GUI is integrated into the distro, there is no way to launch without it without breaking the system.

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