

How to become a DD and why

# Do you need to use Debian (on the desktop) to be a DD?

You don't have to.

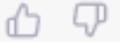
Popular as a server architecture - stable



is debian better than ubuntu?



Debian and Ubuntu are both popular open-source operating systems, and the answer to which one is "better" is subjective and depends on the user's needs and preferences.



debian

Debian is known for its stability and long-term support, which makes it a popular choice for servers and other production systems. It also has a large repository of packages and is highly customizable, allowing users to tailor their systems to their specific needs.



ubuntu

Ubuntu, on the other hand, is based on Debian but is geared more towards desktop users. It has a more user-friendly interface, is more streamlined and has more frequent releases, which includes the latest software packages and updates. It is also backed by a commercial company, Canonical, which provides support and development resources.

In conclusion, the choice between Debian and Ubuntu depends on the specific needs and preferences of the user. Both systems have their own strengths and weaknesses, and it's possible that one may be a better fit for a particular use case or user group.

# Why Debian?

- Upstream first
- Reliable (stable), flexible
- Niche community
- Gamification ;)



## what is a software package



A software package is a pre-compiled and bundled version of a software application or component that is ready to be installed and used on a computer system. A software package typically includes the executable code, any necessary libraries or dependencies, and various resources such as documentation and configuration files.



Software packages are used to simplify the process of installing and managing software on a computer system. Instead of downloading and compiling the source code for an application, users can simply install the packaged version, which includes all the necessary components and can be easily managed and updated.

There are different formats for software packages, including RPM (Red Hat Package Manager), DEB (Debian Package Manager), and others. Different operating systems typically use different package formats, and there are tools available to convert between different formats.

In conclusion, software packages are a key component of modern software distribution and management, and they play a crucial role in making it easier to install and maintain software on a computer system.

# Upstream first



what is upstream first



"Upstream first" is a principle that is followed by many open-source communities, including Debian. It refers to the idea that developers should prioritize collaboration and contribution to the original or "upstream" source code of a project, rather than just making changes or patches in downstream or derived projects.



The "upstream first" principle is based on the idea that it is more effective and efficient to contribute changes to the original source code, rather than maintaining separate patches in each downstream project. This approach helps to ensure that changes are made in a consistent manner and that they are available to all users of the software.



does ubuntu packages upstream go to debian



Yes, it's possible for Ubuntu packages to go to Debian.



Ubuntu is based on Debian, and many of the packages in Ubuntu are derived from Debian packages. However, Ubuntu often includes its own modifications and customizations, which may not be present in the original Debian packages.

In some cases, changes made to packages in Ubuntu can be upstreamed to Debian, meaning that they are incorporated into the Debian packages. This can happen if the changes are deemed to be valuable and relevant to Debian users, and if they meet Debian's standards for quality and compatibility.

The process of upstreaming changes from Ubuntu to Debian typically involves collaboration between Ubuntu and Debian developers, and may involve submitting patches or working with upstream developers to include the changes in the original source code.

In conclusion, it's possible for changes made in Ubuntu to be upstreamed to Debian, but it depends on the specific changes and whether they meet Debian's standards and requirements. The process of upstreaming changes is an important part of the collaboration between Ubuntu and Debian and helps to ensure that both distributions remain aligned with the latest developments in the open-source community.

# Debian community

Niche, different, eccentric has a place here. If you are willing to maintain it, it can live here.

Flexible

“You can build out exactly the system you want”

# Gamification ;)

- Get green!
- e.g.

<https://release.debian.org/transitions/html/python3.11-only.html>

# Before you apply:

- Create a Salsa account
- Understand the Debian culture
- Find something that is important to YOU
- Join a team - <https://wiki.debian.org/Teams>
- **START HERE:** <https://www.debian.org/devel/>
- <https://www.debian.org/devel/wnpp/orphaned>

# How: Nm process

<https://www.debian.org/devel/join/>

<https://nm.debian.org/> -> Apply

<https://nm.debian.org/public/newnm>

(log in, salsa or SSO)

Join a team:

# How to get a sponsor??

Maybe you have a niche interest, maybe get demotivated

- > What is the benefit to Debian? Be descriptive, market why you are needing this.
- > What is the programming language? May limit things, so communicate the rationale of what and why you are doing.
- > Understand that we are volunteers, the time spending needs to be worth it
- 1. Visit <https://mentors.debian.net/>
- 2. Try chat on IRC: OFTC #debconf as a starting point, also team chats
- 3. Attend an event, make a friend, describe your need informally

# As a non-maintainer, how can I adopt an orphaned package?

- NB: Try to reduce the barriers. Describe what you are trying to do and find the correct team
- <https://www.debian.org/devel/wnpp/orphaned>
- Anyone can maintain a package, you don't need to be a DM or a DD. But you need a sponsor to be able to support you.
- There is a maintainer line in the uploader metadata, and an uploader line. Your name is listed in the maintainer field. You need someone with uploader status if you do not have this status. They then sign your package with their GPG key.
- If the package is new, go to mentors to find a sponsor. If the package is outdated, file a bug to trigger it.
- Don't just package an obscure library, also package the application that demonstrates its use. If it is a plug-in, link to a webpage where the upstream project or application illustrates its use.
- Package libraries separately from applications.

# Other resources

- [wiki.debian.org/DontBreakDebian](https://wiki.debian.org/DontBreakDebian)
- <https://www.debian.org/devel/>
- <https://wiki.debian.org/DebianEventsFaqs>



We value stability, an eccentric community and upstream first in Debian. What other values and benefits do you see for being a Debian Developer?



In addition to stability, eccentric community, and upstream-first, there are several other values and benefits to being a Debian developer:



1. **Collaboration:** Debian is a collaborative project, and being a Debian developer is an opportunity to work with a diverse group of people from around the world, who are passionate about open source software.
2. **Freedom:** Debian is committed to the principles of free and open source software, and as a Debian developer, you are part of a project that values software freedom and user choice.
3. **Quality:** Debian developers are committed to ensuring that the software they package and maintain is of high quality, secure, and meets the needs of users. This is done through rigorous testing, bug fixing, and collaboration with upstream developers.
4. **Flexibility:** Debian provides a wide range of software, from desktop environments to servers to scientific applications, and as a Debian developer, you have the flexibility to work on the areas that interest you the most.
5. **Reputation:** Debian is well-respected in the open source community, and as a Debian developer, you have the opportunity to develop a reputation as a knowledgeable and experienced open source contributor.
6. **Career opportunities:** Debian developers have a wide range of skills, from software development to systems administration, and many go on to have successful careers in technology and open source. Becoming a Debian developer can help you build a valuable skill set and network.

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