

8 Reasons Why We Love Linux (And You Should, Too!)

Do you love Linux? We do at Linux Academy! Here are some of our reasons that you should, too!

1) Free (no cost and no restrictions)

You can not only download, install, and use all Linux distributions at no cost, but also many of the applications you would use daily (office applications, image manipulation, programming editors, etc.) are also available free of charge. Some additional thoughts from [employees at Linux Academy](#):

"You get to decide how to allocate your software spend, whether it be on support or additional features. The Linux landscape encourages and supports this method of software distribution, including the ability to create, modify, and share the changes or improvements you make to any of those products and applications." - Terry Cox

"I can make my computer do what I want it to do rather than what the manufacturer allows it to do - like installing one of at least 3-4 major desktop environments, any of which you can change to make it look and act exactly how you want." - Phil Zona

2) Innovative

With companies like Facebook, YouTube, and Amazon built on open source architecture, and even Hollywood animation studios running on Linux servers, the other OS vendors are forced to innovate to keep up.

"As an alternative OS, Linux has pushed the boundaries of computing (particularly in cloud technologies with containers, clustering, and high availability) and has pushed the other operating system vendors to innovate at a faster pace." - Terry Cox

3) Customizable

Seriously, do you know many technology buffs that don't love customization? There are many distributions of the OS and more are being created all the time by the community of developers. Each user can choose individual applications they want to install so they only have what they want and need on their computer and nothing else.

"The ability to customize my user experience far beyond what proprietary operating systems offer. On all my personal computers, I use i3wm - a tiling window manager that is keyboard-focused. I can navigate a computer substantially faster when I don't have to touch anything but my keyboard." - Elle Krout

"Linux is so customizable and fun to play with. Basically, as far as what you can make it do - the only limit is your imagination." - Treva Williams

"One of the great things about Linux is all the different flavors, or distributions, that are available. All of them have their quirks and features, and folk have their favorites. For instance, I think it's so much easier to make a dpkg for Debian and Ubuntu than it is to make an rpm for Red Hat, Fedora, and CentOS." - Amy Marrich

4) Universal

The Linux kernel is embedded in many devices we use (wireless routers, medical equipment, TVs, cell phones) and already a huge part of our everyday lives.

"I love Linux because it's the same code running on my phone, a small device like a Raspberry Pi, all the way up to massive supercomputers. I am instantly familiar with all of those systems because I'm familiar with Linux." – Chad Miller

5) Secure

As we see in the news all too often, security is of supreme importance when protecting your organization from loss of customer or proprietary data which can lead directly to brand damage and financial ruin. Linux provides a more secure option than some other alternatives through its implementation of access limitations, jailed processes, encryption, and a rapid release cycle when vulnerabilities are discovered.

6) Reliable

Many companies employ Linux in support of their application and infrastructure deployments because it's very reliable. Experience has taught enterprises that Linux tends to be more reliable when compared to other server operating systems.

"Linux is rock solid. The kernel can be stripped down to include only drivers and modules that are needed for a specific purpose as well as to save on resources (CPU and/or memory). As a result, you end up with a more reliable build as it is specific to your implementation." – Terry Cox

7) Scalable

In addition to the flexibility that Linux provides in dynamic storage allocation and management, its natural affinity towards clustering, containers, and virtualization support allow you to quickly and easily scale your Linux environments up and down as your needs evolve, enabling Linux to grow with your company.

8) Collaborative

The huge community is full of developers that can help you troubleshoot and solve your own problems quickly.

"The vast number of community projects makes it easy to learn and there's always something new to look forward to. No proprietary system has as many involved people or projects." – Sean Gulin

"As a result of being open source, the collaboration opens up access to a huge amount of knowledge and technical skill that you would otherwise never have access to - if you did, you would have neither the staffing budget nor the facilities to house them." – Terry Cox

From small smartphones, to bigger Smart TVs, and even most of the supercomputers around the world using Linux, it's easy to see why it's so popular and well-used. These are only a few of the popular reasons we love Linux here at [Linux Academy](#).

Hopefully, you can see how it would benefit your business to use Linux - if you're not already. If you are, welcome to the club and tell us some of your favorite things in the comments, or click to tweet or share this blog! If you want to learn more, click below to see some of the [Linux courses](#) we offer as well as the many other cloud computing courses available at Linux Academy with [hands-on labs](#) and [servers](#) for your [teams](#)!