



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Preparing

- Which distribution?
- Which version?
- Which media?

CD?

Network/Kickstart?

Medusa?



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Preparing

Where to get the media?

- CD – Easy ISOs from cyclops.iastate.edu or rhn.redhat.com
- Kickstart – installation *script* automating setup, installation and post-installation. Useful for large numbers of systems
- Medusa – download and burn the ISO corresponding to the current distribution

More info at <http://cyclops.iastate.edu/MEDUSA/>



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Preparing

Know Thy System

- Is your hardware supported?
 - Hardware How-To
- RAM
- Hard disk
 - SCSI and/or IDE
 - Amount of space (not so much of a problem anymore)



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Preparing

Know Thy System

- Monitor
 - Model and make
 - Horizontal and Vertical refresh rates
- Video card
 - Memory
 - Resolution

Be careful! That burning smell may make you cry



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Preparing

Know Thy System

- Network card
- Keyboard
- Two button or three button mouse?



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Media

- Burn the CDs
- For network installs

FTP or Web Server address

Example: **cyclops.iastate.edu**

Location of the Red Hat directory

Example: **/net-install/RHEL5/x86/Server/**



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Network Information

Static address or DHCP?

Static address:

- Reserve static address via ASW
- DNS server addresses
- Subnet gateway address



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Network Information

For network installs - must NetReg the network cards in the machine ahead of time.

Two ways:

- Get MAC address and call the Solution Center 4-4000
- If dual booting, NetReg in Windows first, then install Linux



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Disk Partitions

- Size of disk
- Server or desktop?
- Multi-user or single user?
- How much logging?
- Single boot or dual boot?



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Partitions

Typical setup for a desktop

/boot

/

(swap)



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Partitions

Good setup for a server

/boot	/
/usr	/usr/local
/var	/tmp
/home	
(swap)	



Installing Linux – Prep Work

Get Started!

Insert the CD

Loads a Linux kernel and an installation program

Network installs – network drivers will be loaded from the CD

Follow the instructions!