

## Re: Any thoughts on Graphical install UI?

**Source:** <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/newbies/2005-03/0043.html>

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**From:** Joaquin Menchaca (*linuxuser\_at\_finnovative.net*)

**Date:** 03/10/05

Date: Wed, 09 Mar 2005 16:07:51 -0800

To: freebsd-newbies@freebsd.org

That makes a lot of sense actually. However, many of the installers have ncurses type of installs in addition to the nice smooth graphical install, and on top of that they even have a manual non-ncurses command line only install. :-) We can default it to text, but have an option to go graphical.

It would be nice to attract more people to the platform and avoid being a niche within a niche.

— joaquin

Dave Vollenweider wrote:

- > *I'm against this idea. Why? Because some of us use lower-end machines*
- > *and having a graphical install ups the memory requirement for the*
- > *installation. Such installers are fine for desktop machines, but for*
- > *servers and networking machines, they just get in the way since that*
- > *much more RAM and processing power is needed for the installation.*
- >
- > *When I tried to install Red Hat 7.3 back in 2002, it required 32 MB of*
- > *RAM just to run the installer. A lot of this was because it was*
- > *graphical. FreeBSD's sysinstall, on the other hand, requires only 16 MB*
- > *(and other BSDs require even less) thanks to the fact that it's not*
- > *graphical. I don't want to see FreeBSD go in that direction.*
- >
- > *Then there's the issue of how to fit a graphical installer on floppies.*
- > *Some of us still have to use floppies for booting the installer (and*
- > *then getting the actual files for FreeBSD via FTP) for various reasons,*
- > *and having a GUI installer would make that more difficult.*
- >
- > *I do agree that FreeBSD could use an easier installation program, as*
- > *there are several hidden pitfalls in sysinstall, but I don't think a GUI*
- > *installer is the answer. An easier-to-understand curses-based installer*
- > *would be a better solution.*
- >
- > *Just my two cents on this issue.*
- >
- > *— Dave V.*

freebsd-newbies: Re: Any thoughts on Graphical install UI?

>  
> On Sat, 19 Feb 2005 20:22:18 -0800  
> Joaquin Menchaca <linuxuser@finnovative.net> wrote:  
>  
>  
>>Hi,  
>>  
>>Many Linux flavors both commercial and free have attractive UIs for  
>>installation and package selection, and even to some degree  
>>partitioning and formatting of hard drives.  
>>  
>>Is there any thought of doing this for FreeBSD? Having an attractive  
>>UI, ala Fedora and/or gentoo would definately help attract more novice  
>>  
>>users to the FreeBSD world.  
>>  
>>Just a thought. Don't know if this was discussed before, as I'm a  
>>newbie. :-)  
>>  
>> -- jm  
>>  
>>-----  
>>freebsd-newbies@freebsd.org mailing list  
>><http://lists.freebsd.org/mailman/listinfo/freebsd-newbies>  
>>To unsubscribe, send any mail to  
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