



[FedoraForum.org](http://forums.fedoraforum.org/index.php) (<http://forums.fedoraforum.org/index.php>)

- [Linux Chat](http://forums.fedoraforum.org/forumdisplay.php?f=43) (<http://forums.fedoraforum.org/forumdisplay.php?f=43>)
- - [I've installed Linux, now give me my Windows refund](http://forums.fedoraforum.org/showthread.php?t=139627) (<http://forums.fedoraforum.org/showthread.php?t=139627>)

leigh123linux

2006-12-23 11:04 AM CST

1 Attachment(s)
What can I say

rappermas

2006-12-23 11:58 AM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **leigh123**
What can I say

Perfect. Set that as the background and send the laptop in.

el_ricardo

2006-12-23 02:06 PM CST

this is amazing! surely having acer already activating windows (and therefore agreeing to the EULA) for you is some sort of infringement of your statutory rights or something?

cooney

2006-12-23 06:54 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **mndar**
*I don't think Acer can be completely sure that you are not using Windows.
What if one makes an image of the OS partition before sending it to them. When they send back the OS less notebook, one could restore th OS.
*The only thing the user will have to take care is not putting the windows os on the internet !**

Oh Sheesh!

Like that's not been done before. You know, here in my neck of the woods, if you want a plain Jane computer with no OS installed, you have to build it yourself. My second point, if you really wanna run a pirated version of Windows these days, you're relegated to 98 or 2000.

Moot point, IMHO.

bob

cooney

2006-12-23 07:11 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **TangledWeb**

*Hmmm. The more I think about this, the more I think it's a shenanigan! **All Acer has to do, to kill your license, is fire a message off to Microsoft, that declares your copy of Windows (Which they activated, and therefore should have records of) to be pirated if used, then give you the refund.***

At that point, it's a hairpull between you and Microsoft.

This is just more bloody games! Nail 'em, Scruffy! :mad:

Dan

Hey Dan,

Still shovelin' snow off your driveway?

Swattin' the fruit-flies off the soda gun here :eek

Hi y'all, and especially you Scruffy,

When I worked for an outfit that serviced Gateway computers, we had a generic MS code that could reactivate your copy of Windows in case 'your dog happened to eat' the original code label pasted on the side of your computer or your computer case had 'fire damage' and you couldn't read it. (aka Mr. Magoo)! :p Of course that MS code wouldn't work unless you had a 'real' Gateway with a modified BIOS provided by them (company_name). ;)

There's other codes too but...

Simply;

I really don't think Acer could 'send any message to Microsoft' except for; "The checks in the Mail!!!!" ;)

Get 'em, Scruffy!

Happy holiday, Merry Christmas, merry xmas, Happy Hanukka, Happy Kwanza and/or to you and yours,

bob

cl8on

2006-12-25 03:56 PM CST

My HP laptop came with a choice... Win XP pro, or DOS.. same price. So they are saying the winXP has the same value as DOS... or no real value... that i would agree with. So your copy of Win is worthless... i think anyone that has used linux would agree to that. :)

waltreams

2006-12-26 06:55 AM CST

Acer Aspire 5101AAWLM1 \$409.50, shipped free to my zip code.

With a product at this price and [these specs](#), they should get a lot of attention from the Linux community if they would become a little more tux-friendly.

Think maybe M\$ has threatened higher prices to OEM's if they offer/allow the refund?

Scruffy

2007-01-03 03:25 AM CST

Hi all, I'm back from my Chrimbo holiday. Hope everybody had a nice break, even if you don't celebrate Christmas.

To answer a few questions posed since my last post:

[Bob] Acer had already indicated that I must ship the notebook back to them. They say this is because they have to remove Windows (or verify it has been removed), remove the hidden partition (or verify it has been removed) and remove the license sticker. At first I was unwilling to do this because of my stuff on the notebook but then I thought I could just put the information on my work notebook so I can at least continue working. Also, Acer have stated that the turnaround is 3 days so I will be holding them to that otherwise I think I am entitled to further compensation. Must remember to put that in the email.

[rappermas] I had thought about imaging the drive as a backup but actually wiping the drive is a good idea. Will do this. Also, it would be a good idea to set that image as the background but there is no way on earth that I want them to log in to my account under Linux. If they did this then I think I can do them for cracking the laptop account. :)

[IronMike & TangledWeb] Acer insist that the laptop is returned, at my cost. Cost isn't an issue as I will use the works courier to send/pick up if necessary. :)

I am amazed how far I have got so quickly, and that they have made this policy is just sweet. Unfortunately policy is nothing unless they publish it, but they cannot hold you to policy rules if they

do not make these rules available. This is how I got around their stance on the OEM where they insisted that their policy is not to refund Windows because it is their policy (or something like that). By insisting that the returns policy didn't exist on either their documentation or website they could do nothing but cave in on this point.

Yesterday I read their return email and they tried to wrangle out of their previous position on the refund by stating that they would honour it if I booked the notebook in before the end of December. I returned the email stating that I wanted to book it in but I insisted they honour it anyway because I clearly stated in my last email that that was my last day (22/12) in work until yesterday.

I received no reply but decided that I would send another email today insisting that because they decided notify me of their new policy on 21st December that is when my 30 days would start because they have pissed me off and delayed this issue for too long. There was no need to send the email because I received one from Acer today. They will honour it. They gave me detailed instructions as to where to send the notebook, how and with what. They also provided a returns number and a link to their website to see the progress.

So, today I will be sending the notebook off to Acer. Once it has gone I will email them just to let them know it has been sent and will use this email as the opportunity to inform them that I am keeping them to their 3 days (not sure if this includes the two days delivery or not!).

One thing I will be doing though is to take a few pictures of the notebook, just to ensure that when I get it back it is not scratched or damaged. :)

Once this has been done and I receive the refund then I will start to work on them publishing the policy. This may need to be done through pressure from the trade press though. Will examine this when the time comes.

bob

2007-01-03 05:43 AM CST

Congrats! You've done it & done it well. It's a pain to have to wipe and reinstall the OS plus lose the laptop for a few days, but this certainly shows how much can be accomplished by one consumer. Considering how Acer eventually became reasonable about the claim, I would now be inclined to give them a try if I need a new machine in the future.

Scruffy

2007-01-03 09:54 AM CST

Waltreams,

I don't know if M\$ have threatened OEM's with higher prices if they offer refunds but since the likelihood of a refund being requested is very small I think it would be damaging to M\$ if they did take this route. I do know, however, that M\$ have threatened higher OEM prices to OEMs who offer naked PC's. As far as I can remember this was with Compaq and was part of the US Anti-Trust suit, although I don't know if they still do this as Dell have started offering naked PC's or ones that come with Linux (Red Hat I think, but maybe not installed).

Anyway, the notebook has now been wiped, packed up and will be shipped tomorrow. I will be emailing them details tomorrow. When I read their instructions I had to laugh because what was one of them:

Quote:

Please could you also include a list of all passwords and user accounts needed to access the system.

This is funny because there would be no accounts on Windows because I never agreed to the EULA, and if you agree to the EULA then you cannot have a refund. If they want my Linux account details do they honestly think I would be stupid enough to give them to Acer?

One thing that is a little worrying is Acer's Refund Request Form (posted earlier I think) that I have to sign, where it states:

Quote:

I agree that this request may be given to Microsoft and agree to hold Acer harmless from any claims by third parties in the event that I have provided any false information in this request.

It is not so much as they will pass the request on to Microsoft or that Acer can be held harmless as any result to this. At the beginning I stated that I have purchased the notebook via my work. The invoice is addressed to work but has my name on it. Now, if this is passed on to Microsoft they can be such bastards that they might decide that a license check is in order and contact FACT or FAST (whichever one it is). This is not a problem because work licenses are all up to date but it is the inconvenience of the issue. I have spoken to my boss about this and he just shrugged his shoulders and doesn't think it will happen. He doesn't think Microsoft would stoop so low. Although he isn't a M\$ fanboy he doesn't believe me when I go into my anti-M\$ tirades because of the things they do. He keeps insisting that it is because of Microsoft that we have jobs although I keep telling him that if Microsoft were not so dominant we would be publishing solutions for the company and move forward instead of fighting problems all of the time!

The good thing though is that I am wearing him down. It was about 4 years ago that I introduced open source into the company and it took 2 years to convince him that it was viable. I have badgered him about Linux for about 2 years and it took him 1 year before he loaded it onto a notebook (he was impressed that all hardware was picked up - it was Ubuntu on a fairly old notebook). Although he hasn't played around with it properly he has seen there is excellent support and that it is definitely a viable system. So much that he is arranging both of us to go on Linux courses and we will be silently introducing Linux systems in the company sometime this year. He won't do this until we have the training though, and played around a bit. :) I'll give him credit because he did read 'Just Say No To Microsoft', a book I gave him for Christmas 2005. :D

'tis funny because at work (and with friends) I am known as a M\$ hater or anti-M\$ (even by some of our Directors). Unfortunately they think M\$ are ok and do not understand my stance. Some do ask why but when I tell them to google 'Microsoft Antitrust' and start reading they never seem to follow through. They still do not understand my point of view.

rappermas

2007-01-03 05:41 PM CST

w00t, go Scruffs! Since you can't put that image of tux sucking the XP carton as the wallpaper, print it out and stick it in the box or something :D

If you can get Acer to publish this policy, well, that would be something like demigod status.

Wayne

2007-01-03 05:51 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **rappermas**

w00t, go Scruffs! Since you can't put that image of tux sucking the XP carton as the wallpaper, print it out and stick it in the box or something :D

If you can get Acer to publish this policy, well, that would be something like demigod status.

If they don't then this whole story should be put up where every Linux user can read it (Mac and Windows too) not only Fedorians. It should be anyway. Word should get out that a portion of the PC using population demand their Microsoft Tax refund!

Wayne

JN4OldSchool

2007-01-04 05:52 AM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **rondonjin**

If they don't then this whole story should be put up where every Linux user can read it (Mac and Windows too) not only Fedorians. It should be anyway. Word should get out that a portion of the PC using population demand their Microsoft Tax refund!

Wayne

Anyone that buys an off the shelf computer should demand this refund! Let the manufacturers and retailers KNOW you are taking Windows off and putting Linux on. Part of our problem is no one really knows how many home desktop Linux users there are. I think the number is WAY more than they estimate. In fact, I wouldnt be surprised to learn Linux actually has 15% of the HOME DESKTOP market. Maybe more. So let that store salesman know your displeasure in having to remove Windows. In fact, get into a conversation about Linux with him...Write the manufacturer. Demand a refund, dont be dissappointed when it doesnt happen, but at least speak up and be heard. The problem is, like mail in rebates, most people are just too lazy to care. I mean look, here is \$50 free to you for just sending in this proof of purchase!!! Over half wont bother!

cooney

2007-01-04 03:34 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **JN4OldSchool**

Anyone that buys an off the shelf computer... ..The problem is, like mail in rebates, most people are just too lazy to care. I mean look, here is \$50 free to you for just sending in this proof of purchase!!! Over half wont bother!

And the half that do won't get the rebate anyway. :mad: I'm part of that half. :confused: or am I a quarter? :eek

bob

cypher543

2007-01-04 05:07 PM CST

Quote:

And the half that do won't get the rebate anyway.

From what Scruffy has just shown us, I don't think that's true.

cooney

2007-01-04 05:24 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **cypher543**

From what Scruffy has just shown us, I don't think that's true.

I was talking about those mail in rebates from best buy and others. I faithfully followed all instructions to the letter and am still waiting for the check some 5 plus years later.

I am very sure that Scruffy will get what he fairly asked for. He communicated personally, professionally and logically. It's hard to say no to that if you want to keep your name in good standing.

'nuff said,

bob

rappermas

2007-01-04 05:29 PM CST

There is only one rebate that I have ever not mailed. It was a 20 dollar thing for my GeForce FX5200--I thought I had another month. I really wanted to make copies of the receipts and all, then found out it was too late anyway.

The biggest scam is gift cards. Lots of people don't use them and lots of people end up having extra money on the gift card after they buy something and just simply forget about it.

cypher543

2007-01-04 06:47 PM CST

Quote:

I was talking about those mail in rebates from best buy and others.

Ah, sorry about that. My bad. ;)

cooney

2007-01-04 07:03 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **cypher543**
Ah, sorry about that. My bad. ;)

My bad too! Sometimes I don't type as fast as I think and it comes across wrong.

A great quote from the movie "Who framed Roger Rabbit": "I'm not bad. I'm just drawn that way!".

bob

Wayne

2007-01-05 06:14 PM CST

After the success of the guy in the UK getting a refund from Dell someone in the US also wrote of his experience of getting one too and gives some useful advice:

<http://community.linux.com/community...7.shtml?tid=12>

Wayne

rappermas

2007-01-05 08:09 PM CST

I saw that one too rondonjin! We all love digg, don't we?

Anyway, I was thinking...if about 4-5 people did this to every major OEM sometime soon, policy could change quite a bit!

If I don't end up getting a MacBook Pro in 5 months, I'll have to demand that HP or Dell or whoever I buy from takes Vista and shoves it up...

Wayne

2007-01-05 08:11 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **rappermas**

I saw that one too rondonjin! We all love digg, don't we?

Anyway, I was thinking...if about 4-5 people did this to every major OEM sometime soon, policy could change quite a bit!

If I don't end up getting a MacBook Pro in 5 months, I'll have to demand that HP or Dell or whoever I buy from takes Vista and shoves it up...

Can't remember where I found it but it wasn't digg but it's good to know the info is 'out there'

I'll swap you my IBM Thinkpad 390X with busted lid hinges for the Macbook when you get it :D

Wayne

Sir_Penguin

2007-01-06 06:22 AM CST

Wow, just finished reading through all that, 1 in the morning here (:o). Well done with that, I'm actually against pre-built computers in general from big companies like Acer, Dell and whoever so this wouldn't really apply to me although I am thinking of getting a laptop (dang, my computer is FAR too heavy :p) this would be good. Good luck :D I'd better go get some sleep...

usrhlp

2007-01-08 02:57 AM CST

Mmmm,

Is it just me or does anyone else find signing up to the Fedora Forums just like a Windows installation?

Purchase (sign up) AGREE TO LICENCE (forum rules) then ACTIVATE PRODUCT (Forum account). ;)

I hope you get somewhere with this, the only thing I would say is RE READ your emails and run them past someone else.

I'll just go over a couple of small grammatical errors with you. IT'S is short for IT IS, ITS is the possessive. Too many times throughout your emails to ACER you have been saying "IT IS" instead of "ITS".

"If by activating the operating system it's status becomes used then you have sold me a second hand product!, and deliberately changing the status from new to used in order to ensure the customer cannot obtain a refund is possibly illegal"

You have written, "if by activating the OS it is status becomes used.....etc"

Also an ! ends a sentence, you don't start a sentence with "and" and the start of sentence should be capitalised :)

I have also cringed at some of your mails over the quality of the English. Use some punctuation to add clarity to the mails. Acer is probably full of non English speakers so they are struggling to understand even the most basic of sentences! ;)

(The main reason I am sounding so harsh is because I hope that this information will help you in your business writing life as well as personal otherwise I would not say anything! :))

Anyway, besides picking you up on the small items I hope that a big cheque drops through your door pretty soon. I would also try and check on the price they pay (or you paid) for Windows just to make sure they don't rip you off. I also hope they don't pay you in Euros, otherwise by the time you have cashed the cheque into Pounds you will end up with 2 or 3 quid!!

Everything you have said in those emails is everything I have thought of so you are definitely down the right lines! KEEP GOING!

Ushlp
The "gramma" NAZI!

el_ricardo

2007-01-08 03:59 AM CST

Woah, Someone Has Actually Read Eats Shoots And Leaves Without Giving Up!

JN4OldSchool

2007-01-08 04:55 AM CST

lol ushlp. I would come down on you like a ton of bricks and yell that it is forum or blog writing and should be very informal, full of abbreviations, slang, misspellings and those silly 1337 numbers that kids seem to dig these days but that just drive me nuts...Oh, and dont forget the stupid punctuation expressions: (;p).

But since Scruffy was writing business letters I suppose you do have a point. So I will just let it drop with the passing thought of why someone would go through the trouble of correcting someone elses grammer/spelling/punctuation?

ed_e

2007-01-08 09:23 AM CST

I would like to go over a couple of errors with you, usrhlp.

Quote:

Originally Posted by **usrhlp**

I hope you get somewhere with this, the only thing I would say is RE READ your emails and run them past someone else.

If you'd like to be grammatically correct, I would say run your posts past someone else. Here, you have a run-on sentence. You have two statements that can stand alone, and they are not properly separated. In this case, you can replace the comma with a semicolon or a period and capitalize "the". You can also add a conjunction, such as and, after the comma.

Quote:

Originally Posted by **usrhlp**

*"If by activating the operating system it's status becomes used then you have sold me a second hand product!, and deliberately changing the status from new to used in order to ensure the customer cannot obtain a refund is possibly illegal"
You have written, "if by activating the OS it is status becomes used.....etc"*

In both of these sentences, you forgot a period before the quotation mark. You must place a period after "illegal" and after "etc" to make these complete sentences.

Quote:

Originally Posted by **usrhlp**

Also an ! ends a sentence, you don't start a sentence with "and" and the start of sentence should be capitalised :)

Here, you should place a comma after "also". In this case, also is an introductory word, and you should add proper punctuation. This a run-on sentence: you need to replace the comma after sentence with a semicolon. You also misspelled capitalized. In addition, you once again forgot to place a period at the end of your sentence.

Quote:

You should add a period after "personal" and capitalize "otherwise" to correct this run-on sentence.

Originally Posted by **usrhlp**

(The main reason I am sounding so harsh is because I hope that this information will help you improve your business writing life as well as personal otherwise I would not say anything! :))

Originally Posted by **usrhlp**

Anyway, besides picking you up on the small items I hope that a big cheque drops through your door pretty soon. I would also try and check on the price they pay (or you paid) for Windows just to make sure they don't rip you off. I also hope they don't pay you in Euros, otherwise by the time you have cashed the cheque into Pounds you will end up with 2 or 3 quid!!

Everything you have said in those emails is everything I have thought of so you are definitely down the right lines! KEEP GOING!

I will not bother to correct this because I believe this segment was the only part of your post relevant to this topic.

Are you the same "grammar nazi" that goes around countless forums in the internet correcting others' grammar? If so, then I hope this small grammar lesson can prove to you that you also make many mistakes.

Anyway, glad to see that several computer manufacturers are refunding users the cost of Windows. For the first time, it gives users more power to choose their operating system for a new computer. This is a hard-fought victory for the Linux community as a whole. Great job, Scruffy!

techmatt

2007-01-08 09:35 AM CST

Hey, I feel like I'm at school now. Can you please stop the bickering?

Thank You,
Matt

Edit: OK, it is fixed now. I made a typo, and it is no big deal. :mad:

JN4OldSchool

2007-01-08 09:38 AM CST

uhhnm, the proper spelling is "feel" not "fell!" :D

pete_1967

2007-01-08 10:04 AM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **ed_e**
You also misspelled capitalized.

No he didn't :D

Dan

2007-01-08 07:12 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **JN4OldSchool**
uhhhm, the proper spelling is "feel" not "fell!" :D

"Uhhhm" should be capitalized.

:p

bob

2007-01-08 07:19 PM CST

(Bob continues to beat his tired old head on the keyboard.)

cooney

2007-01-08 07:29 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **bob**
(Bob continues to beat his tired old head on the keyboard.)

aND THIS bOB IS SITTIN" BACK HERE AND lmao :p 0OR WAS THAT ;P0

bOB

rappermas

2007-01-08 10:08 PM CST

Who learned you how to spoke?

JN4OldSchool

2007-01-09 05:23 AM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **rappermas**
Who learned you how to spoke?

My sister/mom who is also my very bestest friend. But y'all know that's how we is down here in da south. We's all raised in barns ya'know...

Dan

2007-01-09 05:24 AM CST

A Bayer Moment

1 Attachment(s)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **bob**
(Bob continues to beat his tired old head on the keyboard.)

(Courtesy o f... er... rather, stolen from ... Al3xanR0)

Dan

2007-01-09 05:33 AM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **JN4OldSchool**
My sister/mom who is also my very bestest friend. But y'all know that's how we is down here in da south. We's all raised in barns ya'know...

I'm wif Rappermas! We wuz larned up better'n 'at up here in da mountains! Wiff'n real books too!

JN4OldSchool

2007-01-09 06:07 AM CST

Poor Bob, I bet his head is just throbbin now....

ed_e

2007-01-09 09:34 AM CST

This was the point I was trying to get across with grammar nazi here...I've seen his posts in several

other forums already and he doesn't understand the whole informal point of forums.

Anyway, hang in there bob...I might not have been able to use fedora without your help.

Sunnz

2007-01-09 09:54 AM CST

So, should we now demand Acer or major vendors to have a Windows refund entry in their FAQ?

rappermas

2007-01-09 06:13 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Sunnz**

So, should we now demand Acer or major vendors to have a Windows refund entry in their FAQ?

I wouldn't have it any other way.

That or candy.

brotherpug

2007-01-10 03:49 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **ed_e**

This was the point I was trying to get across with grammar nazi here...I've seen his posts in several other forums already and he doesn't understand the whole informal point of forums.

Anyway, hang in there bob...I might not have been able to use fedora without your help.

I fully appreciate, even agree absolutely with, your reasoning there but I feel I should point out that you were marking in *American*, rather than *British* English.

:D

uhf26

2007-01-10 10:07 PM CST

I StumbledUpon this forum and I looked at the title. Intrigued, I read the whole thing and made an account for the sole purpose of just saying how awesome it is that Scruffs is doing this.

And beginning tomorrow, I'm installing Ubuntu on my computer and wiping Windows for good. I got

all the distro discs ready to go. And I'm keeping up on this, too.

Kletskous

2007-01-11 03:00 AM CST

Great Work

Quote:

Originally Posted by **uhf26**

I [Stumbled Upon](#) this forum and I looked at the title. Intrigued, I read the whole thing and made an account for the sole purpose of just saying how awesome it is that Scruffs is doing this.

Same here.. Very interesting post and with respect for Scruffy! Thanks, I will add this as a tip to the marketing course that I've started on our website here: [marketing of open source by the end user](#) and I will mention your name of course so I hope one day it will make you famous :D

Telecide

2007-01-11 01:01 PM CST

Yeah, baby!

Damn fine work. They're probably relying on your assumed lack of persistence in the hope that you'll think the cause is lost and drop the whole thing. Keep doing your thang, mate!

jawadah

2007-01-11 08:57 PM CST

We are making friends here :D

Thanks to Scruffy

1xused

2007-01-11 10:54 PM CST

Good work, Scruffy, I wouldn't have thought of trying to get a refund for Windows on my next PC. I just would have removed it.

Wayne

2007-01-11 10:56 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **1xused**

Good work, Scruffy, I wouldn't have thought of trying to get a refund for Windows on my next

PC. I just would have removed it.

According to the windows EULA you are entitled to it. The more people that make waves the better :D

Wayne

synic

2007-01-12 03:44 AM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **rondonjin**

According to the windows EULA you are entitled to it. The more people that make waves the better :D

Wayne

I am soooooo loving this. I have had to reinstall windowz a dozen times due to crashes and stuff ups which is why it is a "legacy" item on my system.

This is really going to be a benchmark with regards to 'bundled items'.

Keep it up, I am reading this with delight. :)

krafty1

2007-01-12 05:28 AM CST

Although I don't post very often on these forums this time I thought I should put my 2 cents worth into the pot. Firstly I must say that I would rather Linux stay 100% open source but however Linux really needs to get into the main stream in a big hurry in order to put the brakes on the rubbish that is coming out of Micro\$oft. By this statement I mean that all or at least most of the major Linux players should come together in a working business relationship that produces an operating system that is generally open source but also embraces the coexistence of closed source applications and codecs etc on the same system. It is only when some of the bigger players (not only Linux providers but software providers) begin to make some real money in competition to Micro\$ofts dictated scheme of things ie: monopoly that end users will get an operating system that doesn't tell them how things are going to happen. Now I will probably get flamed for saying this buuuut it's my opinion and I think it's a valid one.

JN4OldSchool

2007-01-12 06:08 AM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **krafty1**

Although I don't post very often on these forums this time I thought I should put my 2 cents worth into the pot. Firstly I must say that I would rather Linux stay 100% open source but however Linux really needs to get into the main stream in a big hurry in order to put the brakes on the rubbish that is coming out of Micro\$oft. By this statement I mean that all or at least most of the major Linux players should come together in a working business relationship that produces an operating system that is generally open source but also embraces the coexistence of closed source applications and codecs etc on the same system. It is only when some of the bigger players (not only Linux providers but software providers) begin to make some real money in competition to Micro\$ofts dictated scheme of things ie: monopoly that end users will get an operating system that doesn't tell them how things are going to happen. Now I will probably get flamed for saying this buuuut it's my opinion and I think it's a valid one.

This is a cracking idea and a lot of us wouldnt mind paying a competitive price for a computer with pre-installed Linux that did everything out of the box. All licensing taken care of, all hardware works, easy to use even for a beginner yet still have CLI access and configurable enough for more experienced folks. Something geared strictly for home desktop and small business.

Never happen though. At least not with open source. Too many cooks in the kitchen. Would it be gnome or KDE? OO;o or Abiword?...And sure, you can change all this yourself...but think of all the in-fighting! Besides, it has already been tried. Look at all the partnerships that have failed. Heck, we cant even agree on standards never mind building a complete OS. But I share your dream. Wouldnt it be great if all the major players would donate something to the project. It wouldnt be a Novell or RH or Ubuntu or Mandriva spinoff. Just a complete and seperate entity jointly controled by everyone. All profits would go back into licensing and development. Yeah, it COULD work, but it will never happen....

Dan

2007-01-12 06:32 AM CST

No flames from here. Not worth it.

But -- This needs to be a twin edged approach. I think Microsoft, and it's collective Borg-cube minions, can just go jump in a lake! I'm quit of 'em. However, money is any project/companies life sustaining blood supply.

Open source/commercial non-Microsoft competitors will sooner or later need the financial support of the non-Microsoft community, to survive and prosper.

If you want to see the day RHEL or Xandros or Linspire comes as a pre-installed optional operating system on new computers, by all means, support FOSS! But throw a bone to the big dogs sponsoring those developments now and again. If you're in IT in your company, and you manage to prove to the bean counters that Microsoft products truly suck large gooey green rocks ... steer the beast to RHEL. If Redhat loses the next hostile takeover attempt, what happens to Fedora?

I know it's an evil concept to some, but the world is still ruled by force, and fueled by money. And that's not going to be changing anytime soon.

And, at least in this consumer's case, I'd gladly pay an extra hundred bucks for a new laptop with RHEL pre-installed. At least I'd know the dang thing would actually start, and run, without bluescreening in the first five minutes. :cool:

Dan

JN4OldSchool

2007-01-12 06:49 AM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **TangledWeb**

No flames from here. Not worth it.

But -- This needs to be a twin edged approach. I think Microsoft, and it's collective Borg-cube minions, can just go jump in a lake! I'm quit of 'em. However, money is any project/companies life sustaining blood supply.

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Dan

All quite right. If RH goes down, what happens to FC? I would think the present developers would carry on like any other distro is doing. I dont see it changing from RPM based. However, what will i do? What would I do if RH sold out to MS? Hate to say it, but I'm the type that would walk away without looking back. Debian, Slack, Gentoo...all viable alternatives for me. How about open source in general? Man, Dan hit it on the head in his post. How open source has survived as long as it has is beyond me. It is a dog eat dog world. I guess Linux has just slipped under the radar up till now. But it wont last. On the other hand, you wont stifle (lol, that word :)) free software. Windows has freeware and probably always will. It defies all logic why someone would work so hard on a piece of software then give it away. Pride? Who knows...But it is a fact. As long as there are two teenage geeks drinking beer and hacking in their garage you will have a free OS of some type. You may kill Linux but you

cant kill freedom. I dont know, I dont want to convert the world to linux, I dont begrudge MS their market share. I really dont care what OS you use. Guess I just outgrew it. I am content to just sit back and watch it unfold. I am enjoying FC and Linux as long as it lasts, but nothing lasts forever. Some day MS will be second rate. Some day even further MS will no longer exist. Who knows what tomorrow will bring?

rappermas

2007-01-12 10:59 AM CST

Man, but UNIX sure has been around for quite a while.

synic

2007-01-12 03:26 PM CST

Quote:

Originally Posted by **uhf26**

I StumbledUpon this forum and I looked at the title. Intrigued, I read the whole thing and made an account for the sole purpose of just saying how awesome it is that Scruffs is doing this.

And beginning tomorrow, I'm installing Ubuntu on my computer and wiping Windows for good. I got all the distro discs ready to go. And I'm keeping up on this, too.

Orrrr... UHF26... you should be installing fedora :) or at least give yourself the opportunity of a dual boot - fedora and ubuntu.. :D

krafty1

2007-01-12 05:00 PM CST

Quote "Microsoft products truly suck large gooey green rocks." Got me a good old belly laugh out of that little gem, thanks Tangledweb.

joe.pelayo

2007-01-12 06:27 PM CST

I agree with JN4OldSchool, unfortunately that is the scenario. Hopefully I will be dead when all that happens.

If not I will keep my old computers, unplug them from internet (when they can not longer update or use other OSs) and use them with the 'final' software they get.

3fingersalute

2007-03-26 07:48 AM CDT

Ok, so I've read the entire thread, and unless I'm missing something, Scruffy never said if he actually did receive the refund?

Scruffy

2007-03-26 08:36 AM CDT

3fingersalute,

You are absolutely right. I have been so busy at home and work that I have not had time to visit forums! I have been meaning to post an update but when I have had some free time I have not been near a computer! Seeing your post (via email) has reminded me that I must let everybody know the current situation.

Apologies to everybody for not posting sooner. Here is an update, and it is not necessarily good!

=====

Ok, Acer wanted the machine returned to remove Windows which was duly done. They had the machine for approximately 3 days before it was returned to me (9th Jan). Great, I just had to wait for the refund cheque. Well, I have waited, and waited, and waited. After nearly 3-4 weeks I sent an email asking where it was - they replied, apologising and stated that it was now in hand (this was 31st Jan). I waited and waited again but still no cheque. I sent another email on 22nd Feb (would have been sooner but am busy) but they have not had the decency to reply!

Over the past few weeks I have been meaning to send a letter to Acer headquarters but again being busy I kept forgetting. Well I sent that today. It was sent registered post to The Directors of Acer. I basically sent them a warning that if I did not receive the cheque by 6th April, giving them another 2 weeks, then I will be forwarding the details to my solicitor and we will be suing (I included the Repair Centre Report (see next post)). As of today it has been 75 days since Windows was removed and I have told them that I am not impressed. Although I have not threatened them, except with possible legal action, I have told them that I reserve my right to pass the story on to the press - in other words give them bad publicity. This will be subject to advice from the solicitor.

If I receive the cheque in the meantime I will let you all know, otherwise it looks as if I will be going to the solicitor on 9th April. If I do this then I will not be going via the small claims court. If possible I want to press criminal charges of theft and seek substantial compensation, but this will depend on the solicitor. Since Acer's headquarters are only about 30 miles away I am willing to visit them and stage a sit in if necessary!

Apologies for not posting sooner and I will probably be posting again in two weeks.

Now back to work :o(

Scruffy

2007-03-26 08:44 AM CDT

Before I get back to work I thought I would mention the Repair Center Report [sic] because I have noticed something that is funny on it.

To start with, Acer will have no arguments because this document basically states:

Quote:

Machine is booked in for Windows removal / Refund

"I formally authorize Acer to remove from the Hard Disk Drive the Operating System (The Hard Disk Drive will be given back to me empty); remove from the machine the Microsoft COA (Certificate of Authenticity) label; keep the Operating System CD's"

Please refund 60 Euro, Media Centre will be treated as XP Pro. Case logged over 30 day refund window, it has been agreed with cc team leader we will honour this windows refund.

The document has the date arrived, date completed, part number, ticket number and who did the work on the machine.

Now for the funny bit. On the document is a section called **Work Carried Out** . In the comment section it clearly states:

Quote:

Clean, Clear Virus From System,

Well, that just about sums up Windows XP! :D

3fingersalute

2007-03-26 09:29 AM CDT

Clear viruses?? Har - so did they nix your partition? I'm assuming you had to reload Fedora once you got it back?

Thanks for the update!

maladeus

2007-03-26 12:30 PM CDT

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Scruffy**

*Now for the funny bit. On the document is a section called **Work Carried Out** . In the comment section it clearly states:*

Quote:

Clean, Clear Virus From System,

Well, that just about sums up Windows XP! :D

I guess someone on Repor center is Linux Friendly :P

Scruffy

2007-03-27 12:21 AM CDT

I had to reinstall Fedora. The HD was completely blank. In fact, that is how I sent it to them. They just confirmed it.

Boris Cat

2007-03-27 12:55 PM CDT

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Scruffy**
3fingersalute,

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You are doing it wrong there

The thing to do is fire off a letter (not an e.mail) on a friday, that will arrive hopefully monday stating that unless payment is made within 5 working days from the date on the letter, the matter will be forwarded to your lawyer and the small claims court.

This works a treat according to my boss when some of his customers get a bit beyond the 30 day payment thing he puts in the contracts.

Although this didn't phase one customer who owed about £50 000 on a previous monthly bill, so we called the production manager at their plant and said 'no more bits will be delivered until the payment matter from 2 months ago is settled'

Amazing how fast a company can have a cheque to you when their multi-million pound production line is at a standstill :D

Boris

Linux newbie #345 764 212

Spookster

2007-03-27 07:33 PM CDT

Quote:

Originally Posted by **3fingersalute**

Ok, so I've read the entire thread, and unless I'm missing something, Scruffy never said if he actually did receive the refund?

It's because Acer contacted M\$ and M\$ had Scruffy "erased".

Acer: Bill we have a problem.

M\$: What seems to be the problem?

Acer: Another Linux user getting out of line.

M\$: I'll have a cleaning crew dispatched immediately

Acer: Thanks Bill.

Scruffy

2007-03-28 07:06 AM CDT

Boris Cat - I did send a letter in the end by recorded delivery (so I can prove it was signed for) on Monday. They should have received it by now.

Spookster - LOL. Bill can send any cleaning crew that he wants. They will have a problem getting past my rabid Tux army in my vast garden. They can smell Windows users and have been trained to kill on site. Unfortunately dual-booters will still be attacked but the severity will depend on how much time you spend in Windows!

Also I found this whilst looking at Slashdot. It is about computer manufacturers not selling naked PC's. It also mentions various refund policies from the manufacturers:

<http://www.zdnet.co.uk/misc/print/0,...001058c,00.htm>

SDX

2007-04-07 10:02 AM CDT

This thread is funny! I probably won't do this since my next computer is either going to be a Mac or a System76.

PuterTrubs

2007-04-25 01:27 PM CDT

hAh.... altF10 my what???

hmmm...

I purchased and Acer Aspire 5100 and it came with VISTA (LOL) :eek:

My system did go down and I have an "Error Loading OS" message at booty :cool:

AND furthermore the ALT-F10 sequence DOES NOT WORK !!!!

And I DID make a copy of the backups, in fact TWO (2) copies:

1. of the entire system as is for an entire retores, and
2. a backup of JUST the os incase the computer died.

NOTHING OF THE TWO OR ANY COMBINATION WORKS.

I would be happy to supply you with more information about my purchase, BUT what I really need to know is how to get my wife's computer (that I bought for her) operational... Please HELP!

FREE ME FROM MY ms (microjunk hostage crisis) ;)

JN4OldSchool

2007-04-25 01:44 PM CDT

Quote:

Originally Posted by **PuterTrubs**

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I would be happy to supply you with more information about my purchase,

BUT what I really need to know is how to get my wife's computer (that I bought for her) operational... Please HELP!

FREE ME FROM MY ms (microjunk hostage crisis) ;)

Ah sir? In case you didnt realize it, this is a Linux forum. So that being the case the prevalent answer here would be for you to DL the first two CDs of Fedora core 6 and install them. Something tells me this isnt the answer you wanted? To get Vista back your best bet may be to contact ACER or at least the place you bought it from.

PuterTrubs

2007-04-25 03:47 PM CDT

Surely You JEST

:rolleyes:

Now tell me WHO would want to be stuck with MS...

MS is a disease and Multiple people have it :D

Of course, if you don't recommend Linux I can understand,
but I don't know of a better OS available...

So I download the disks -- and then what?

Is there a place I should go to learn all that I should do?

Will the disks recognize the SCSI drives that have been now
included with the newest hardware? What shall I do???

I would like to load and learn Linux!!!

Please advise! Thanks.

bob

2007-04-25 04:34 PM CDT

Puter, if you'd like to install Fedora, there's instructions here: <http://docs.fedoraproject.org/install->

[guide/fc6/en/](#) You should know that Fedora is a rapidly evolving distro that deals with cutting-edge software. If you choose Fedora, you'll have to do some tweaking to get everything just the way you want it. You can check here : <http://www.fedorafaq.org/> and here: http://easylinux.info/wiki/Fedora_fc5 and also here: <http://www.geocities.jp/rondonko/fc6notes.html> for good tips.

If you're just starting out and want to have things all set up for you right from the installation, I'd suggest starting with Ubuntu, PCLinuxOS, Mepis or OpenSuSE as good alternatives. You will get a very nice, usable distro but you may not learn nearly as much about linux as if you spend some time with Fedora. The choice is yours, and that's what Linux is all about - choice. Hundreds of distros out there to suit every taste. A good idea is to grab a Live CD from whatever distro sounds interesting and then to see how it reacts to your particular hardware and how you like it before installing it on your hard drive.

PuterTrubs

2007-04-25 05:04 PM CDT

Choices choices choices -- the ahhs have it..

:)

This is good, but also could be confusing... so I would like experience to talk and recommend the choice for me -- maybe I should provide just a little more info...

You see, I have a BlueHost account and would like to be able to write and test on my new environment (which environment is the question?)!

The OS for Bluehost is Linux with Unix Apache, etc... Please help me to make a good pick from the above recommendations made by the FedoraForum.org team...

I have no aversions to learning, if it will help me in the long run...

I am computer savvy -- shall I go with Fedora?!?

The following link logs you into the Bluehost Demo Control Panel and on the left is information about the operating system for the account that I have with them.

http://www.bluehost.com/dm/main_cp.h...&lpass=demo123

the above all on one (1) line in the browser address..

Will Fedora give me the capability of writing using the same languages as those that are available on Bluehost AS both Bluehost and Fedora are both LINUX based?

Or, are there hidden differences and traps/pitfalls awaiting? Getting away from Microsoft and moving to Linux just seems to be the way to go!!!

JN4OldSchool

2007-04-26 06:31 AM CDT

my advice in your case is go ahead and try to install Fedora. If you run into a lot of problems with the install then try Ubuntu. It seems like it is either one or the other for some reason, though once you know a few tricks you will be able to make anything work. There are millions of threads in this forum alone on installing and solving the problems thereof, just use the search function and if you get really stuck create a new thread. Linux isnt hard, being computer savvy you should easily pick up the basics within a week or two, within two months you wont look back. Especially these days, it is a lot less command line orientated. The CLI is still there for you and is the best bet in most cases, but there are GUI tools now to do about everything. It is quite possible we have FC6 users who have never opened the terminal.

Flounder

2007-04-26 10:10 AM CDT

PuterTrubs Fedora is a distribution of linux. Linux is only the kernel not the whole operating system. To be politically correct it's GNU/Linux. And Fedora is a distribution of GNU/Linux. I strongly recommend you read one of the guides about Linux on www.tldp.org it might help clear some things up for you.

jonathanpeter

2007-04-27 03:35 AM CDT

Back to the subject!!

Acer are indeed publically giving refunds on microsoft software BUT:

Cost of Postage and Packaging: -£24.25 (one way)

Refund for Windows XP Home: £20

Cost of Postage and Packaging (return): -£24.25

Total: -£28.50

In otherwards, you can get a laptop with windows xp for £x or without for £x+28.50

Who wants a laptop without XP?

offcenter77

2007-04-27 07:14 AM CDT

PuterTrubs, please do not hijack other people's threads! Start your own.

Scruffy, any updates on this? I'm dying to find out what's going on!

I would gladly pay the post office a few bucks, even if I end up losing money, just to make sure Macroshaft doesn't get a damn dime!!

Dan

2007-04-27 07:27 AM CDT

Quote:

Originally Posted by **jonathanpeter**
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Who wants a laptop without XP?

Hmmm.

Adherance to principles and good character do not always (read: very seldom) come cheap.

In answer to your question, I did.

<http://www.fedoraforum.org/forum/showthread.php?p=431>

Due to customer demand, Dell and HP are now preparing to offer Linux based Laptops.

Such are the wages of failure to yield.

Dan

LinuxManMikeC

2007-04-27 01:28 PM CDT

WOW! I knew about Dell offering more Linux choices, but HP? I've been dreaming of this day since I was 17 years old and bought my first copy of Linux (Red Hat 7.2). *sniffle* Aw man... *sniffle* I'm getting all teary eyed... *sniffle*

JN4OldSchool

2007-04-27 01:31 PM CDT

Just watch out for Geeks bearing gifts ;)

Xavior

2007-06-05 10:28 AM CDT

with their new activation crap on windows there should be no reason why one can't get a refund, personally, that activation is why I left winblows in the dust to begin with.

I would be part to a class action against microcrap for a refund on any activated OS...

Xav

All times are GMT -7. The time now is 05:56 PM CDT.

Page 2 of 3 [≤](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [≥](#)

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