How to use this Help

NoteCase is a brilliant tool and is excellent for creating tutorials such as this. It allows you to store and find information in a logic and simple way. The actual data file is in HTML format which means it can also be read with a browser and also be easily printed. To get the best out of this tutorial you need a live internet connection.

This Help was written to support Puppy Linux 525. You might find some of the links will not work on others versions of Puppy. The menu structure aligns better with Joe's Window Manager than OpenBox.

Tip:

Whenever you see a blue word underlined, it is likely a link that will either take you to another node within the tutorial, run an application or take you somewhere on the internet. You need to double click on the links. Click <u>here</u> now to visit the official Puppy Linux site.

Notice the little triangles in the left pane, they are also known as twisties. By clicking on them will either expand or collapse more menus. This provides a well structured method of storing and retrieving information.

Wordwrap. It's also a good idea to turn on Wordwrap so the words don't scroll out of the right side of your screen. You can either press Ctrl+W or click <u>V</u>iew on the menu bar and select Wrap. To make it permanent press F7, click on the display tab, check Wrap test box and press Ok.

To **configure** NoteCase press F7.

Finding Information. NoteCase has very good search functionality. Press Ctrl+F to open the find tool. Type in what you are looking for and click Ok or press enter. To continue searching for the same information close the find tool and keep pressing F3.

Introduction

This is Linux, not Windows and yes there are some differences, but it doesn't take very long to adapt.

Some important conventions you need to know.

Puppy is normally set to run programs with one left mouse click, not two like windows. There are times when two clicks are required but always click once, if it didn't work try two. It can be configured to use two click if you really need it.

In Windows your storage devices are normally desigated as:

a: drive is normally the floppy drive,

c: the hard disk drive, and

d: is often the cd/dvd drive, unless you have more than one drive and/or partitions.

In linux the drive designators are different. See below as an example.

Windows Linux a: fd0 It means the first floppy drive c: sda1 hard drive or first partition on hard drive d: sr0 cd or dvd

In Windows, if you have one physical hard drive with four partitions the designations would be:

c: first partition, d: second, e: third and f: fourth.

Linux would be:

sda1 is the fist partition, sda2 the second, sda3 the third and sda4 the fourth. In linux the cd/dvd remains as sr0 for the first cd/dvd drive and sr1 for the second.

It is actually more confusing in Windows, as the fist cd/dvd would be g: if you had one hard drive with four partitions as the designators follows on from the hard drive partitions.

Mounting

In Windows when you first boot up, all partitions are mounted. This basically means they are physically connected to your computer and switched on.

In linux when you first boot, the hard drive is connected but not normally swithed on. The term for switching on the drive or partition, is mounting. In puppy this is very easy, simply click on one of the drive icons at the bottom left of the screen. It will then display a green dot to let you know it mounted. If the dot is blue then the drive can't be unmounted.

There are huge benefits in being able to mount and unmount drives. For example, if you are surfing the net and pick up some nasty virus or malware, and your drive is not mounted then there is no way it can be save to your hard drive. So for a little inconvenience you get a lot of protection.

Menu

I have modelled this help tutorial on the existing Puppy 525 menu structure. Hopefully this will make it easier to use and provide some familiarity. Why learn more than you need to.

You will also notice that I may have missed some of the menu items. This was intentional becasue either they are so simple they don't require explanation, I don't know enough to describe them or I simply forgot. If you would like to assist with the development of this tutorial, you can create your own nodes and send them to me at **smokey01@internode.on.net** and I will include them in the main help file.

Desktop

One of the first changes many users make to their new operating system is to change the wallpaper/background. I guess it provides that personal feel.

Puppy is also capable of doing this. By now you will have probably

discovered how to get to the Menu system. Simply click on the Menu button on the task bar at the bottom left of the screen or right click anywhere on the desktop. This will give you many choices of software to run under a structured three tiered menu structure.

Select Nathan Wallpaper setter to change the background or click here.

If you want to add additional wallpapers, place them in: <u>/usr/share/backgrounds</u> so the Wallpaper Setter can find them.

Desktop Settings

Most of your desktop settings can be found under the Desktop menu Item.

Click the twistie to see what available.

GTK Theme Chooser

This allows you to change the theme. There are six included and Emacs is the default.

To have a look what is available double click <u>here</u>.

Xlock Screen Locking

This is a simple screen locker. You may want to lock your screen so others cannot see or use your computer when you are away.

It also gives you a number of screen saver options. I like matrix.

Double click <u>here</u> to test.

Desksetup

Desktop Setup will assist you in setting up your desk and drive icons.

If you have a very busy desktop this is a good way to tidy it up, however, when you select **Traditional - full desktop icons,** only the default icons seem to return. Any that you had manually added previously will have to be re-added.

Desktop drives icon manager

This will determine how your drive icons will be displayed.

You can show or hide drive icons.

You can show icons for each partition. Desktop icon switcher

> You also have a choice of icon sets. These can be changed from Menu item Desktop>Desktop Settings>Desktop icon switcher or click <u>here</u>.

Four different sets are provided with Puppy 525.

Click on your choice and follow the prompts.

If four sets are not enough then have a look at the great collection at:

http://puppy.b0x.me/desktop-iconsets

Fbpanel configuration

FBpanel is the task bar at the bottom of the screen. It can be configured using this application.

Fbpanel refresh

This will refresh FBpanel. You need to do this after you have made some changed to the configuration.

FISynclient

This is used to configure your TouchPad.

It works with Synaptics touchpads. If you don't have one it will notify you.

Generally touchpads are only found on Laptops, Notebooks and Netbooks.

JWM Theme Maker

This tools allows you to make your own JWM themes. Double click <u>here</u> to see what themes are currently available.

It also allows you to edit current thems which is easier than starting from scratch.

Double click <u>JWM Theme Maker</u> to create a theme.

JWM configuration

This is where you can choose a theme, manage the Task Bar, setup keyboard shortcuts and add or remove application to the Task Bar.

You can also select a Desktop Theme or change your Background graphic.

Nathan Wallpaper Setter

Nathan Wallpaper Setter is where you can change your Wallpaper.

Select Nathan Wallpaper setter from Menu>Desktop>Desktop Settings>Nathan Wallpaper Setter or click <u>here</u>.

If you want to add additional wallpapers, place them in: /usr/share/backgrounds so the Wallpaper Setter can find them.

Openbox Config

Openbox is the default Window Manager for Puppy 525, however it comes with Joe's Window Manager too, so you have a choice.

The best place to learn about Openbox is <u>here</u>.

It's easy to switch between them, simple click here and select

the Windows Manager you would like to use.

When using Openbox Window Manager use the Openbox Config to customise it the way you like.

Pcur cursor selector

Pcur is a cursor selector. Before you can select a cursor you need to download some. Try <u>here</u>.

The cursor is that little arrow that moves around the screen when you move the mouse.

<u>Here</u> is some information about cursors in the Puppy Linux Forums.

PupClockset manager

This is where you can configure the clock and how you would like it to display the time.

12 or 24 hour

With or without seconds, Day or Month.

<u>PupClockset</u> also works with different types of window managers such as IceWM, JWM, Fluxbox, Lxpanel/Lxde and Fbpanel.

Set global font size

This allows you to change the default font size. The default is 78.

If you increase the font, you will notice the fonts on the Desktop will be larger.

You will need to restart the X server for the change to occur. This can be done by selecting Menu>Shutdown>Restart X Server

Note:

When you restart the X server your active programs will close and you may lose data so make sure you save your data first. Switcher

WM Switcher

Puppy also gives you a choice of Windows Managers. The default is Openbox but it can be changed to JWM (Joe's Windows Manager) from the Menu item Desktop>Desktop Settings>WM Switcher or you can click <u>here</u>.

There are also other Window Managers that can be downloaded and installed such as Fluxbox, Xfce and Icewm, just to name a few. They are available for download from the Puppy Package Manager <u>here</u> or click on the briefcase on the desktop that has install written underneath it. Window Managers are generally a personal choice.

More information on Window Managers for Puppy <u>here</u>.

pupX

pupX is used to configure your mouse, Keyboard and Screensaver.

Mouse

You can adjust the acceleration and threshhold. This basically means how fast the cursor will move when you move the mouse. The faster the acceleration the more the cursor moves with less effort on the mouse. If you make the acceleration too fast it might be difficult to control.

Keyboard

You can adjust the Delay and Rate.

The delay is the pause from when the key is pressed until the result.

The Rate is how fast the result is produced.

Screensaver

Lets you set the Delay before activation.

The Cycle is the interval for change of background patterns. You can also activate and deactivate the screensaver and have a blank screen instead of a pattern.

Country Settings

This area is for configuring your computer to your country. Some countries have different keyboard layout and various different languages. It also provided tools to set the date and time. Click on the twistie to explore.

Chooselocale

This is where you choose your language to suit your country. Many programs are localised which means if you have your locale set to the correct country the appropriate language will be used.

CountryWizard

<u>CountryWizard</u> allows you to set your Language, Timezone and keyboard.

This application is normally run when you boot Puppy for the first time. It's unlikely that you will need to run this unless you do a bit of travelling, then it becomes very useful.

Psync

Psync provides time synchronisation to a time server.

Although your Real Time Clock in your computer may be acurate this will sync your PC clock to the time server so your clock is always correct as per universal time. Discussion Forum on <u>Psync</u>. Set Date & Time Set Date & Time tool

Click <u>here</u> to set.

Gfontsel

<u>Gfontsel</u> is a font viewer. You select the available fonts that are installed and it displays them.

Glipper

<u>Glipper</u> is a great little clipboard manager. You can copy text to the clipboard then paste it into documents later when you need it. It's not restricted to the last time you copied text.

As you highlight text it will be automatically copied to the clipboard.

When you want to paste it, click on the Glipper icon in the task bar, select the text you want, then right mouse click and click on paste. Xclipboard

Another Clipboard Manager

Xfontsel

Another font viewer.

System

Under the System Menu item there are some very useful and powerful tools.

Some are harmless while others can be destructive so handle with care and take notice of all warnings.

System Status & Config

CPU Frequency Scaling Tool

For adjusting your CPU. You can over or underclock it. Not all computers are able to use this utility.

<u>CUPS</u>

This is used to setup up your printing.

CUPS has quite a lot of built in help so I won't repeat it here.

To open CUPS, double click here:

Online help for CUPS <u>here</u>, <u>here</u> and more <u>here</u>.

More on CUPS here.

HardInfo

<u>HardInfo</u> is a useful tool for examining and displaying you system specs.

It is very useful when you are trying to debug problems or simply trying to identify some of your components. It also allows you to printout a copy of your specs in HTML format which can then be sent to someone else to help you problem solve. Htop

Htop displays what processes are running in memory.

It also display your total available memory and how much is being used.

It also lets you know how much of your swap file is being used, if you have one.

Another benefit is it's ability to show % of use for each CPU processor.

Note the F-Keys at the bottom for a host of other functions. IPInfo

IPinfo is a great little tool to assist you with networking.

Do you know what your external IP address is? Your unique IP address is used when you are on the internet. When you run IPinfo this will be displayed under Interfaces.

It also provides information on your Domain Named Server (DNS), Routing, Wireless and Statistics.

It doesn't give you the ability to change anything, just view it. Pprocess

<u>Pprocess</u> is similar to Htop and displays what processes and applications are running in memory.

It also provides an interface where you can kill running processes. You need to be a little careful doing this as you might break the system

I often use Pprocess to find out where the program is running from as it shows the full path to the program. For example, this is where Pprocess is located <u>/usr/local/bin/pprocess</u>

There is also a nice little search facility to help you. PupScan

PupScan is a very powerful tool that provides an enormous amount of information. It will scan all of you modules, PCI interfaces and USB devices and display information about them. It even tells you who the author of the module was. How cool is that.

Click <u>here</u> to open PupScan. You can select a module from the drop down menu then click on the more details button to see the information.

Try the PCI interfaces while you have PupScan open.

Why not have a look at the USB info too.

Top View

<u>TopView</u> is very similar to Htop and Pprocess but it's restricted to viewing your memory only.

It has a pretty plain interface but does a good job.

Xlock

Xlock will lock your screen if screen locking has been configured.

Notice the padlock on your desktop? Rightmouse click on it or click <u>here</u> to configure screen locking.

This allows you to choose a screen saver and select a password. Once you have done this, by clicking on Xlock will then lock your screen.

Be careful not to forget your password or you may lock yourself out of you computer. I'm not sure if there is a way to unlock it if this happens. Maybe you could try the forums.

Boot Manager

Boot Manager allows you to load SFS (Squash File System) files at bootup.

SFS files can be a collection of programs or files that are archived into a single file. This allows your file system to be kept very tidy and the files are not extracted thoughout the file mounted system, rather integrated with it. At anytime you can remove the SFS file from the system which is much easier than having to remove all the files individually. SFS files only work with Frugal installations and after a save_file has been created.

You will be given the option to create a save_file after your first shutdown. A Frugal installation normally consists of three files:

initrd.gz (ramdisk),

lupu_525.sfs (The collection of software and scripts), and **vmlinuz** (the kernel).

The fourth file can be **lupusave.3fs** which is the savefile. This is where all of your settings and additional installed software and data can be stored. It's good practice to keep most of your lage data items like photos and movies outside of the savefile as it will reach capacity very quickly. It can be increased but it's not advisable to make it too big and it can't be reduced.

Bootmanager also provides an oportunity to blacklist or add a new module. You can also prioritise the modules so one can be loaded before another.

Format Floppy Disk

If you still have a floppy disk drive and floppy disks then there is the tool to format the floppy disk in normal DOS format.

Gparted

Gparted is used to partition and format disks. It is a very powerful tool and must be used with caution. It is able to create many different files systems such as FAT16, FAT32, NTFS, EXT2, EXT3 and EXT4.

WARNING

Gparted can be very destructive if not used correctly. Make sure you understand the risks before using it. It will give you warning messages so make sure you read and understand them before proceeding.

Grub

A bootloader is required so you can start your operating system. This version of Puppy Linux offers two choices:

GRUB and Grub4Dos. GRUB is strictly for Linux file systems such as EXT2, EXT3 and EXT4 while Grub4Dos can be used on both Linux and Windows file systems.

GRUB has been used for many years and does an outstanding job but it can be difficult to understand.

Click <u>here</u> to read a very good tutorial on GRUB.

Grub4Dos

Grub4Dos is another bootloader and it is growing in popularity as it is quite easy to use and very versatile.

Lets assume you have three partitions on your single hard drive. One is formatted to NTFS with Windows 7 on it, the second is formatted to FAT32 with IcePuppy, and the third is formatted to EXT3 with Puppy Linux 525. Lets also assume Puppy 525 and IcePuppy have been installed frugally in their own sub directory/folder. Also note one Puppy is installed on a Windows partition and the others on Linux. It doesn't matter with Frugal installations. A full instalation of Puppy needs to be installed to a Linux partition however.

If you run Grub4Dos it will ask you a few questions. Be very careful to select the correct drive or you could damage your existing file system. Once you have made your choices press OK. This will create your config file (menu.lst) and the next time you boot your computer you should be presented with a menu choice of the three systems. It normally provides a few other menus items as well. If you don't want them you can manually edit the menu.lst file.

Pdisk

Pdisk is used to create and delete partitions.

Use with extreme caution as you could lose any existing data on your drive.

If you wish to experiment with this application I suggest you use it on an empty or new drive.

Pschedule

Pschedule is a neat little utility that can run or stop tasks at a specified time.

Read all about it <u>here</u> from the author.

Event Manager

Read all about <u>Puppy Event Manager here</u> from the Master.

Setup

This is the area where the majority of puppy functionality is setup or configured.

Setup Puppy

You will notice as you use Puppy there is more than one way to skin a cat, or in this case a dog.

As you work your way through this tutorial many of your questions should be answered.

Check dependancies

As with many software applications there is often more than one file required. For simplistic sake we will call them all dependencies.

Sometimes developers will provide a software package but not include all of the dependancies this is because they may already part of your current operating system.

If you try and run a package that you have installed and it doesn't work you can use this utility to see what dependancies are missing.

When you click <u>here</u> it will show you a list of additional packages that have been installed by you. Select the program you wish to check and click on Check dependancies.

If you have a lot of additional packages installed you may not be able to see them all as they are below the bottom of the screen. Hold down the Alt key while click and hold left mouse key and drag the window up. This is a very useful tip to move windows when they are too big for the screen, especially if you are using small netbooks.

Once you know what dependancies are missing you can go searching for them.

My recommendation is to use the <u>Puppy Google Search</u> tool. This will just search in the Puppy Linux Forums where it is likely you will find what you are looking for.

Another way to find what dependancies are missing is to run the

package from a termal window. If the package does not run it will tell you what is missing.

Personalize Settings

Personalize Settings gives you the opportunity to do the following:

Change your Hostname from puppypc to something else Select your country setting Set your time zone Set your keyboard to the appropriate country Change your screen resolution using Xorgwizard

Most of this would have been done the first time you booted puppy but you may have a reason to change some of these and this is where you can do it.

Click <u>here</u> to personalize your settings.

Puppy Package Manager

This is the tool to install and remove additional packages.

To run simply click on the install icon on the desktop or click <u>here</u>.

If you click on an installed package it will automatically uninstall it so be careful.

You will also notice the packages are grouped to make them easier to find but you can also use the find function which will search in all groups. It does not search the installed packages.

Quickpet

<u>Quickpet</u> is similar to Puppy Package Manager, it offers less sofware but has some added functionality.

Try the Drivers tab and click on <u>Click here to test your</u> <u>graphics card</u> This will test your video card and offer a high performance video driver for your system.

The News Tab is worth keeping an eye on too as it provides valuable information.

Wizard Wizard

Wizard Wizard invokes PupControl which is a neat Graphical User Interface (GUI) that acts as an alternative Menu system and allows you to customise many settings. It also allows you to add some of your own programs to the Menu system, see the menu tab called MyControl.

The Tabs are quite logically organised which provides shortcuts

to the most common utilities. Click <u>here</u> to load PupControl and have a play. I'm sure you will find this a very useful tool.

You will also find there are other ways of invoking the same utilities by the standard Menu system in the bottom left corner of your screen.

Don't forget to look at the bottom of PupControl too as there are a few more useful buttons there.

If you click on **Apps** it will ask you if you would like to Download PupApps Launcher which is another great little application by Radky. This will take you to the PuppyLinux Forums where you can download PupApps. It is advisable to read the forums and there is a lot of useful information provided.

You can also download PupApps by click <u>here</u>. You will be given the option to open the file or save it. If you choose open, the PupApps will be installed after clicking OK. If you choose save, then it will be saved where ever you specify and can be installed at a later time.

If you chose the option to install PupApps, the next time you click on the Apps button in PupControl, PupApps will load. You might find a few of the Apps will not load as they may have been configured for a programs that you don't have installed. Simple click on the Prefs button to edit.

ALSA Sound Wizard

The ALSA sound wizard, in most cases, is not normally required however, if you do have problems with your sound it allows you to probe your sound devices which may fix your problem. Do not run the wizard if your sound is working as it may cause unexpected results.

Click here to open the ALSA sound wizard and follow the prompts.

BootFlash

Bootflash is a great little utility that will allow you to install puppy to a flash drive and make it bootable. It could be a flash drive, USB Hard Disk Drive or various other types of media..

Let's assume you want to put Puppy on a 4Gb USB flash drive.

Click <u>here</u> to open BootFlash and choose USB-HDD which is the preferred and default choice.

Press OK

CD/DVD Drive Wizard

Sometimes, but not often, your system will not assigned your CD/DVD burners correctly. This is more the case if you have more than one burner. Generally if you only have one burner everything works perfectly.

By running the <u>CD/DVD</u> drive wizard you will be able to assign your your CDROM and DVD.

Now if you just have one drive it can be configured as both which normally happens automatically without having to use the wizard. CUPS Printer Wizard

CUPS stands for Common Unix Printing System. It allows you to configure your printer so it can be used with Puppy.

Printer support in Linux is improving which provide a much larger base of printers and drivers. My experience has proved success with HP and Samsung for decent compatibility.

The <u>Linux Linux Foundation</u> is a good site to check for printer compatibility.

Puppy comes with a decent set of drivers for many different printers.

To intall a printer, click on the setup icon, then hardware, then printer setup or click <u>here</u>.

If your printer is connected to your computer and switched on, click on find printers. It should show you the printer that is connected. If not click on add a printer. Add a printer will also look for connected printers.

Select the local printer that was found and press **continue**.

Fill in the details as instructed then press **continue**.

Select the appropriate driver for your printer and press Add Printer.

Set your Resolution, Paper Source and Page Size then click **Set Default Options**.

To test your printer, click on the Maintenance Drop Down Menu and click **Print Test Page**.

You should get a test page printed.

Note: If your printer was not listed, try the Puppy Package Manager by clicking on the install icon on the desktop then select Setup. If you still have no luck try <u>Puppy Google Search</u> or ask for help in the <u>Puppy Linux Forums</u>.

Internet Configuration

The Internet <u>Connection Wizard</u> is the tool for connecting to the internet.

It provides connection by the following methods:

Dialup or Wireless Modem

This will allow you to setup a dialup modem. The modem is typically connected to the computer by either a PCI slot inside the computer, Serial Port or more commonly today, a USB port.

A wireless modem is different from WIFI. A wireless modem is used over the mobile telephone network. WIFI is different and is used to connect to a Hot Spot or your Modem/Wireless/Router. Wireless and WIFI are very different.

Wired or Wireless Lan

Wired means connecting via an ethernet connection. This is normally done with ADSL / Broadband on your normal telephone line. Your computer must have an ethernet card and you must have an ADSL / Boradband account

The term Wireless Lan can be misleading because this time it means via WIFI, not Wireless as above.

GPRS is another method of connecting via the mobile telephone network.

The PPPOE tool is yet another way to connect via cable.

Tools

This allows you to setup a firewall, **highly recommended**. This is normally done during the initial setup process when you first run puppy. This helps to keep out nasty people and unwanted programs.

You can also setup a proxy server if you wish.

Desktop/tray

This will set your preferred default connection tool. Whatever you select here will be run when you click on the desktop connect icon. Firewall Wizard

This allows you to setup a Firewall, highly recommended.

The firewall will protect your computer from many things. It also makes your computer difficult to find so others can't access it remotely.

Just press Ok and let it do it's thing. The automagic settings will be fine for most people.

If you later have problems connecting to the internet, especially if you

have installed other internet software, you may need to adjust your firewall settings.

Mouse/Keyboard Wizard

The Mouse/Keyboard Wizard allows you to:

Select your keyboard for your country.

Adjust your Xorg keyboard configuration.

Choose a keyboard interface.

Choose the type of mouse.

Configure your touchpad, for laptops.

Puppy Universal Installer

Puppy Universal Installer allows you to install Puppy to various type of media. Click <u>here</u> to run the application and see the list.

Select the media you wish to install to and click OK then follow the prompts.

Make sure you select the correct drive as you could damage your existing system.

Remaster Puppy

One of the very cool things about Puppy is the ability to remaster it.

What does this mean?

Suppose you have Puppy installed and you have added some more software, lets say Skype and KMyMoney for example. You may have also changed the look by using different icons sets and wallpaper.

You can now make an exact copy of your puppy and save it as an ISO file. An ISO file is an image of your current system. This ISO can then be burned to a CD or DVD which will be an exact copy of your system with all the modifications.

The remaster script is quite well documented and easy to follow but you need to read the instructions very carefully as it is easy to make mistakes. Don't worry it shouldn't do any harm just run it again.

Take a look, click here.

Another great remastering tool is Woofy, get it <u>here</u>. Remove Builtin Packages This will allow you to remove packages from the Read Only SFS

(Squash File System).

This can be very useful for trimming Puppy down prior to a remaster, however, **be warned**, it is possible to remove application that are

needed to run Puppy so there is a good chance you will break it.

The files are not actually removed from the SFS but rather hidden. If you do a remaster though, they will not be included in the new ISO.

Click here to run the application.

Select package from drop down menu and press OK.

You will get a warning before the file is hidden.

Xorg Video Wizard

This is the Video tool to set up your graphics card and monitor.

Most of the time you will not need to use this but when your video does not work it becomes very important.

When your display isn't working sometimes the only way to fix the problem is to do a CTL-ALT-Backspace, that means pressing all three keys at the same time. This will drop you to the command prompt where you can type xorgwizard which will allow you to reconfigure your graphics.

You can keep on repeating this until you are successful. Sometimes you might need to install a different driver. To do this click on the quickpet icon on the desktop and select the Drivers Tab. Now click on the test graphic card icon and you will be given information on what driver to install. As you will see there are drivers available for Nvidia, ATI and Radeon cards.

Utility

There is a bunch of utilities in Puppy Linux. They will take care of most of your needs.

General Utilities

Many nice useful utilities.

GtkHash

A GTK+ utility for computing message digests or checksums. Currently supported hash functions include MD5, SHA1, SHA256, SHA512, RIPEMD, HAVAL, TIGER and WHIRLPOOL.

When you download software like **lupu-525.iso** it's important to know that the file was received in tact. If one single byte is currupted it's likely the software will not work.

How do you know you have an exact copy of the software? This is where GtkHash comes in.

When developers release their software they usually include the checksum. The checksum is a unique number that represents the files CRC, Cyclic Redundancy Check . If one single byte in the file is changed, the checksum will change also.

Try it. Run <u>GtkHash</u>.

Click on file to load, then navigate to lupu-525.iso then click the Hash button.

In the MD5 space you should see:

b6658ab75cd5d48f358f0ee31b06b934

If this number differs from what the developer provided, you may have a bad copy or a different build.

If you are having problems installing software this should be one of your first things to check.

Of the 30 years plus I have been playing with computers I have only experienced one bad download, so it doesn't happen very often, nevertheless it does sometime, especially if you have a bad or noisy communications connection.

PupControl panel

<u>PupControl</u> panel is a nice Graphical User Interface (GUI) developed by Radky. It provides an alternative interface to most ot the standard applications.

It even has a menu item where you can add some of your own apps.

SFSconvert

SFSconvert is a utility to covert Squash File Systems. For example: you may have some software that was created for the Puppy 4.3.1 series and now you would like to use it on the 5.2.5 series. This is where SFSconvercomes in. Simply run <u>SFSconvert</u> then drag and drop the SFS file you wish to covert onto the whitespace next to the words SFS and click on Convert.

Make sure you have selected the appropriate directory where you want the converted file to be stored. Normally it is /mnt/home which is the default.

If you want to use the SFS file for both 4 & 5 series of puppy you will need two different versions. Make sure you don't overwrite the original as I down believe you can downgrade. Always keep a backup copy in another area/directory.

XArchive

<u>XArchive</u> is a GUI where you can archive or extract various types of compressed files.

Clicking on the Help file will give you some quite comprehensive Help. Because of this I will not duplicate it here.

Additional information on XArchive can be founf here.

XDelta

XDelta is a file difference manager.

What does this really mean?

Lets assume you have a really slow internet connection. You already have a copy of the lupu-520.iso (Lucid Puppy 5.2.0) file.

You have recently discovered there is a later version and you would like to get a copy but you don't want to spend ages downloading it.

This is where XDelta is very useful. The developers often create a Delta or Difference file. This is a much smaller file which can be applied (merged) with the original lupu-525.iso file.

Locate and download the difference file. It is normally named something like: **lupu-520.iso___lupu-525.iso.delta**

Click here to run XDelta.

Navigate to where you have the lupu-520.iso stored then drag and drop it to the whitespace next to the words, Old file:

Now drag and drop the difference file you just downloaded to the whitespace below where it says New.

Click on the GENERATE button and a new lupu-525.iso will be generated.

Now you might ask, how does one make a difference file. It's quite simple really.

You need to have both the lupu-520.iso and lupu-525.iso files.

Drag lupu-520.iso to the top whitespace then drag lupu-525.iso to the bottom whitespace, press GENERATE and a difference file will be created. How cool is that?

Xfdiff-cut

<u>Xfdiff-cut</u> will compare the differences between two file. It also provides the ability to provide patches.

See <u>here</u> for more information.

GAdmin-Rsync

Remote Backup.

I didn't see any point in reproducing the built in help.

How to backup and restore using GAdmin-Rsync.

1. Backing up data:

Pressing the "Create new backup" button creates and adds a new backup.

When this is done the "Add backup data" button can be used to specify what type of backups to include in the new backup, such as: remote to local, local to remote or local to local backups. The backups can be started manually with "Run selected backup."

The progress of the backup can be viewed in the progress tab.

When everything is working as expected the backups can be scheduled to run at specific times using cron.

Backups can also be scheduled to run at system shutdown. The backups will not be run if the system is rebooted.

Logs and extended logs are kept for all backups. They can be viewed by clicking on "Show backup log" for each backup.

2. Restoring data:

Pressing the "Restore from selection" button shows a restore menu that

contains relevant source and destination paths depending on the restore type.

The paths shown are the reverse of the backups.

Local source and destination paths can be browsed and re-selected. A slash last in source paths means transfer the content of

the directory, IE: "/path/" means "/path/*".

Press the "Forward" button when satisfied with the restore selection. The progress of the restore can be viewed in the progress tab.

3. Technical specifications for backing up and restoring data:

Remote backups and restores are differential and encrypted. This is achieved by using rsync over ssh. Keys are automatically created and installed on

remote hosts using ssh-keygen, scp and ssh.

For this to work the remote hosts must be running ssh servers. The data is backed up or restored as the selected username.

Visit http://www.gadmintools.org

Gexec

This lets you run programs either through a terminal or X windows. It also keeps track of what has been run in the past so you can reselect it from the dropdown menu.

If you were running in a non root situation, it will allow you to run as root. Probably not required in Puppy as it usually runs as root

anyway.

Try it <u>here.</u>

Pbackup

Pbackup is a neat little backup program written by Sigmund Berglund.

The help that comes with Pbackup is quite extensive and can be found <u>here</u>.

To have a look at the Pbackup program click here.

There's more information about Pbackup in the Puppy Linux forums <u>here</u>:

Pmirror

<u>Pmirror</u> is another great program by Sigmund Berglund.

Pmirror is a simple backup system to make one directory like another.

First run it will copy the entire source-directory to the mirrordirectory.

The mirror function will then just update the mirror-directory.

It will delete files on the mirror-directory if they don't exist on sourcedirectory.

Be careful, think twice and check the settings again.

The mirror-directory should not be on the same harddisk where you store your main data.

Do NOT think your data is safe when saving mirror-files on another partition.

It is still the same disk, and when it crashes, it all does. If you have only one disk, it may be better to burn files to CD/DVD.

Pmirror is a GUI for the mirdir package (19k).

\$HOME/ is where your personal data is stored (e-mail, bookmarks...)

Config file: \$HOME/.pmirror_config. Created after first mirror.

See also mirdir documentation.

No warranty.

Sigmund Berglund --- September 2007

Pudd

Welcome to Pudd, the Puppy universal dd drive/partition/image-file

backup/rescue program! This program will copy any drive, partition, or image-file to another drive, partition or file, on the same PC or over a network. You can use Pudd to make copies of floppy disks, to make clones of a drive/partition, or to rescue a failing drive/partition. Okay, the first thing to do is decide on the source: 1. If the source is a file, it must be a complete filesystem, such as produced by a previous usage of Pudd to copy a partition or drive to a file -- such a "file" is not like an ordinary text or graphic file, it is an image of a partition or complete drive. An image file can be copied to a partition or drive, an ordinary file cannot. 2. If the source is a drive, for example /dev/sda, the entire drive is copied. However, if source is a partition, example: /dev/sda1, then it only is copied (sda1, sda2. etc. are

partitions in drive sda. Some drives do not have individual partitions, ex: /dev/fd0,

that is, there is only one partition that occupies the entire drive). Resize Personal Storage File

If you run Puppy Linux as a frugal instalation there is a good chance you will need to increase your Personal Storage File, AKA the pupsave file. The naming convention for this file in Puppy 525 is lupusave.3fs. The .3fs means that you chose the ext3 file system when asked. You could have chosen ext2 but I recommend ext3 as reports say it's more reliable.

When you first shutdown or reboot puppy you will be asked if you would like to create a pupsave file. If you answer yes you will also be asked what size. 512Mbyte is a good size.

The pupsave file is used to store all of your settings and additional software you install from .pet files. Pet files are auto-installation files, basically a couple of click to install them.

I recommend you store most of your large files outside of the pupsave file such as Photos, Videos, Email and Music. Another alternative to Pet files are SFS files which I will cover later in the tutorial.

Now at some stage it is likely that your pupsave will fill up. It's set to the size you selected when you first shutdown Puppy. To make the pupsave file bigger you need to resize it by using <u>this tool</u>. Select the size you wish to increase your pupsave file by then click on Ok.

IMPORTANT

The pupsave file will not be increased until you next start puppy. Now make sure you start the Puppy version where you want the pupsave file increased. For example: If you requested to increase your pupsave file by 512Mbytes when using Lucid Puppy, which is Puppy 525, then rebooted into, say Wary Puppy, the Wary Puppy pupsave file would be increased. The best way to prevent this from happening is to increase the pupsave file then reboot to the same Puppy. Too often people decide to increase their pupsave file and then turn the computer off. The next day when they start Puppy they might use a different version.

What's so good about Frugal installations and pupsave files

Frugal Puppy is very portable. You only have three files and the pupsave file to worry about. Sure there's a heap more file in the entire Puppy operating system but they are conveniently packed away in a Squash File System. If you ever want to back up your settings and the data that has been save inside you pupsave file, you only have to back up the pupsave file.

As new puppies are released you can simply replace the three old existing files with the new ones, leave your pupsave file in the same directory and reboot puppy. All of you settings and personal files will be waiting for you in the new Puppy.

Personally I wouldn't quite do it this way. I always store each different Puppy in it's own directory/folder, for example /mnt/home/puppy525

If the new Puppy was called Puppy530 I would make the directory /mnt/home/puppy530

You need to obtain a copy puppy530.iso and burn it to a CD or DVD. Boot of this new Puppy CD. When it pauses during booting type in the following command: puppy pfix=ram. The will make sure Puppy530 is loaded into ram and won't load any existing pupsave files. Don't worry too much about the configuration at this stage as you are not going to use it anyway because you will use you're old pupsave on the next reboot.

Click on ROX, the little house (file Manager) and navigate to your HDD to /mnt/home. Right mouse click and select New Directory and name it puppy530

Now open another ROX window and click on the CD/DVD that you booted from. Copy the following files into your new directory, initrd.gz, lupu_530.sfs and vmlinuz. Simply drag and drop the three files between the two ROX windows. Now you need to copy the old save file to the new directory.

If you have been using GRUB as your boot manager then you need to copy the entry for puppy525 and duplicate it for puppy530 and

change the paths to suit the new Puppy.

The next time you boot Puppy you will see another option in boot manager for Puppy 530. If you select it Puppy 530 should boot. During the boot process it will upgade your save file and then use it which will be obvious by the settings and installed software.

I have used Puppy530 as an example. There is no such animal at the moment and probably never will be.

Urxvt

<u>Urxvt</u> is a terminal emulator for the X window system.

More information about Urxvt here.

Xconsole

Monitor system console messages with X

Double click <u>here</u> for more information.

Filesystem

This area deals with File System Tools.

File Managers

A file manager is a computer program that provides a user interface to work with file systems.

The most common operations performed on files or groups of files are: create, open, edit, view, print, play, rename, move, copy, delete, search or find, and modify attributes, properties and permissions.

Files are typically displayed in a hierarchy.

Some file managers contain features inspired by web browsers, including forward and back navigational buttons.

The default File Manager in Puppy Linux 525 is \underline{ROX} . ROX-Filer

<u>ROX</u> is a fast, user friendly desktop which makes extensive use of drag-and-drop. The interface revolves around the file manager, or filer, following the traditional Unix view that `everything is a file' rather than trying to hide the filesystem beneath start menus, wizards, or druids. The aim is to make a system that is well designed and clearly presented. The ROX style favours using several small programs together instead of creating all-in-one mega-applications.

After using programs like Windows Explorer ROX may take a little getting use to but persevere as it's graet when you know how to drive it.

For extensive help about ROX double click here.

GWhere

<u>GWhere</u> allows you to manage a catalog of your CDs and any other

removable media (such as hard disks, floppy disks, Zip disks, CD-ROMs, etc...) indexed in a database. With GWhere it is easy to browse your CDs or to make a quick search without needing to insert each CD one after another.

More info on GWhere <u>here</u>.

Gdmap

<u>GdMap</u> is a tool to inspect the used space of folders. Files are displayed in a cushioned tree map. Useful if you wonder where all your free space disappeared to.

I find it a bit gimicky.

Personally I prefer PartView.

Prename

<u>Prename</u> is a simple batch file renaming tool.

Some Puppy Linux Forun help here.

Partview

Partview will display how much space on your drives.

It's nice and simple. It shows the size of the drive and how much space is free.

It will initially show just the mounted drives but you can click on the all drives button to see All Drives.

It will also run a little application to display your kernel version for a few seconds before it disappears.

Pfind

<u>Pfind</u> is a great utility to find files on your system. It's quite configurable and very fast.

It allows you to search for files in the following areas:

- > System
- > Personal
- > Curent Directory
- > All

The All option will be a bit slower as it has a greater number of files to search.

You don't need to use wildcards such as * or ?, part of the filename will do just fine.

There is a lot more information about Pfind here.

Pmount

<u>Pmount</u> is a drive mounter. It can be used to mount Hard Drives, Optical Drives, Floppy Drives, Flash Drives and USB Drives etc. Remember, Puppy does not automatically mount your drives. The only drive that will be automatically mounted is the one Puppy booted from. If you boot Live, from a CD or DVD no drive is normally mounted.

You normally don't need to use Pmount as the default is to have drive icons sitting on the Desktop. Click on the drive icon, it will open up a window and is now mounted. To unmount the drive, right click on the drive and select unmount. Depending on the Icon Set you are using, there will be some sort of indication the drive is mounted. Once you close the window, this does not unmount the drive.

The default drive icons for Puppy 525 have a blue dot on them when mounted. Blue means the drive cannot be unmounted. A green dot means it is mounted and can be unmounted.

Now if you really can't live without having all of your Hard Drives mounted when you boot Puppy, there is a program called **startmount** that can be downloaded <u>here</u>.

Remember mounting drives was discussed back in the <u>Introduction</u>. Searchmonkey

Searchmonkey is another search utility.

It's similar to **Pfind** but has some added functionality.

Searchmonkey is different to other desktop search engines. Users can search for file names and contents using powerful regular expressions. This enables Searchmonkey to be much more precise when it returns hits. In addition, searchmonkey doesn't just show you a list of files that might contain what you are looking for, it helpfully displays the content with the matches highlighted.

The User Guide for Searchmonkey can be found <u>here</u>. gFnRename

<u>gFnRename</u> is a file renaming utility written by Paul Schuurmans.

Paul has providing some help within the application so I won't repeat it here.

When you click on the ? (Question Mark) near the bottom right corner of the application, help will be displayed.

Graphic

This area deals with some of your graphics needs. You will find software for drawing, scanning and viewing graphic files. Graphics Processing Graphic File Viewers. Pictureviewer

Pictureviewer is a simple graphic file viewer.

To use it, simply drag a file onto the whitespace. It allows you to scale the file, make it bigger or smaller. You can rotate it left or right but apparently not turn it upside down.

If the graphic you are viewing appeals to you, you can click on the wallpaper button to make it your new wallpaper/background.

If you click on the mtPaint button the graphic will be loaded into mtPaint, an editing program.

Viewnior

Viewnior is the default graphics viewer.

What does default mean? When in ROX, the file manager, and you click on a graphic file, Viewnior will open the graphics file. In windows this would be called a file association. Puppy also has file associations and later in Useful Tips I will explaing how to change these.

Viewnior has all of your basic functions like Back & Forward, Increase & Decrease size, Display at original size, Fit to screen size and rotate.

You can also load files through the \underline{F} ile drop down menu, and of course you can drag a file to the whitespace of the Viewnior window.

Viewnior is not an editor but it does allow you to crop and save. Be aware though that it doesn't offer the **Save As** option so it will over write your original file. It does warn you this will happen.

What is useful is the ability to rotate the graphic and save it.

Gcolor2

Gcolor2 is a colour selector.

It will display the available colours your system can use.

Often colours are displayed as Hex numbers, especially in web pages and the like. We all know what colour red is but there can be many shades of red. So how do you explain to someone the red you mean.

Click here to run <u>Gcolor2</u>. Now notice the colour name, it probably #FFFFFF which is white.

Now to decide what colour you would like to use click on the coloured circle on the left, then somewhere on the coloured triangle inside the circle. You will notice that the colour name changes.

Now if you know the name (Hex Number) but don't know what the

colour looks like, type it in the colour name space and press the enter key, and the colour will be displayed just under the coloured circle and triangle. For example try #C77777 to get a salmon pink colour.

#000000 is black and #FFFFFF is white.

Gtkam

Gtkam is an application that assists you with downloading images from many different types of digital cameras.

I have to be honest, I don't normally use this program as it's easy to connect your camera via the USB cable that normally comes with the camera.

More help on this software is available <u>here</u>.

Inklite

Inklite is short for InkscapeLite which is a vector drawing program.

It's a very comprehensive drawing program and has a number advantages over conventional drawing programs.

Vector files can be scaled without increasing pixilation. In other words when you enlarge the the graphic it remains sharp.

More information <u>here</u>, <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

Xsane

XSane is a graphical scanning frontend for SANE (Scanner Access Now Easy). It uses the SANE-library to talk to scanners. This means that XSane does not support any scanners itself. Take a look at the SANE-backends homepage to find out which scanners are supported by SANE.

XSane is designed for acquiring images with scanners (there are other devices like cameras and videodevices supported by SANE and you will see that xsane may support some basic functions of those devices, but XSane is not designed for that purpose).

For comprehensive help visit the web site here.

Full **Documentation** on Xsane.

mtPaint

<u>mtPaint</u> is a similar drawing package to many others such as MS Draw and Paint.

It's interface is a little old fashion but it remains very functional.

Click <u>here</u> to see a very basic, but excellent tutorial.

You can view the full documentation on line here or download it here.

mtPaint-snapshot

mtPaint-snapshot is for capturing your screen and saving it as a graphic file.

mtPaint can be run from the command line with the -s switch which makes it ideal to assign it to a hot key. I usually have it assigned to the Print Screen key.

When I press the key it captures the screen and loads the image into mtPaint so I can edit or save. More on this later. For now click <u>here</u> to save the current screen.

Now you are probably wondering why your cursor has changed. You are looking at your desktop loaded into mtPaint. You can either save or edit the image or close mtPaint.

Document

This area is related to document creation, editing and viewing. Document/Publishing

Document creation.

AbiWord

<u>AbiWord</u> is a free word processing program similar to Microsoft® Word. It is suitable for a wide variety of word processing tasks. It is also compatible with MS Word created documents.

AbiWord allows you to collaborate with multiple people on one document at the same time. It is tightly integrated with the <u>AbiCollab.net</u> web service, which lets you store documents online, allows easy document sharing with your friends, and performs format conversions on the fly.

Abiword should be more than adequate for most of the average users requirements.

The Abiword website is <u>here</u>. AbiWord Help <u>AbiWord help documents.</u>

What else can I say? Read away.

Geany

<u>Geany</u> is a small and lightweight Integrated Development Environment. It was developed to provide a small and fast IDE, which has only a few dependencies from other packages. Another goal was to be as independent as possible from a special Desktop Environment like KDE or GNOME - Geany only requires the GTK2 runtime libraries.

Some basic features of Geany:

Syntax highlighting Code folding Symbol name auto-completion Construct completion/snippets Auto-closing of XML and HTML tags Call tips Many supported filetypes including C, Java, PHP, HTML, Python, Perl, Pascal (full list) Symbol lists Code navigation Build system to compile and execute your code Simple project management Plugin interface (see Plugins)

Geany is known to run under Linux, FreeBSD, NetBSD, OpenBSD, MacOS X, AIX v5.3, Solaris Express and Windows. More generally, it should run on every platform, which is supported by the GTK libraries. Only the Windows port of Geany is missing some features.

The code is licensed under the terms of the GNU General Public Licence.

The Geany Website can be found here.

MP

MP is a small Programmer Text Editor that runs from a console window.

Click <u>here</u> to open a console window, then type mp.

To invoke the drop down menu system press Ctrl+a

NicoEdit

NicoEdit is another text editor.

It's good for creating and editing text files. It's quite similar to Geany but with less functionality.

Puppy Linux Forum discussion here.

Pdict

Pdict is an online Dictionary and Thesaurus.

You do need to have a live internet connection to use it.

Simply enter a word in the white space and click on the **dict** button.

The drop down menu will give you many options and different languages to choose from.

It's a lot easier than using a paper dictionary.

e3

e3 is another console text editor, however very basic.

Click <u>here</u> to open a terminal window then type e3.

ePDFView

<u>ePDFView</u> is a viewer for reading PDF files. PDF is short for Portable Document Format and is very popular on the internet.

It is also used when document security is required. There are many tools available now that can edit PDF files. A good PDF editing program is PDFEdit which can be obtained <u>here</u>.

This is the default program when clicking on a PFD file. In other words when you click on a PDF file when using ROX, ePDFView will open the file.

PuppyPDF

<u>PuppyPDF</u> is used to convert files to PDF format.

When you run PuppyPDF it opens a file browser so you can select a file. It then gives you an opportunity to give the PDF file a new name. Follow the prompts as they are easy to follow.

It will convert the following file formats to PDF:

Abiword (.abw, .awt)

Microsoft Word Documents (.doc, .dot)

Rich Text Formats (.rtf)

Text Documents (.txt, .text)

I have also discovered that you can convert graphic file as well. I'm not sure why you would want to do this though.

Business

This is where the Business applications reside.

Calculate

This is where you will find Gnumeric and HomeBank.

Gnumeric

<u>Gnumeric</u> is a Spreadsheet Application very simlar to Microsoft Excel. It is also compatible the the MS Excel data format, in other words it can read and write to Excel created documents.

The big difference here is Gnumeric is totally free along with all other applications you will find in Puppy Linux.

The best place to get help for Gnumeric is <u>here</u> at the official Website.

HomeBank Help

HomeBank Documentation

HomeBank

HomeBank is a very nice little personal finance manager.

Use it to manage your personal accounts. It is designed for ease of use. Analyse your finances in detail using powerful filtering tools and graphs.

HomeBank Website

Calculator

There are a number of calculators available for Puppy Linux.

The default calculator for this distribution is gcalctool. It provides five different interfaces which can be selected from the \underline{V} iew menu.

Run <u>Calculator</u> and have a look. Now select View and try a few of the options. I'm sure this will cater for most of your needs.

Documentation

Gmeasures

Have you ever wanted to convert the temperature from Fahrenheit to Celsius or Pounds (lb) to Kilograms (kg)?

Is so, then this is the tool for you.

If you can't find the conversion you are looking for, then it provides the funtionality so you can add it.

Click <u>here</u> to have a play.

Click on the ? for Help.

Personal

Under this topic you will find software that is associated with personal requirements such as encryption and password management.

Personal Information

I'm really don't see the purpose of an additional menu level but I thought I would keep it consistant with Puppy 525 menu system. Bcrypt

Bcrypt is used to encrypt files.

For example: You may have a document that contains some sensitive data and you don't want others see be able to access it.

Many word processors are able to encrypt documents however their encryption is also quite easy to remove. Searching the internet will often find a solution. Using Bcrypt makes things a little more difficult.

Bcrypt can be used on many different file formats.

Run Bcrypt by clicking <u>here</u>. Click on the help button for additional help.

Bcrypt will not allow you to use passwords with less than 8 characters.

WARNING WARNING WARNING

Do not forget your password or you will never see your information again.

DidiWiki

DidiWiki is a small and simple <u>WikiWikiWeb</u> Implementaion. Its intended for personal note taking, Todo lists and any other uses you can think of.

To learn more about what a <u>WikiWikiWeb</u> is, read about <u>WhyWikiWorks</u> and the <u>WikiNature</u>. Also, consult the <u>WikiWikiWebFaq</u>.

For an example how a WikiWiki entry looks in text form you can edit the default page. Also see <u>WikiHelp</u> for infomation on usage and formatting rules. Use The WikiSandbox to experiment.

DidiWiki is written by Matthew Allum in C and is free software, released under the GNU GPL. It uses a formatting style similar to that of kwiki and some webserver code from cvstrac

Figaros

Isn't it a pain having to remember many passwords?

In today's environment it's normal to have 10, 20 or more passwords.

Wouldn't it be nice just to have one password to remember?

This is where Figaros comes in. It's a small database where you can store all of your passwords. As long as you can remember one password the rest will be available to lookup.

Figaros is particularly useful for laptop computers. How many times have you been away from home and you needed a password and couldn't remember it.

Have you ever been on a plane where you have had to turn your phone off. Then at your destination you turned the phone on and couldn't remember the SIM PIN.

If your laptop was stolen it would be disasterous if someone could get your banking details.

Anyway, I'm sure you get the idea.

Try Figaros by clicking here.

NoteCase

If you haven't already noticed, this entire tutorial has been constructed with NoteCase.

Although the free versions development has been discontinued the Pro version can be downloaded <u>here</u>.

Web help is available \underline{here} or click on the \underline{H} elp menu above. Osmo

Osmo is a personal organiser that provides a Calendar, Tasks Manager, Contact List and a place to keep Notes.

It even allows you to calculate days between two different dates. A nice tool to have when you are counting down to your next holiday.

Now there are a couple of little quirks with Osmo that could be more intuitive.

When you enter a birthday it must be the actual date the person was born, not the date of their next birthday. Osmo needs this information to calculate how many days to the next birthday, age at next birthday and zodiac sign.

Creating Groups for Contacts is done in preferences. Under the heading Groups there is a larger white space and below it is a single white space. In the single white space type the name of the Group you wish to create and click on the + button. You will notice the Group name will be moved up to the larger white space.

When defining Helpers under Preferences you need to press the enter key when making changes to the Web browser, E-mail client and Sound player. Simply clicking on the Close button does not save the changes. Although the checkbox "Save data after every modification" is ticked it does not save the changes.

Now that you know the work around it should not be a problem.

More help and information on Osmo can be found here.

PPLOG

PPLOG is a personalised Blog.

Click <u>here</u> to begin. You need to click on the Start button to run the Hiawatha Web Server then click on the PPLOG button.

To Stop the Server you need to click <u>here</u> and select the Stop button.

More help will be displayed when you run PPLOG.

Pclock

<u>pClock</u> is a handy little clock that displays the time, can be used as a stopwatch, Countdown timer or an Alarm.

It will even allow you to set the system time and display as 12 or 24 hour.

Ptiming

<u>Ptiming</u> is a time keeping tool which is useful when you need to keep track of a number of separate competitors or events.

If you were a Physical Education teacher this would be very handy.

Puppylinux forum help here.

Network

These are the default Network tools that come bundled with Puppy Linux 525.

Internet dialup

One of the great things about Puppy Linux is the continued support for older hardware such as dialup modems.

This menu item is a little misleading as it is really is about connecting with a GPRS modem rather than a fixed line modem.

GPRS means General Packet Radio Services, a technology for radio transmission of small packets of data, esp. between cellular phones and the Internet. <u>More</u>.

To connect to the internet using a landline modem click <u>here</u> using PupDial. PupDial will also allow you to connect using wireless modem such as the 3G network.

A lot of information can be found on the Puppy Linux forums here.

PGPRS Connect

PGPRS allows you to connect to the internet via a GPRS connection providing you have a GPRS modem connected to your computer. This is also known as wireless computing, not wifi.

PGPRS Setup

This is the area where you can setup your GPRS modem.

Click <u>here</u> to see what information is required.

Firewallstate

This utility displays the current status of your Firewall.

It displays an icon in the taskbar. If the icon is a world globe in front of a brick wall then your firewall is active. If the icon is crossed out then probably not. Left click the mouse to install and activate the firewall. Right mouse clicking on the icon provide some additional functionality such as:

Psync Set Time and Date Internet Connection Wizard Firewall Wizard Turn Firewall On/Off/Remove Information Quit and remove Firewall Satus

Gpptp

<u>Gpptp</u> is a VPN (Virtual Private Network) client.

This is used to connect to a private network such as an office network.

You will need to know your server address and have an authorised login and password.

Some Puppy Linux help <u>here</u>.

Linux-Firewall

A very simple but good Firewall.

This should have been installed and activated when you first ran Puppy Linux 252. If not click <u>here</u> to install.

WARNING - IT IS NOT RECOMMENDED TO ACCESS THE INTERNET WITHOUT A FIREWALL

MTR traceroute

Rather than me trying to explain the workings of <u>MTR traceroute</u> I will provide the link that does it much better.

MTR traceroute is a nice GUI for the traceroute command.

Click <u>here</u> to view online help.

PcurlFtp

PcurlFtp will allow you to share files on your computer or let you look for files on another computer using the FTP protocol.

This script uses Curlftpfs, Mpscan, Pure-ftpd, and Rox to setup a file sharing system, that is similar to Samba (windows) file sharing to the user. The intent is that this will be used between two computers running Puppy linux. However, another operating system (Windows), can connect to the server using a web browser. Just type in the IP address in the address field (eg. ftp://192.168.254.2).

Before doing anything, you must be connected to your network

Inside of the File-Sharing folder you will find a Rox application named Setup-Sharing. Clicking on Setup-Sharing will open a series of windows. The first menu will ask you if you want to connect to a folder on another computer (Client) or share a folder on your computer (server).

If you select to share a folder on your computer, so that another computer can connect to it, you will be presented with two options:

* Anonymous No password required for others to connect.

This will allow others to connect to your computer without a user name or password. However, they will only be able to connect to /root/ftpd. So place any items you want to share in that folder.

* Password A user name and password will be required for others to connect.

This will require others to use a user name and password to connect to your computer. In Puppy you normally run as a user named root, your home folder is /root, and the default password is woofwoof. If you choose this option you should change your root password. To do this open a terminal (The console icon on the desktop) and type:

passwd

You'll be prompted to enter a new password. User root is the superuser (he can do anything), so you may not want others logging in as root. So if you want, you can add new users. If you wanted to add a new user named doug and give doug a home directory of /mnt/home/doug, you can do this by opening a terminal and typing:

adduser doug -h /mnt/home/doug

You'll be prompted for a new password for doug and the folder /mnt/home/doug will be created. Now someone can connect to your computer by using the user name doug and whatever password you entered. When they login as doug, they will see whatever is in /mnt/home/doug. You can use just about any user name you like and the home folder doesn't have to be /mnt/home/doug, use whatever you like.

Next, you will be asked if you want to start the sever for just this session or if you want it to start on every boot. If you choose to start it on every boot an entry will made in /etc/rc.d/rc.local.

If you choose to connect to another computer, you will be presented with two options:

* Scan Search your local network for a connection.

This will scan your local network (subnet) and list any ftp servers it

finds. You will then be asked if you want to create a connection. If the connection requires a user name and password you will be asked for it.

* Manual Enter an IP address. (Optional username and password)

This will let you enter a user name, password and a IP address to create a new connection.

After selecting one of the above options a new connection will be created in the File-Sharing folder. By clicking on one of the newly created Shared-xxx icons, a window will open for that network connection and you can drag and drop files to and from it.

Limitations:

* Permissions are not allways preserved, so ROX reports errors. Copied files are created with a umask of 022.

* Symlinks don't copy.

* When scanning for servers, somtimes your server may not be found, try again.

* If your computers are on a DHCP network (IP address are automaticly assigned), The the connection short-cuts (rox apps) may not work the next time you boot because of IP address changes. In this case you'll have to scan and create a new connection.

Pnethood

<u>Pnethood</u> is used to scan and connect to servers on your network.

The following help on Pnethood can be found in <u>file:///usr/share</u> /doc/pnethood.html

PureFTPd

<u>PureFTPd</u> turns your computer into a server.

It's simple, and you can continue to use your computer as a client at the same time.

Clicking on PureFTPd server will start it then clicking on it again will stop it.

The PureFTPd web page can be found <u>here</u>.

Superscan

Superscan is an IP and Port scanner.

It will scan a range of IP addresses and ports.

Internet

These are the default Internet tools and applications that come bundled with Puppy Linux 525.

Axel

Axel is a download accelerator.

It allows you to download from up to three servers at the same time.

Dillo

<u>Dillo</u> is small and fast web browser.

It does not have all the functionality of FireFox or Seamonkey but it is very good for reading HTML documents.

It's security is limited and is not recommended for Web Browsing.

More information is available from the <u>Dillo Project Page</u>. PMirrorget

<u>PMirrorget</u> allows you to download an entire web page and its text linked pages to a folder on you PC. Copy and paste the URL you wish to download. Use the folder selector to choose the destination. It is designed primarily for grabbing manuals and wiki pages without sifting through them, so you can view them later.

Psip

<u>Psip</u> is a very compact VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) communication program. It uses the SIP open protocol for communications.

The voice quality is excellent and it has the ability to do text chat.

It is also possible to connect peer to peer providing you know the other persons IP address.

More info can be found <u>here</u>.

Pup-Advert-Blocker

There's nothing more annoying than telemarketing, door to door salesmen and spam advertising when browsing.

<u>Pup Advert Blocker</u> is a very useful program developed by sc0ttman to take care of the annoying adverts when browsing.

The Puppy Linux Forum discussion can be found <u>here</u>.

Puppy-Podcast-Grabber

If you have never been involved with Podcasting then don't feel too deprived as up until a few moments ago, neither had I.

Podcast as per Wikipedia

Anyway I ran <u>Puppy Podcast Grabber</u>, Viewed what was available, then Checked for new Podcasts. It downloaded a couple and saved them in the /root/my-documents/podcasts/ directory as MP3 files.

Some local <u>help</u> on PPG.

Pwsget

<u>Pwsqet</u> is a simple front end to the wget utility. Wget is used for downloading larger files from the internet such as ISOs. The files are verified during the download procedure. As ISO and other files are checked and downloads resumed, they do not require a md5sum check. Copy and paste the source file you wish to download. Use the file selector to choose the destination.

Created by our very own Lobster.

Secure ssh telnet

Secure Telnet is used for secure Telnet logins.

I'm sure how much of this is required these days.

Maybe someone can enlighten me.

Ssh-gui secure telnet

More on <u>SSH</u>. This is where the configuration is done.

More info <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

Stay Connected

For reasons unknown, some people have been losing their wireless connection.

This is a simple fix that has been incorporated into Puppy 525.

More info <u>here</u>.

Sylpheed

Sylpheed is the default email client for Puppy 525.

Sylpheed is a simple, lightweight but featureful, and easy-to-use e-mail client.

Sylpheed provides intuitive user-interface. Sylpheed is also designed for keyboard-oriented operation, so Sylpheed can be widely used from beginners to power users.

Sylpheed runs on many systems such as Windows, Linux, BSD, Mac OS X and other Unix-like systems.

Sylpheed uses GTK+ GUI toolkit. The newest version of Sylpheed works with GTK+ 2.4 or later (2.6 or later is recommended).

Sylpheed is a free software distributed under the GNU GPL (the library part is GNU LGPL). You can freely use, modify and redistribute it under the license.

Sylpheed Web Page

Uget

<u>Uget</u> is a download manager.

More information <u>here</u>.

gFTP

 $\underline{\mathsf{gFTP}}$ is a free multithreaded file transfer client for *NIX based machines. It has the following features:

Distributed under the terms of the GNU Public License Agreement

Written in C and has a text interface and a GTK+ 1.2/2.x interface

Supports the FTP, FTPS (control connection only), HTTP, HTTPS, SSH and FSP protocols

FTP and HTTP proxy server support

Supports FXP file transfers (transferring files between 2 remote servers via FTP)

Supports UNIX, EPLF, Novell, MacOS, VMS, MVS and NT (DOS) style directory listings

Bookmarks menu to allow you to quickly connect to remote sites

gFTP home page

Multimedia

Media Tools

These are the default Multimedia tools that are bundled with Puppy 525.

Alsamixer

<u>Alsamixer</u> is one of the audio configuration tools. This is where you can select sound cards, adjust volume, turn microphones on or off etc.

The default soundmixer is retrovol. This provide similar functionality to Alsamixer but has a better Graphical User Interface (GUI).

Although retrovol does not have an entry in the Menu System it can be invoked by double clicking <u>here</u> or right mouse clicking on the little speaker at the bottom right of the screen. This will bring up a menu, select Full Window.

Sound can sometimes be a challenge to get working. Most times the lack of sound is due to the volume being turned down. If it's muted, right click on the little speaker on the task bar at the bottom right of the screen or double click <u>here</u>. Make sure the Master, PCM boxes are ticked and you have yellow over the red sliders. Use your mouse to increase and decrease the sound. The volume can also be increased and decreased with the mouse scroll wheel while pointing at the little speaker on the task bar.

The volume level should keep it settings after reboot. Sometimes it takes a little while to wake up and other times you might have to repeat this procedure.

I have never had this problem myself but some users have reported this as a problem.

The Puppy Linux forums will probably have a fix for it.

A really good Puppy Linux search tool is Puppy Google Search. Double click > <u>http://wellminded.com/puppy/pupsearch.html</u>

Asunder

<u>Asunder</u> is a graphical audio CD ripper and encoder for Linux. You can use it to save tracks from an audio CD as WAV, MP3, Ogg, FLAC, WavPack, Musepack, AAC, or Monkey's Audio files. It has CDDB support and can create M3U playlists. It's independent of any desktop environment. It can rip and encode at the same time. It aims to make CD ripping as quick and easy as possible.

See the historical page here.

The Asunda project is now being maintained here.

Some more information <u>here</u>.

GNOME MPlayer

A GTK2 interface to MPlayer. The power of MPlayer combined with a friendly interface for your desktop; You can play all your multimedia (audio, video, CD, DVDs, and VCDs, streams etc.), organize, sort and create playlists, take screenshots while playing videos, be notified about media changes. Full DVD and MKV chapter support, when supported by Mplayer. Subtitle support with the ability to specify preferred audio and subtitle languages if the media supports it. Support for cover art retrieval from Amazon.com for audio media files with artist and/or album information contained in the file.

The player can be used to play media on websites from your browser when used with Gecko Mediaplayer and is the modern replacement for the mplayerplug-in application.

<u>Gnome MPlayer</u> has a rich API that is exposed via DBus. Using DBus you can control a single or multiple instances of GNOME MPlayer from a single command.

Gnome MPlayer is not dependent on any Gnome libraries. However. the look and feel of the application is based on the Gnome HIG. The main dependency is on GTK2, GLIB2 and DBUS.

Project home page

Guvcview

<u>Guvcview</u> is a great little program to setup your webcam.

The project web page

More information on Gucview in the Puppy forums

Pdvdrsab

This is a great piece of software for backing up DVD's.

The name says it all. <u>Pdvdrsab</u> (Puppy DVD Rip Shrink Author Burn)

Read all about it <u>here</u>.

Pmetatagger

<u>Pmetatagger</u> will tag and/or edit existing tags of various audio file types. This gui depends on at least one of the following command line taggers:

metaflac: necessary for flac support (flac files get corrupted with other taggers)

vorbiscomment: supports the ogg format (so does mp3info & id3tag)

AtomicParsley: supports the itunes tagging structure with m4a, m4b, m4p, m4v, & mp4 files

mp3info: version 1 tags & supports many audio formats (not just mp3)

id3tag, id3convert, id3info: version 1 tags that support many formats, also version 2 tags for mp3

The gtkdialog (version 0.7.20 or possibly greater) program is also a dependancy.

For some command line specific options please enter "pmetatagger --help" at the command line.

You can choose to load a directory of a specific file type into the gui or you can load a single file. The program will find the various tagging programs you have installed and will check your file for a tag. The information that is found will be displayed in the gui. You can then edit or enter the information you want in the tag. For formats other than flac there will be a combobox where you can select your tagger. The existing tagger type will be displayed first but if you want to change to a different tagger you can select it from the drop down box (if multiple taggers are installed). If you click "DUMP-tag" the tag information will be dumped to a file named (your input file).ptag in the same directory as your file. This ptag file can be read and edited with a regular text editor. You could then use this ptag file as a tag for another file by clicking the button "Tag file with an existing ptag". When you're done editing your tag or selecting an existing ptag click the "Next" or "Ok" button to move onto the next file or end the process if all file/s have been run thru the gui.

For the AtomicParsley supported formats there are alot of tagging options so the gui is a bit more advanced for those filetypes.

Pmusic

<u>Pmusic</u> is a great little Audio Player that has been evolving over a number of years. The best way to learn about it is to read the <u>Puppy Linux forums</u>.

In case you haven't already noticed, the latest versions of the software is always on the first page, the latest comments however will be on the last page. It is done this way to make the software easier to find.

mhWaveEdit

<u>mhWaveEdit</u> is a graphical program for editing, playing and recording sound files. It is lightweight, portable, user-friendly and handles large files very well.

The program itself has only simple editing features such as cut'n'paste and volume adjustment but it can also use Ladspa effect plugins and the effects provided by the SoX application. It can also support additional file formats besides wav through libsndfile and mp3/ogg import and export through lame and oggenc/oggdec.

For sound playback and recording, mhWaveEdit supports OSS, ALSA, Jack, SDL, PortAudio and EsounD.

Project Page Here

pCD

pCD is a very lightweight Audio CD player.

Forum Information

Pupradio/PupTelly

<u>Pupradio/PupTelly</u> is a GUI to listen and watch streaming internet radio and television.

Forum Information <u>here</u>.

Just find audio or video streams on the web and save as a Preset

or a Bookmark, don't forget to give it a name.

You can test a stream before saving with the "Play Now!" feature.

If you get Precord from:

<u>http://www.murga-linux.com/puppy/viewtopic.php?t=49907</u> You can even record, follow instructions on that thread.

Pupradio now works from the command line. It plays the last radio station you played from the GUI. Telly is unsupported.

Burniso2cd

Burniso2cd allows you to burn an ISO file (Disk Image) to a CD or DVD.

You can burn it as Single or Multi session.

The normal way to distribute Puppy is in the form of a disk image. For example: Puppy Linux 525, AKA Lucid Puppy 525, is distributed as lupu-525.iso

Run burniso2cd, choose CD or DVD, Choose drive, navigate to the lupu-525.iso, select Normal or Multi then click OK.

In all the years I have been using burniso2cd I have never had a bad burn. It's very solid.

Some good information <u>here</u>.

ISOMaster

The **ISO Master** window is split in two parts:

- The top file browser shows files and directories on your machine
- The bottom file browser shows files and directories on the ISO image

To open an existing ISO file click on 'File' and 'Open'. To create a new ISO file click on 'File' and 'New'

To add one or more files or directories to the ISO select them in the top file browser and click the 'Add to the ISO' button in the middle toolbar.

Tp extract one or more files or directories from the ISO select them in the bottom file browser and click the 'Extract from ISO' button in the middle toolbar.

You can also delete files or directories from the ISO and create new directories both on the ISO and your local file system.

If you select something in the bottom file browser and right click on it, there are several more options available.

Once you have made all the changes to the new ISO image, click on 'File' and 'Save As'. You cannot overwrite the original ISO.

<u>isomaster website</u>

Pburn

<u>Pburn</u> is a brilliant CD/DVD burning program.

It's very simple and very functional.

Read all about Pburn <u>here</u>.

Forum information <u>here</u>.

Fun

PicPuz Rubix cube Tile slider game XEmeraldia Xinvaders3d

Help

Clicking on the Help Menu Item will provide some very useful information to get you started.

There is an enormous amount of help available for Puppy but it is quite fragmented and sometimes dificult to find.

You will notice throughout this tutorial I will reference many websites and various forums.

The purpose of the tutorial was to create a one stop shop for new users.

Probably the best source of online help is via the <u>Puppy Linux forums</u>.

Try and use the correct thread to ask your questions and I'm sure you will receive help from a very friendy bunch of Puppy enthusiasts.

Double click > <u>http://www.murga-linux.com/puppy/</u>

I provide a repository for many of the developers. You can access it below. Double click > <u>http://www.smokey01.com/</u>

Click on the green icon to display the developers page. or here > http://www.smokey01.com/devs/ Resources

Puppy related Websites

http://bkhome.org/blog/ http://murga-linux.com/puppy/ http://puppylinux.org/wikka/ http://www.smokey01.com/devs/ http://puppylinux.org/ http://puppylinuxnews.org/ http://puppy.b0x.me/desktop-iconsets http://puppy.b0x.me/ http://rhinoweb.us/ http://puppeee.com/ http://www.lhpup.org/ http://www.goingnuts.dk/linux.asp http://puppylinuxstuff.meownplanet.net/ http://brainwavedesigncentral.net/ http://www.puppylinuxfag.org/ http://www.linuxquestions.org/questions/puppy-71/ http://puppy-look.tk/ http://pupweb.org/desktop/ http://www.puppybrasil.org/tiki/tiki-index.php http://hardkap.net/forums/ http://puppylinux.org/main/Download Latest Release.htm http://distro.ibiblio.org/pub/linux/distributions/puppylinux/ ftp://mirror.internode.on.net/pub/puppylinux/ http://mirror.internode.on.net/pub/puppylinux/ ftp://mirror.aarnet.edu.au/pub/puppylinux/ http://mirror.aarnet.edu.au/pub/puppylinux/ http://puppyisos.org/ puppy:username linux:password http://dotpups.de/ http://os.cqu.edu.au/iso/puppylinux/ http://www.lamiaworks.com.au/puppy_isos.html http://www.osst.co.uk/Download/?id=3 http://www.petstore.puppyspace.org/ http://puppyspace.org/ http://noforum.de/dotpups/ http://dokupuppylinux.co.cc/ http://iso.linuxquestions.org/puppy-linux/ http://mypcquickref.host22.com/linux_puppy.php http://iguleder.wordpress.com/ http://scottjarvis.com/page81.htm

Shutdown

This is how you should shutdown your computer. Menu>Shutdown>Power-off computer

You should always use the Shutdown command to turn off your computer. By just turning it of at the power switch increases the chances of breaking the operating system or in particular the file system.

Puppy Linux is very resilient. If you do have problems with the file system because it was not shutdown properly it is possible to repair it with **fsck**.

The **fsck** utility is able to repair the pupsave file. In this version of Puppy it's called lupusave.3fs. The .3fs identifies the files system as EXT3.

Assumptions: You have Puppy Linux 525 installed on HDD partiton sda1 in directory /puppy525

To fix a currupted savefile:

Boot off a cd/dvd where Puppy 525 is installed

Using ROX Navigate to the savefile you wish to repair eg: /mnt/sda1 /puppy525

Press the ` key, it's under the ESC key. This will open a console window in /mnt/sda1/puppy525

Type fsck -p lupusave.3fs

This will automatically repair your savefile

Remove your cd/dvd and reboot your computer

Exit to prompt

This will close the Window Manager and exit to a prompt. In other words the nice GUI will disappear.

Sometimes when installing video drivers you need to exit to the prompt.

To reload the GUI, simply type **xwin** and press enter. This will start the X server and run the Window Manager.

If for some reason the GUI doesn't load, type **xorgwizard** then press enter. This will allow you to reconfigure your video card. Incompatible Video drivers are the most common cause of video failure.

When in doubt select the vesa driver when running xorgwizard. Reboot computer

This will reboot the computer. It's also known as a warm boot. A cold boot is when you power the computer down then turn the computer back on.

Power-off computer

This will shut the computer down.

This is the correct way to turn your computer off when using Puppy. Restart X server

This will restart the X server, also known as xwin. It does not reboot or shut the computer down.

Any programs you have loaded will close during the restart so make sure you save all of your data before restarting the X server.

Restart Window Manager

This only restarts the Window Manager, not the X server.

Software

Puppy Linux comes with quite a lot of software preinstalled and the other big advantage it's all free.

The majority of people can survive quite nicely with the programs that are bundled but that doesn't stop you from installing other preferred package for the many repositories that are available online.

Browser

Today the browser is one of the most commonly used applications.

Lucid Puppy 525 doesn't come with a browser installed as there are too

many different opinions which is the best. The first time you click on the browse icon you will be given the option to download and install a choice of popular browsers. No, you don't need a browser to download a browser.

There are actually a couple of small browsers that are bundled that really are not secure enough for browsing the internet. They are called <u>Dillo</u> and <u>Midori</u>. They are normally used for setting up your printer or reading HTML documents.

By double clicking on the blue hyperlinks, it will either open a program, load a html page or take you to the internet.

I recommend Seamonkey as a browser as it also comes with a mail client, chat client and a html editor. This package is very similar to windows internet explorer and outlook so only a small learning curve required.

Internet

These days a computer is quite restricted without a connection to the internet.

Puppy has many tools that will allow you to connect in various ways:

- a. ethernet via an adsl/modem/router,
- b. WIFI from a hot spot or a wireless modem router,
- c. Wireless, and
- d. dialup.

If you have a live connection via ethernet then puppy will connect you automagically.

The are a number of tools for the various other methods. I find <u>SNS</u> (simple network setup) to be very good and reliable. Using this tool will scan for available wifi networks. When it find one all you need to do is choose the connection type, enter your username and password and you should be connected.

When you shutdown the computer your setting will be saved The next time you turn the computer on you should be automatically connected the internet.

Dialup modems are becoming used less these days and Windows does not support them as well as it did in past years. Puppy continues to support dialup as it likes to support older computers. This doesn't mean puppy won't work on modern computers, it sure does and very well.

Email

As already stated in the browser section, Seamonkey mail is bundled. This is already installed too and Seamonkey mail should open when you click on the yellow envelope icon.

It is quite easy to setup. You just need to know your ISP details. Mine is

Internode and the mail server is:

mail.internode.on.net

Bigpond would be:

mail.bigpond.com and in some cases mail.bigpond.com.au or mail.bigpond.net

You will also be required to enter your username and password. Write

Write is actually Abiword and it is a full featured word processor that is compatable with MS Word.

Write defaults to it's own file format .abw. If you want to save your documents as Word documents then you need to change this when you select Save As. There are many different formats to choose from.

Calc

Calc is actually gnumeric and it's very similar to MS Excel and is also compatible with MS Excel. Once again you need to be aware it will save files in it's own format so use Save As to save the files as .xls.

Multimedia

Puppy 525 comes standard with GNOME Player which has similar functionality as Windows Media Player.

I like VLC, another media player, better and have it set as the default video player. When you click on video files like .MOV, WMV etc it will automatically play the clip. It also allows you to play DVD movies.

VLC will also play internet radio stations, audio CD, MP3, WAV, and OGG files etc. Just click on the file, REMEMBER ONE CLICK, not two like windows.

Skype

Skype is a VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) program that has both video and audio, chat and file transfer ability.

I don't think I need to explain too much about Skype as it's very widely used.

Skype_static can be downloaded in Quickpet under the Sfs Get Tab.

Tips & Tricks

This area provides a number of useful Tips & Tricks.

If you would like to share your tips and have them included in this tutorial then send a NoteCase node to me at smokey01@internode.on.net

Default Programs

The word Default is often misunderstood.

It simply means the program that will be used to open the data file. For example: What happens when you click on an .au audio file?

Try it, double click on this link <u>/usr/share/sounds/2barks.au</u>

Notice that GNOME MPLAYER loaded and played the sound. In other words GNOME MPLAYER is the default program for .au files.

Two ways this can be managed.

1. Use the Set Run Action in ROX. Double click <u>here</u> to open ROX in the sound directory. Now right click on 2barks.au, locate Set Run Action and click on it and press the clear button. Now click <u>here</u> to open another ROX window, this time in one of the application directories. Locate pmusic then drag and drop it on the first ROX window where it says 'Drop a suitable application here'

Now click on <u>/usr/share/sounds/2barks.au</u> and it should be played with pmusic.

If you were observant you would have also noticed under the 'Enter a shell command' was the text (defaultaudioplayer "\$1")

2. The properties of defaultaudioplayer can also be changed. Lets see what the defaultaudioplayer is set to, click <u>here</u>. As you can see it's gnome-mplayer. If you replace the words gnome-mplayer with pmusic then whenever defaultaudioplayer is called, pmusic will be used.

There are a number of default applications. Click <u>here</u> to have a look. Notice all the programs that begin with default? Get the idea? they can all be changed.

ChatZilla

ChatZilla is a chat program for communcating in chat rooms, and believe me there are many.

I am only interested in one, Puppylinux. You can waste far too many heartbeats in chatrooms.

Before you can use ChatZilla you need to install Seamonkey. ChatZilla may be available standalone but I have made the assumption you will download the integrated package from Quickpet.

Seamonkey 2.1 can be installed via quickpet > Internet Pets

If it's not displayed you might need to update the Quickpet repository by clicking on Quickpet > More Pets > Update Lupu PPM

Ok, lets assume you now have Seamonkey 2.1 installed. Make sure you set Seamonkey to be your default browser by clicking on the world icon on the task bar, left bottom of screen, then select Seamonkey2.

You could click on the browse icon on the desktop then press Ctrl+6 or <u>W</u>indow on menu bar and select IRC Chat. Naa, that's the sissy way of doing it. Lets try something way more cool.

In a terminal window type <u>seamonkey irc://freenode/puppylinux</u> or click on the link. This will automatically run seamonkey, fireup ChatZilla, and log into Puppylinux on freenode. You may then change the Nickname of root to something more appropriate in the bottom left of the ChatZilla window. It will normally remember your last Nickname.

You can close the seamonkey browser window and just leave the ChatZilla window open if you prefer as it's not required.

Moving Windows

Have you ever had the situation when the window was too big for the screen, especially on small screen netbooks? You needed to get at a button, you knew it was there but you couldn't see it.

I know I have.

Try this: Hold down the Alt key and the Left Mouse key at the same time.

Now place the cursor anywhere on the window and move your mouse!

Quick Terminal

If you are anything like me I hate typing long pathnames. I would rather navigate with ROX.

For example: Click <u>here</u> to open a terminal window and type:

cd /usr/local/lib/X11/pixmaps/

There are times when you need to run software from a particular directory from a terminal window. For example: When you click on a program icon and it doesn't run. If you run the program from a terminal window it will usually give you an error and a clue to what is wrong.

The easy way to get to that elusive directory using the same example path above. Click on ROX on the desktop, click the green up arrow, click on usr, local, lib, X11 and finally pixmaps. Now press the key below the Esc key with the \sim and \sim on it. A terminal window opened up in the required directory. Now type Is and press the Enter key to see if the files are the same. Of course they are.

Remember lowercase and uppercase are different in Linux so it's easy to make mistakes when typing. x11 and X11 are not the same. You may have just discovered that.

Copy & Paste

The convential way to Copy and Paste text with key stokes is CtrI+C to Copy and CtrI+V to Paste.

Puppy Linux is able to do this as well, however, Puppy does it so much easier. Try this:

Copy this line by highlighting the text by left mouse clicking and drag over the text.

Now place the cursor on a new line and press the scroll wheel on the mouse.

You can also Copy & Paste from/to a terminal window.

Click <u>here</u> to open a terminal window.

Copy the word **geany** and paste into the terminal window and press Enter.

Geany the text editor is now running.

Have you also noticed all programs can be run either in X windows (the desktop) or from the terminal. Windows can't do that either.

Another benefit is to be able to scroll back through the terminal window and see the history.

While in the terminal window try using the up scroll key on the keypad. You can press enter to repeat a command.

OMG when will it stop.