

Tips for starting with Gentoo

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Famous last words

- This switch sounds harmless...
- I am sure it should still boot
- There is no need to update it





Who am I?

Tomáš Chvátal



- Gentoo developer since fall 2008
- Was member of Gentoo Council for few terms
- Currently maintaining libreoffice (hint we need volunteers) and KDE team member
- Works at SUSE and is bossing around bunch of packagers :)



What areas shall we cover

- Interesting applications
- Configuration Tips
- General ideas





Apps list

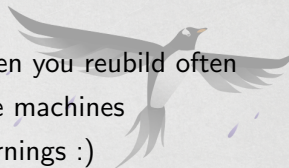
- `eix`: fast pkg searcher with it own index
- `gentoolkit`: set of cool small apps
- `gentoolkit-dev`: another set for development
- `tmux`: screen like provider
- `layman`: overlay management tool





Compilation/development

- ccache: compilation cache when you rebuild often
- distcc: distribute load on more machines
- clang: compile with better warnings :)
- icecream: another approach to distributed CC





/etc/portage/

- keep package.use/mask/... as directories
- separate the content by purpose ie
/etc/portage/package.unmask/libav-10
- periodically clean it up (few times a year)





/etc/portage/make.conf

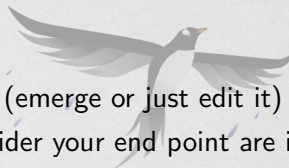
- keep it small
- try to stick with profiles where possible and file bugs if needed
- remember to set good mirrors
- it is defining shell variables so you can keep lines short





`/var/lib/portage/world`

- Keep this file exceptionally tidy (emerge or just edit it)
- Make sure only apps you consider your end point are in here





Ideas

- Update often: once a month or more
- Consider hardened: safer box is better
- Do not mix: try to avoid using testing/stable mix



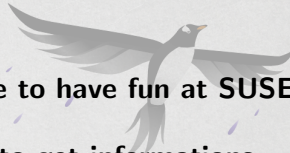


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More reading

Links

- <http://www.gentoo.org/>
- <http://forums.gentoo.org/>
- <http://wiki.gentoo.org/>





Any questions?





Thank you for your attention

