



Why use Gentoo

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Questions

- What is this Gentoo thing?
- I hate paying so much for central heating... Solutions?
- Optimization overkill is always needed





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 :)





Basic stuff

- Gentoo was started by Daniel Robbins in 1999
- Metadistribution compiled from scratch on user system
- Supports loads of various archs: amd64, arm, x86, ppc64, ...
- Democratically governed distribution where Council stands as appealing body
- Portage contains something around 20 000 packages with 30 thousand versions

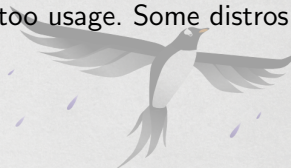


What the hell is Metadistribution?

Basically it means that Gentoo is used as base to create other distributions, instead of direct Gentoo usage. Some distros starting from Gentoo:

- Chrome OS
- Funtoo
- Calculate linux
- Sabayon

We can say Debian/Ubuntu are used like this (see all the damn forks with different skins there).





Rolling distribution

- Always up-to-date
- No need for migration
- New stuff every 30 minutes





Build locally from source code

- Optimize directly for your hardware
- Tweak out dependencies and configure options for build





Hardened project

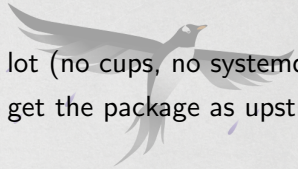
- Super secure Linux TM
- Enables quite some compilation switches to harden the output
- Various kernel patches to skyrocket the security





Other trivia

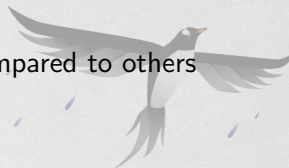
- Ability to tweak out options a lot (no cups, no systemd, etc.)
- Almost no distro patches: you get the package as upstream desires
- You can choose to live on the edge by using testing tree





What should I be aware of

- Quite complex installation compared to others
- Rolling updates
- Slow application install
- Testing tree can be fatal and you might be forced to reinstall





When should I start considering to install it?

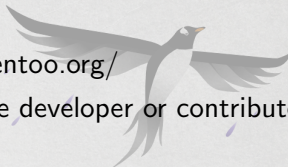
- I want to learn really well how this linux thing works
- I don't mind searching answers on internet
- I actually read distro notification and act upon them

Mostly Gentoo can be deployed everywhere, just some administration decisions can make it really big nightmare.



I feel so intrigued I want to contribute

- Report bugs to <http://bugs.gentoo.org/>
- Contribute to portage (became developer or contribute like proxy-maintainer)
- Finances (donate button on <http://www.gentoo.org/>)



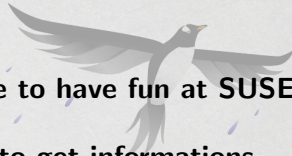


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More reading

More reading

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





Questions

Q&A

Do you happen to have some questions people?





Thank you for your attention

