

Linux Mint Install Video by Steve Isenberg Page 1 of 3

Steve Isenberg -- Linux Mint Install Video: YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydy2IDoLHDM>

NOTE: This is a greatly accelerated and edited run-through. The install process takes anywhere from 20 mins. to 45 mins. depending on hardware speed and other factors. If installing the latest versions of all the software is selected, the process can take even longer and will involve much more downloading.

00:00 Ventoy selection menu

00:05 Mint Installer Startup Options menu

00:17 Mint Live Desktop; Install option selected

00:21 Language Select

00:31 Keyboard Layout

00:37 Install multimedia codecs -- Optional, will increase install time and require extra downloading.

01:03 Unmount partitions which are in use? Sometimes you'll need to do this.

01:15 Install Location -- In a multi-boot setup you'd choose "Alongside" the other OS(es). We're going to use the whole disk. You can also do an in-place replacement of the existing Mint installation.

01:23 For Mint you really need less than 50GB, and can install it on 20GB. I would not allocate 320 GB to Mint. I would use about 30 GB for Mint, set up a Data Partition of about 30 GB later (using gParted Live from my Ventoy ISO collection), and leave the rest unallocated for future uses.

On some PCs and laptops it helps to set up a small Swap Partition and enable it after the install is complete. Swap size = 2x RAM or slightly larger. (This also allows Hibernate to be enabled, which I don't use.) For 8 GB RAM, 20 GB Swap is more than enough. In gParted, Linux Swap is an option, and it is not formatted.

01:32 Confirm making changes to your disk

01:43 Select Time Zone

01:51 Name Computer, User, and set up password and (optional) encryption of Home Directory.

02:17 Creating the File System

02:21 Install begins.

Linux Mint Install Video by Steve Isenberg Page 2 of 3

- 03:22 Install continues -- The fetching of files includes a lot of software downloads in this video.
- 04:09 Hardware Configuration -- Drivers are being installed.
- 04:53 Installation is completed. You must restart the PC to finish installation and use Mint.
- 05:02 Linux Mint Greeter Screen -- Boot successful!
- 05:18 On some Linux systems there's screen garbage which happens during startup. This should not be of any concern in most cases, but errors can be reported here.
- 05:45 The Mint Desktop. Normally you would log in with a password, but Steve chose to make login automatic as this is a test machine.
- 05:50 Initial Setup. This will not show up again after the post-install steps are completed.
- 05:58 Settings -- Note Timeshift -- This is similar to Apple's Time Machine. You can set up system snapshots here. Set up a schedule for snapshots. This way, if anything you do from now on goes haywire, you can quickly get your system back to the last stable snapshot condition. Very handy in Linux! Requires an external hard drive formatted to an ext4 filesystem.
(Timeshift usage details are beyond the scope of this presentation.)
- 06:06 Driver Manager -- You may need additional drivers. This is uncommon, but I did run into an issue on my new Intel NUC with the Intel Graphics Drivers. The Driver Manager could not resolve my issue however. Long story after that.
- 06:51 Steve has chosen to do Timeshift backups of his system and his Home Directory. The Home Directory contains your personal files and some settings. He also set up a schedule.
- 07:12 Drivers -- Note that to make system changes, as with a Windows Limited User Account, you must enter your Administrator Password every time you initiate such actions. Linux has a hard and fast security rule -- You do not run a Linux session as Root (Administrator).
(Though you can do this, but most of us have no reason to do so.)
- 07:23 Software Manager -- At this point you are doing your first system update. There may be many updates at this point, especially if you skipped this step during installation. Note that the Mint package manager is adapted from Synaptic, a common package manager to all Debian Family Linux distros. You have control of what is to be installed and may select or deselect any and all packages offered. Very unlike in Windows 10/11!

(continues)

Linux Mint Install Video by Steve Isenberg Page 3 of 3

- 08:05 Additional packages -- Synaptic will select any dependencies it detects. This is much better than downloading a .deb package, only to have a cascade of unmet dependencies to search for. In this case there are also new Linux kernel versions. Linux does frequent kernel updates, which are installed separately from software updates. This is very unlike Apple or Windows. Linux usually retains three kernel versions, in case the latest upgrade breaks something in your system or software (it happens). Older kernels are deleted automatically. (You can manage this behavior.) Also note the Intel Microcode update. These also happen in Windows.
- 08:52 Switching to a local mirror is advisable. Steve should have selected Yes when this popped up. Kernel updates always require a reboot. It is possible to specify which kernel to boot into, but usually if nothing goes wrong, Boot from the First Entry in GRUB (the latest kernel) will be the default.
- 09:15 Back on the Mint Desktop. At this point if you are satisfied with your setup you can uncheck the box so that the Welcome Screen doesn't pop up every time you log in.
- 09:44 Software Manager. A lot of useful software comes preinstalled with Mint, including LibreOffice, Firefox (I usually add Chromium) and a lot of media software and utilities. But you may have some other favorite software. The Software Manager will have most of these titles. You can also add the full Synaptic Package Manager for even more selections. These are managed repositories, so you know the software is vetted and should work on most Mint systems.
- 10:11 It appears Steve found a newer version of LibreOffice in the Software Manager, so he installed it. Usually the Software Updater will find these updates. Also installed by default is the GIMP, for photo and image editing. VLC Player is not installed by default, but is very useful. If used carefully, Bleachbit is a good system cleanup tool.
- 11:14 System Settings -- Initially, leave these alone. You'll know if you need to tweak something.
- Note I also ran into a problem with one of the built-in Desklets. (Show what this is on my own Mint desktop.) Long story short, there was an out of date Python script in the Desklet. So it didn't behave correctly. I upgraded to a newer version of this Desklet and all was well. So there may be other things to update than drivers, kernels and software.

Any questions or comments?

-- Bob Primak with video by Steve Isenberg -- December 29, 2021 --