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## What is Debian?

[Debian](#) is a [free](#) operating system (OS) for your computer. An operating system is the set of basic programs and utilities that make your computer run. Debian uses the [Linux](#) kernel (the core of an operating system), but most of the basic OS tools come from the [GNU project](#); hence the name GNU/Linux.

Debian GNU/Linux provides more than a pure OS: it comes with over 18733 [packages](#), precompiled software bundled up in a nice format for easy installation on your machine.

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## Getting Started

The [latest stable release of Debian](#) is 4.0. The last update to this release was made on February 17th, 2008. Read more about [available versions of Debian](#).

If you'd like to start using Debian, you can easily [obtain a copy](#), and then follow the [installation instructions](#) to install it.

If you're upgrading to the latest stable release from a previous version, please read [the release notes](#) before proceeding.

To get help in using or setting up Debian, see our [documentation](#) and [support](#) pages.

Users that speak languages other than English should check the [international](#) section.

People who use systems other than Intel x86 should check the [ports](#) section.



## News

[27 Apr 2008] [Debian is participating in the 2008 Google Summer of Code](#)

[13 Apr 2008] [Debian GNU/Linux 3.1 updated](#)

[29 Feb 2008] [Security Support for Debian 3.1 to be terminated](#)

[17 Feb 2008] [Debian GNU/Linux 4.0 updated](#)

[28 Dec 2007] [Debian GNU/Linux 3.1 updated](#)

[27 Dec 2007] [Debian GNU/Linux 4.0 updated](#)

For older news items see the [News Page](#). If you would like to receive mail whenever new Debian news comes out, subscribe to the [debian-announce mailing list](#).

## Security Advisories

[09 Jul 2008] [DSA-1606 poppler](#) - programming error

[08 Jul 2008] [DSA-1605 glibc](#) - DNS cache poisoning

[08 Jul 2008] [DSA-1604 bind](#) - DNS cache poisoning

[08 Jul 2008] [DSA-1603 bind9](#) - DNS cache poisoning

[05 Jul 2008] [DSA-1602 pcre3](#) - buffer overflow

[04 Jul 2008] [DSA-1601 wordpress](#) - several vulnerabilities

[01 Jul 2008] [DSA-1600 sympa](#) - dos

[26 Jun 2008] [DSA-1599 dbus](#) - programming error

[19 Jun 2008] [DSA-1598 libtk-img](#) - buffer overflow

[12 Jun 2008] [DSA-1597 mt-daapd](#) - multiple vulnerabilities

[12 Jun 2008] [DSA-1596 typo3](#) - several vulnerabilities

For older security advisories see the [Security Page](#). If you would like to receive security advisories as soon as they're announced, subscribe to the [debian-security-announce mailing list](#).

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