



PC/OS 11 LTS FAQ

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In this document we make some forward looking statements about the direction that PC/OS 11 LTS (Long Term Support), PC/Operating Systems, will take. These forward looking statements are provided with no warranty either expressed or implied

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1. Kernel Level Changes

The kernel and delivery will change in quite a few ways. With the kernel we will be upgrading to kernel revision 2.6.33. With Kernel 2.6.33 we will see better hardware support, better stability. This kernel will be common among all the releases. We will include the backports module to better support legacy hardware that users may utilize. Following is a breakdown of kernel enhancements planned for each individual release.

With PC/OS OpenWorkstation 11 we will also use the non-free firmware modules for systems that may have proprietary hardware included. We will also be shipping the proprietary Broadcom drivers as well as the proprietary NVIDIA drivers so that customers can utilize these drivers out of box rather than having to continuously download these drivers. Another issue users of PC/OS 32 bit software have is that they commonly deploy PC/OS 32 on 64 bit machines. So that those users can utilize all of their RAM, usually over 4 gb, we will be including the PAE enabled kernel. PAE stands for Physical Address Extension. This kernel will not be the default enabled kernel although users can set it as the primary using Startup Manager.

The PC/OS Webstation release is targeted toward netbooks, older hardware and appliances. For the Webstation release we will be including hardware drivers that are common for those types of devices. The backports module will be installed by default as will the Broadcom drivers. With this release we will not ship the PAE enabled kernel nor will we be shipping the NVIDIA drivers. Most Netbooks and older hardware do not ship with NVIDIA graphics chips and or dont support the latest NVIDIA drivers, nor do they ship with 4 gb of RAM.

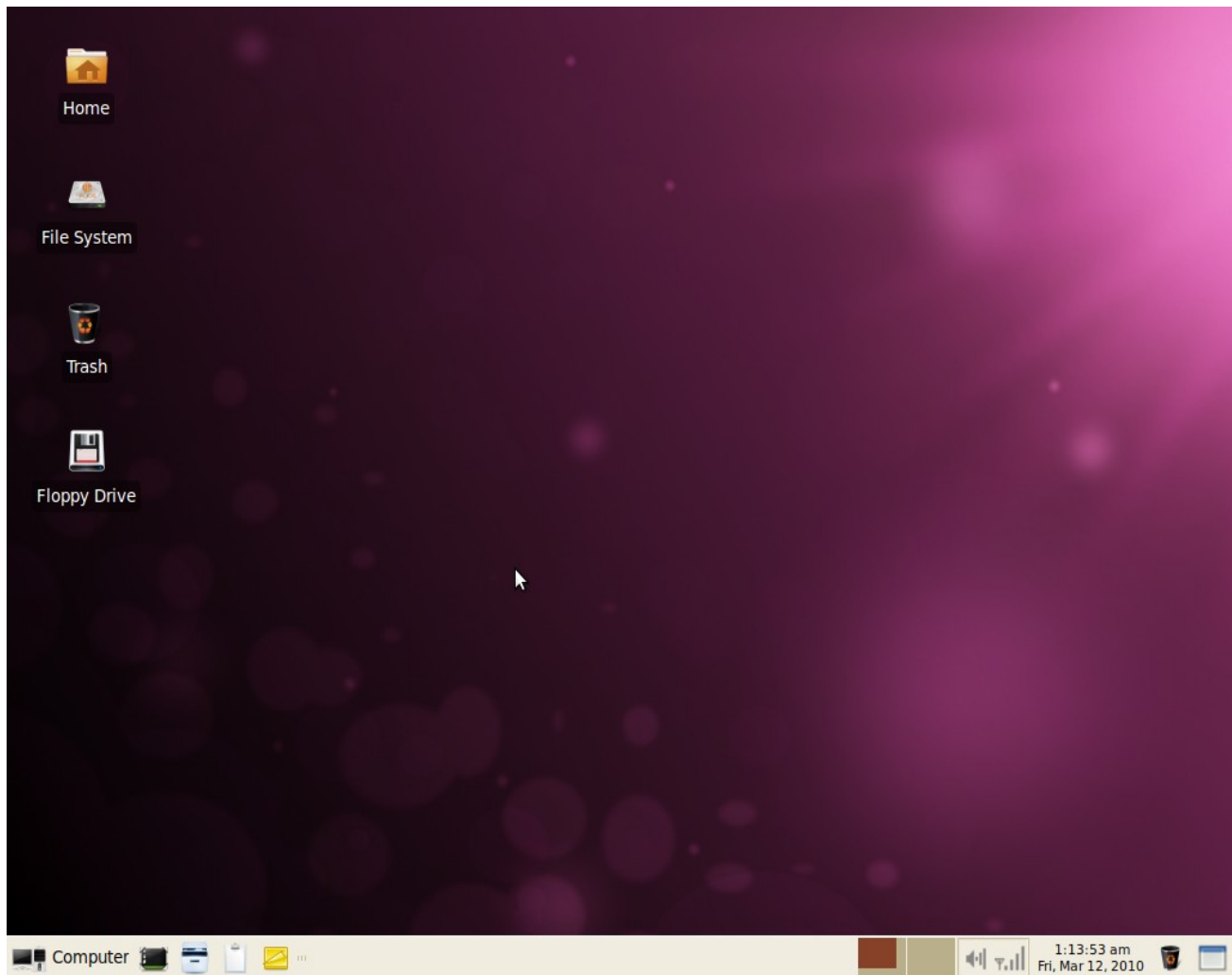
PC/OS OpenServer System 9 will ship with the PAE kernel as well as the Realtime 2.6.33 kernel. This will enable PC/OS OpenServer System to be able to be utilized in workloads that were uncommon a mere 2 years ago. With PC/OS OpenServer we will be shipping with configurations common with the way most Servers are deployed. We will also be shipping PC/OS OpenServer System with networking protocols for legacy networking Operating Systems.

PC/OS Open64 Workstation will receive few kernel modifications as the default kernel configuration is acceptable for that class of hardware. Since it is a desktop oriented OS, we will be including the hardware drivers for NVIDIA chipsets and Broadcom drivers. We will also have kernel level support for certain distributed filesystems.

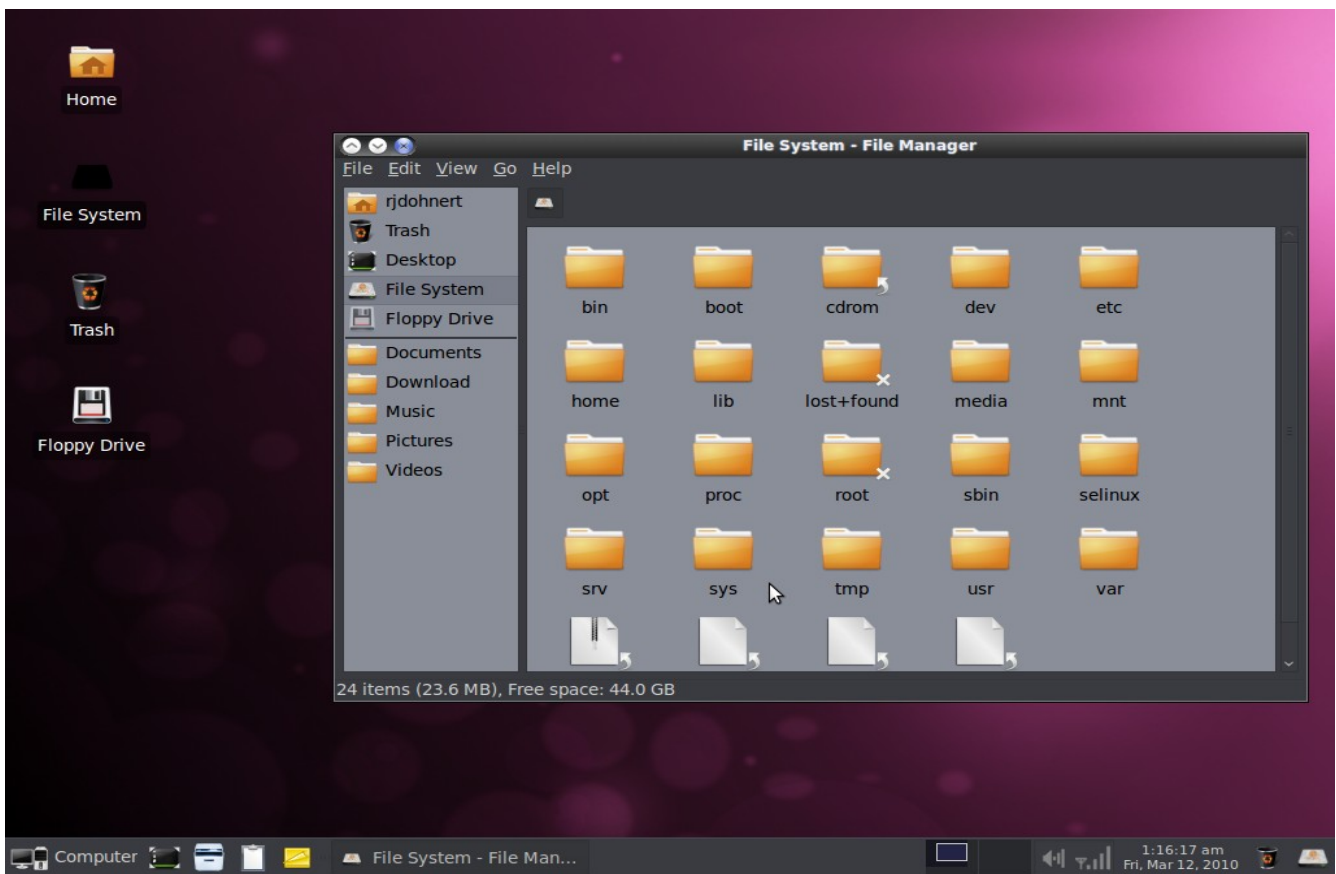
2. User Interface Changes

The User Interface commonly referred to as the UI, or GUI is one thing we have been working on since the inception of PC/OS. We have designed the UI for PC/OS to be appealing and with very few transitional effects.

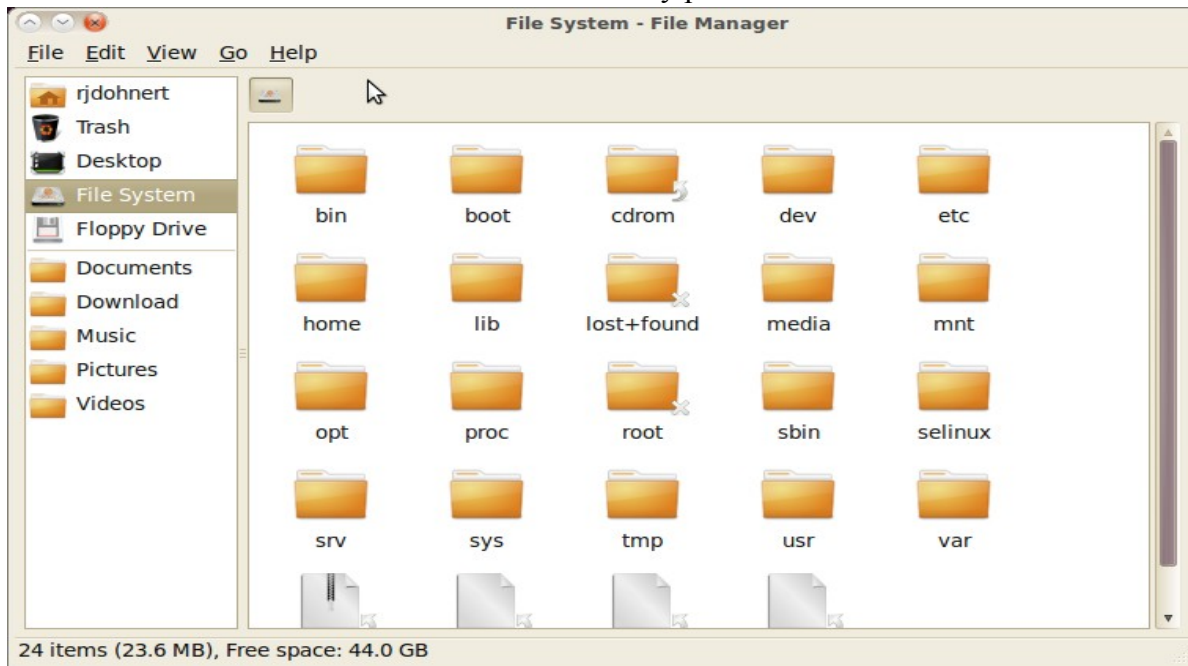
With the UI we will be utilizing the panel and applet layouts that we introduced in PC/OS 10.1. We will follow the Ubuntu team with window themes that they are introducing in 10.04, Lucid Lynx. With PC/OS we will have three themes. PC/OS daylight, PC/OS dusk and PC/OS Midnight.



PC/OS Daylight is a lighter theme. Utilizing light window borders as well as light GUI elements.

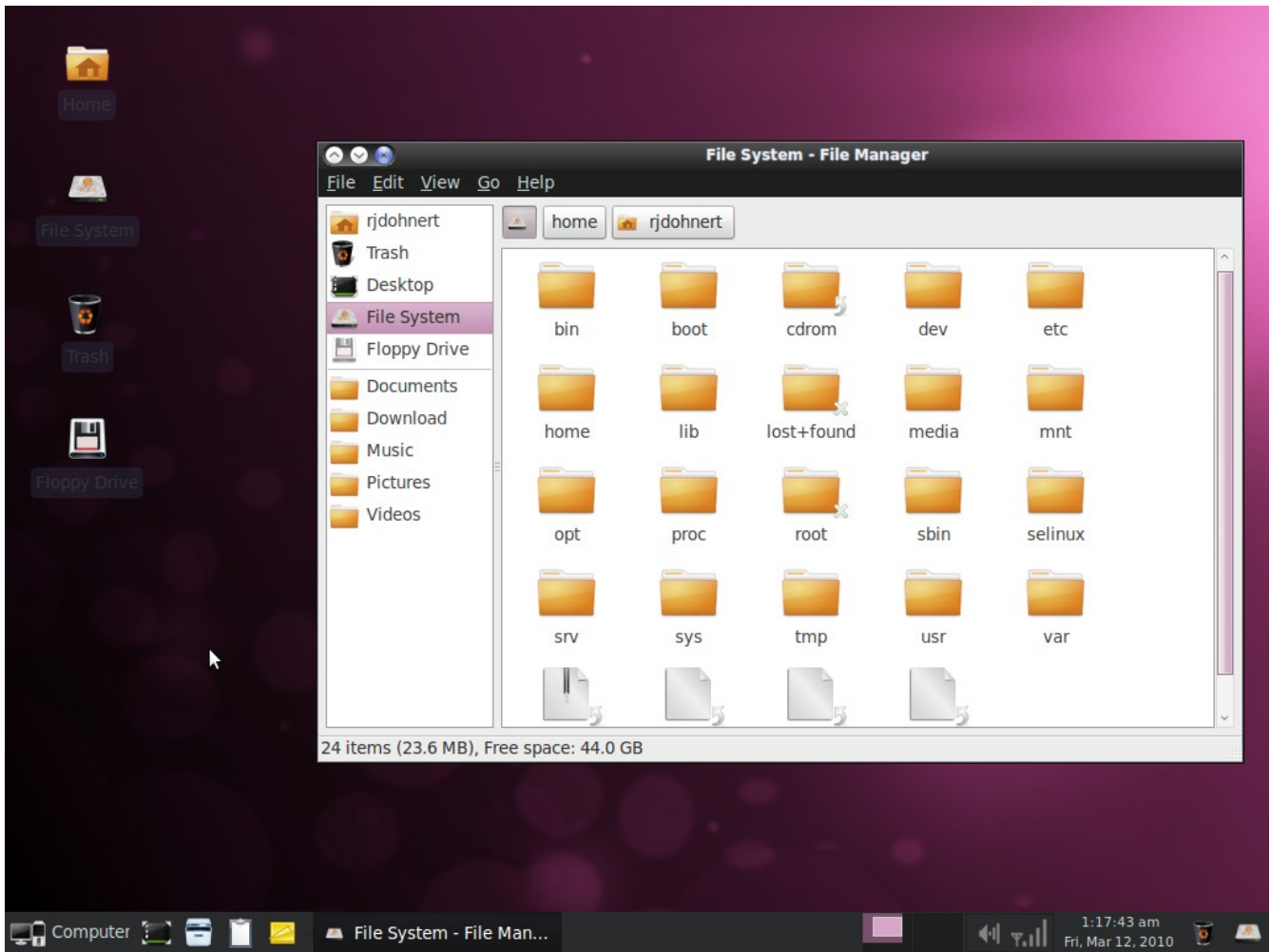


PC/OS Midnight will be our dark theme with very little whites involved. Users who need to utilize their screens with no glare and who need to utilize the OS at night with little or no detection or blinding effect such as Police/Law Enforcement and Military personnel.



The new controls are as follows and positioned to the left. The first button is Maximize, users can have a certain window take up the whole screen. The second button is the minimize button. Which will minimize the window to the task list. The third is close, which explains itself.

The third and final theme is PC/OS is PC/OS Dusk. It contains elements found in both the darker PC/OS Midnight and the lighter PC/OS Daylight



This one is attractive and is actually one of my favorites. Its got the light window contents and has the darker window border and has a very attractive purple tint amongst the controls. All three are works in progress and will be finalized by the release. The color of the close button in the darker themes is blue. This is so the controls blend into the desktop.

3. Releases

With PC/OS 11 we will be modifying the releases a bit. Here are how the new releases will pan out.

PC/OS OpenCore 2.0 will not be released

PC/OS OpenServer System will ship as OpenCore used to. PC/OS OpenServer System 9 will ship as an extremely cut down release. It will roughly be 300 mb in size and will only ship in text mode with UI mode optional. It will ship with a minimal networking stack and not ANY server applications installed. PC/OS Server Kit 11 will ship with OpenServer System on a separate media as an offline repository. This method of delivery will allow users to modify and install only the server components that they need and deem necessary. Users will in effect have full control of their own servers. Shipping OpenServer System like this will also cut down on the available attack surface. Users who wish to deploy OpenServer System as a directory controller or file and print server do not have to worry about patching the web server if a flaw is discovered in that application if its not installed. This cuts out downtime and maintenance time.

PC/OS OpenWorkstation 11 will ship as our primary desktop oriented operating system. This will include everything the user needs to get up and running quickly. Full office suite, multimedia codecs and application runtimes installed by default. The developer framework has been removed and the developer framework will ship as an offline repository known as PC/OS Developer Kit 11. Multimedia authoring and content creation have also been removed from the main desktop and will ship as an offline repository known as PC/OS Multimedia Kit 11. This has proven to be popular with the last two releases where we have utilized this delivery method. PC/OS OpenWorkstation 11 will encompass both the XFCE desktop environment as well as the GNOME desktop environment.

PC/OS WebStation will ship as our secondary desktop oriented operating system. PC/OS WebStation utilizes Web 2.0 applications where it makes sense. Instead of using tools such as Mozilla Thunderbird or OpenOffice.org it uses the web based Gmail/Microsoft Live/AOL e-mail service as well as the web based Google Docs as its primary productivity suite. It also delivers popular social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook to its users. Video and audio playback are used with local and non-web based applications. Instant Messaging is also used locally. It comes bundled with an offline repository known as PC/OS Office-Kit 11. This kit has Mozilla Thunderbird, Abiword (a word processor) and Gnumeric (Spreadsheet application).

Finally we will be shipping PC/OS Open64 Workstation 11. This release is a milestone for users of PC/OS 64 bit software. This will be the first LTS release for users of PC/OS 64 bit software. This will ship with PC/OS Developer Kit 11 64 as well as PC/OS Multimedia Kit 11 64. The applications included will encompass everything that the 32 bit release of PC/OS uses.

PC/OS PowerStation 11. This release is a retail only release. It will not be downloadable or acquired by any other means.

4. System Delivery

We will be changing system delivery quite a bit with PC/OS 11. First, there will be no ISO downloads. The ISO images and MD5's will be compressed using the zip format. The reasons behind this is two fold. First, it will cut down on download time as the size will be much smaller. Secondly, if there is a problem with the zip file, it will not decompress and users know that there is an issue and that they will have to retrieve the file again. This is in contrast to downloading a faulty ISO file and not realizing its faulty until you try to boot or install the system.

Second, we will be handling distribution ourselves. We will no longer have an outside entity press and mail media. When a customer orders PC/OS they will have the option of whatever expansion kits they would like to have. We will also be shipping systems with PC/OS preinstalled. Details to come later. We will not be custom building pc's. This will enable users to get service and support through our hardware vendor. We will be shipping the systems ourselves. The vendor will not be shipping them.

Below we have a pricing guide for PC/OS 11 media and hardware. Price includes shipping and handling. Basic configuration comes with 1 year of e-mail support.

PC/OS OpenWorkstation 11 DVD	Cost: \$49.99 USD
PC/OS WebStation 11 CD	Cost: \$29.99 USD
PC/OS OpenServer System 9 CD	Cost: \$49.99 USD
PC/OS Open64 Workstation 11 DVD	Cost: \$60.00 USD
PC/OS PowerStation 11 DVD	Cost: \$500.00 USD

PC/OS USB Flash Media and Hard Drives. Flash drives are 16 gb in size and Hard drives are 1 Terabyte in size

PC/OS OpenWorkstation 11 USB	Cost: \$60.00 USD
PC/OS WebStation 11 USB	Cost: \$50.00 USD
PC/OS Open64 Workstation 11 USB	Cost: \$60.00 USD

PC/OS OpenWorkstation 11 Hard Drive	Cost: \$120.00 USD
PC/OS Webstation 11 SATA Hard Drive	Cost: \$110.00 USD
PC/OS Webstation 11 Laptop Hard Drive	Cost: \$180.00 USD
PC/OS OpenServer System 9 Hard Drive	Cost: \$120.00 USD
PC/OS Open64 Workstation 11 Hard Drive	Cost: \$130.00 USD

PC/OS Build Service. This is where we custom build a release of PC/OS for your organization to include all the applications that you will need to deploy. We also do integrity testing and compatibility testing. This includes 1 year of free OS upgrades Cost: \$2,000.00 USD

PC/OS 1 yr Extended Support for PC/OS 11 and PC/OS 2009 for business class customers. This includes phone support and on-site service. Cost \$5,000.00 USD

PC/OS 1 yr Extended Support for PC/OS 11 for individual/consumers. This includes phone support only
Cost: 500.00 USD

Cost and details for the PC products will be forthcoming.