



Forum: CentOS Social

Topic: First Impressions Count

Subject: Re: First Impressions Count

Posted by: bigal

Posted on: 2012/2/13 17:48:23

ManConan has my sympathy.

I am not a sys admin, just a regular desktop user. And a very inexperienced one at that. I have a working 5.7 setup that I was given lot of help with when it was started (5.4) but Samba is not set up properly so I cannot see all of my my old Windows files. As I have acquired a spare machine I thought that I would go for a clean install of 6.2 and play with that. Ran Killdisk to write zeros over the entire disk to ensure it was clean – there is only one 239 GB disk and 2 GB of memory in the box . So a visit to [www.centos.org>Downloads>Mirrors>CentOS](http://www.centos.org/Downloads/Mirrors/CentOS) Public Mirror List. I then made the mistake of clicking on the mirror name and spent some time looking around for the download page. When I eventually went back to the list I realised that I should have gone to one of the HTTP, FTP or RSYNC links. My limited knowledge told me use FTP so followed the links throught to the list of available downloads. Opted for a i386 live CD. Having downloaded and checked the MD5 sum burnt it of to disk. Great.

When I booted the spare m/c up with the disk I was dismayed to find that there was no separate Verify disk disk option. Only Verify and run. I had wanted to verify the disk integrity then go straight to the install option but had to fiddle around with the Verify and run which takes ages. Got there eventually then went straight for the install option. It was quick, 20 minutes or so as I had accepted all the default options apart from location and language. I found the use of a screen saver every five minutes most off-putting during an installation; an odd choice. But, at the end when it said 'congratulations. I was offered just one choice 'Finnish'. So I clicked on it. The screen went black and stayed black for the next hour. I was unable to use mouse or keyboard so eventually just powered off the machine. Very poor. Not even any advice about removing the installation media. During the installation process there had not been any options to choose what software I wanted to have installed. ManConan is correct. Documentation is VERY hard to find, at least on the Centos site. When you can find it, via search engines as well as forums, it is frequently undated an often does not say which version it is relevant too.

To cap it all, I ran yum update after installation and all it pulled down were i686 packages. I had the 386 disk. I checked.