# Getting start with Ubuntu 12.10

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## 1 Installation

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## 2 The Ubuntu Desktop

### 2.1 Understanding the Ubuntu desktop

Initially, you may notice many similarities between Ubuntu and other operating systems, such as Microsoft Windows or Mac os x.

This is because they are all base on the concept of a graphical user interface(GUI)--i.e.,you use your mouse to navigate the desktop , open applications , move files, and perform most other tasks. In short ,things are visually-oriented. This chapter is designed to help you become familiar with various applications and menus in Ubuntu so that you become confident in using the Ubuntu GUI



### 2.2 Unity

All GUI-based operating system use a *desktop* environment. Desktop environments encompass many things, such as:

* The look and feel of your system
* The way the desktop is laid out
* How the desktop is navigated by the user

In Linux distributions (such as Ubuntu), a number of desktop environments are available. Ubuntu uses Unity as the default desktop environment. After installation and logging in to Ubuntu, you will see the Unity desktop. This initial view is comprised of the desktop background and two bars-a horizontal one located at the top of your desktop called the menu bar and the other bar is vertically oriented at the far left , called the Lanuchar.



Unity used to come in two vsersion – Unity 2D, which was written for lowpowered system, and Unity 3D, which favored high-performance systems.Because of recent advancements in Unity 3D, Ubuntu 12.10 has discontinued the use of Unity 2D and now only includes Unity 3D. Unity 3D now is abole to run on low-powered systems as well as high-performance platforms.

#### 2.2.1The Desk top Background

 Below the menu bar is an image that covers the entire desktop. This is the default desktop background , or wallpaper, belonging to the default Ubuntu 12.10 theme known as Ambiance. To learn more about customizing your desktop (including changing your background), see the section on Customizing your desktop below.

#### 2.2.2 The Menu Bar

The menu bar incorporates comon functions used in Ubuntu 12.10 . The icons on the far-right of the menu bar are called the indicator area. Each installation of Ubuntu may contain slightly different types and quantities of icons based on a number of factors, including tpye of hardware and available on board peripherals. The mostcommon indicators are (starting from the left):

*Keyboard indicator*

 *Allows you to select the keyboard layout you would like and change your keyboard preferences.*

*Messaging indicator*

 Incorporates all your social applications. Form there, you can access your instant messenger client,your email client, your microblogging application , and even Ubuntu One, your personal cloud!

*Network indicator*

 Allows you to manage your network connections and connect quickly and easily to a wired or wireless network.

*Sound indicaotr*

 provides an easy way to adjust the sound volume as well as access your music player and sound setting.

*Clock*

 Display the current time and provides an easy way to access your calendar and time and date settings.

*User menu*

 Allow you to easily switch between difference users and access your online and user accounts.

*Session indicator*

 Provides an easy way to access system setting, software updates, printers, and session options for locking your computer, logging out of your session, restarting the computer, or shutting down completely.

Every application has a menuing system where different actions can be executed in an application (like **File, Edit, View**,etc.);the menuing system for an application is appropriately called the **application menu** .In Unity the *application* menu isn't on the titlebar of the application as is commonly the case with other GUI environment. Instead , it is located to the left area of the menu bar. To show an application's menu, just move your mouse to the Ubuntu desktop's menu bar. While your mouse is positioned here, the active application's menu options will superimpose itself over the Ubuntu desktop's menu bar, allowing you to use the application's menu. Moving your mouse away from the menu bar will allow Ubuntu desktop's menu bar to reappear.This capability of Unity to only show the application's menu when needed is especially beneficial for netbook and laptop users as it provides you with more free work space.

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#### 2.4.3 Find applications

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In addtion to finding application and files on your local computer susing the Dash's search bar, the search criteria is also passed to to the Internet, and results pertinent to your search criteria are return in the Dash. This is a new feature in Ubuntu with the release of 12.10 .If you are concerned about local search terms being sent to external resources, you can use the “kill switch” provided in the privacy section of the System Setting to disable all online search results.

The online search results within the Dash are turned on by default during installation. If you do not want external search results, go to **System Setting > Privacy > Search Results** and switch off the “include online search results ”switch.

### 2.5 Workspaces

 Workspaces are also known as virtual desktops. These separate views of your desktop allow you to group application together, and by doing so, help to reduce clutter and improve desktop navigation. For example, in one workspaces

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## 4 Hardware---硬件

### 4.1 Using your devices---使用你到硬件

 Ubuntu supports a wide range of hardware, and support for new hardware improves with every release.

 Ubuntu支持大多数到硬件，并且通过每个版本到更新来打到对新硬件设备到支持。

### 4.2 Hardware identification---硬件的识别

 There are various ways to identify your hard ware in Ubuntu. The easiest would be to install an application from the Ubuntu **Soft ware Center**. Called Sysinfo.

 这里呢，有很多到方法可以让你在Ubuntu中识别到你到硬件，但是最简单到办法可以做到这一步那就是通过Ubuntu到软件中心安装一个叫 Sysinfo的软件。

### 4.3 Displays---显示

#### 4.3.1 Hard ware drivers---硬件驱动

A driver is a piece of software which tells your computer how to communicate with a piece of hardware.Every component in a computer requires a driver to function, whether it's the printer , DVD player, hard disk , or graphics card.

 The majority of graphics cards are manufactured by three well-know companies: Intel, AMD/ATI , and NVIDIA Corp. You can find your video card manufacturer by refering to your computer's manual , by looking for the specification of your computer's model on the Internet or by using the command **lspci** in a terminal . The Ubuntu Software Center houses a number f applications that can tell you detailed system information. Sysinfo is on such program that you can use to find relevant information about your Ststem devices. Ubuntu comeswith support for graphics devices manufactured by the abouve companies, and many others , out of the box. That means you don't have to find and install any drivers yourself, Ubuntu take of it all.

 Keeping in line with Ubuntu's philosophy, the drivers that are uesed by default for powering graphics devices are open source.This means that the drivers can be modified by the Ubuntu developers and problems with them can be fixed. However in some cases proprietary driver(restricted driver ) provided by the company may provide better erformance or features that are not present in the open souce driver. In other cases your particular scenarios . You may want to install the restricted driver provided by the manufacturer.

 For both philosophical and practical resons, Ubuntu doesnot install rest drivers by default but allow the user to make an informed choice. Remember that restricted drivers, unlike the open source drivers for your device, are not maintained by Ubuntu. Problems cased by those drivers will be resolved only when the manufacturer wishes to address them. To see if restricted drivers are available for your system. Press the Super/Windows key on your keyboard to show the Dash or click the Ubuntu icon on the Unity Launcher, and search for **Additional Drivers**. If adriver is provided by the company for your paricular device, it will be listed there. Y can simply click **Activate**  to enable the driver . This process requires an active Internet connection and it will ask for your password. Once installation is complete you may have to reboot your computer to finish activating the driver.

 The Ubuntu developers prefer open source drivers because they allow any problem to be identified and fixed by anyone with knowledge within the community. Ubuntu development is extremely fast and it is likely that your device will be supported by open sourcedrivers. You can use the Ubuntu Live DVD to check your device's compatibility with Ubuntu before installing. Or go online to the Ubuntu forums or to [http://www.askubuntu.com](http://www.askubuntu.com/) to ask about your particular device.

#### 4.3.2 Setting up your screen resolution

One of the most common display related tasks is setting the correct screen resoultion for your desktop monitor or laptop.

 Ubuntu correctly identifies your native screen resolution by itself and sets it for you. However, due to wide variety of devices available sometimes it cant' properly identify your resolution.

 To set or check your screen resolution, go to **System Setting > Displays**. The “Displays” window detects automatically the type of display and shows your display's name , size . The screen resolution and refresh rate is set to the recommended value by Ubuntu. If the recommended setting are not to your liking, you can change the same from the  **Resolution** drop-down to the resolution of your choice.

#### 4.3.3 Adding an extra display

 Some times, ou may want to add more than one display device to your desktop, or may want to add an external monitor to your laptop. Doing this is quite simple. Whether it's an extra monitor, LCT TV, or a projector, Ubuntu can handle it all. Ubuntu supports the addition of multiple displays by default , which is as easy as plug and play. Ubuntu recognizes almost all the latest monitors, TVs andprojectors by default. Sometimes it may happen that your additional display is not detected when you connect it to machine Tho resolve this, go to **System >Displays** and click on **Detect Displays.** This will detect the monitors connected to the machine. This menu can also be found from the  **Power Off**  menu on the top panel. You can also search for Displays at Dash search bar. Now there are two modes which you can enable for your displays. One option is to spread your destop across two or more monitors.This is particulary useful if you are working on multiple projects and need to keep an eye on each of them at the same time . The second option is to mirror the desktop onto each of the displays. This is particulary useful when you are using a laptop to display something on a larger screen or a projector. To enable this option just check the box beside  **Mirror displays**  and click **Apply** to save the settings. You will get a pop-up notification asking if you want to keep the current setting or revert to the previous setting . Click to keep the current setting .

Staring form Ubuntu 12.04 you canalso select whether you want the Unity Launcher in both the displays or only in the primary display.

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The middle section of this window allows you to customize how your system manage updates, such as the frequency with which it checks for new packages, as well as whether it should install important updates right away (without asking for your permission), download them only, or just notify you about them.

#### 5.4.3 Release upgrade

Here you can decide which system upgrades you would like to be notified about

*Never* Choose this option if you would rather not be notified about any new Ubuntu releases.

*For any new version*  Choose this option if you always want to have the latest Ubuntu release, regardless of whether it is a long-term support release or not.This option is recommended for normal home users.

*For long-term support versions* Choose this option if you need a release that will be more stable and have support for a longer time. If you use Ubuntu for business purpose, you may want to consider selecting this option.

## 6 Advance Topics

### 6.1 Ubuntu for advanced users

To this point, we’ve provided detailed instruction on getting the most from Ubuntu’s basic features. In this chapter, we’ll detail some of Ubuntu’s more advance features-like terminal, a powerful utility that can help you accomplish tasks without the need for a graphical user interface(GUI).We’ll also discuss some advanced security measures you can implement to make your computer even safer. We’ve written this chapter with advanced users in mind. If you’re new to Ubuntu , don’t feel as though you’ll need to master these topics get the most out of your new software (you can easily skip to the next chapter without any adverse impact to your experience with Ubuntu). However, if you’re looking to expand your knowledge of Ubuntu, we encourage you to keep reading.

### 6.2 Introduction to the terminal

Throughout this manual we have focused primarily on the graphical desktop user interface. In order fully realize the power of Ubuntu, you will need to learn how to use the terminal.

#### 6.2.1 What is the terminal?

Most operating systems, including Ubuntu, have two types of user interfaces. The first is a graphical user interface (GUI). This is the desktop, windows, menus, and toolbars you click to get things done. The second , much older type of interface is the command –line interface. (CTI).

 The terminal is Ubuntu’s command-line interface. It is a method of controlling some aspects of Ubuntu using only commands that you type on the keyboard.

#### 6.2.2 Why would I want to use the terminal?

You can perform most day-to-dayactivities without ever needing to open the terminal . However,

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