

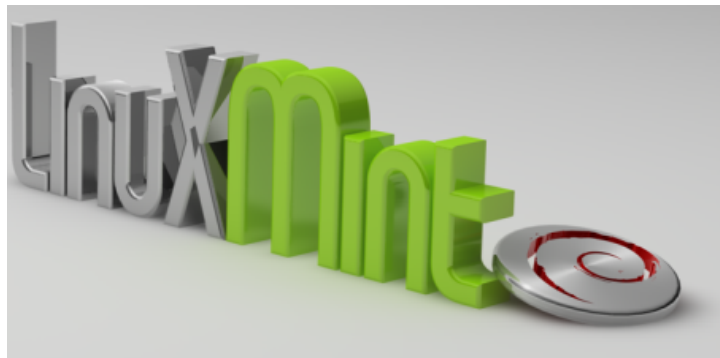
# The \*Nixed Report

Issue 07

Unix and Overlooked Pop Culture

December 2013

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## 2013 End of the Year Special!

- `./`: We show how social networking ads can actually backfire (Page 3)
- Distro Journey: The final stop on this year's Distro Journey is Linux Mint Debian Edition with MATE. (Page 6)
- The Cloud and Preview of 2014: Believe it or not, the entire issue was put together using Google Docs. Some exceptions include using GIMP for some of the screenshots for Linux Mint Debian Edition. (Page 12)

## ./ Social Networking Ads Gone Wrong

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How often have you seen ads or suggested pages on Facebook? Based on one's interests and fan pages that are liked, data is mined from each user so that relevant ads can be presented to them. In theory, this is a win-win for everybody.

In practice, such advertising can backfire. Take this ad from Get Ripped Facts for example:



**Stay Ripped** · Suggested Post

 **Like Page**

**Two Natural Compounds Boost Muscle Growth 8% In Ten Days. - But Should it be Banned?**



**Want To Gain Muscle Fast?**  
getrippedfacts.com

Like · Comment ·  62  22 · Sponsored

 62 people like this.


Top Comments ▾



Write a comment...




**Javier Gonzalez** Photo shop fags!!

Unlike · Reply ·  4 · November 26 at 8:22am via mobile



**Chester Arthur** Not at all. Aren't you a little gay for checking out my profile to find my age?

Like · Reply ·  5 · November 25 at 4:07pm via mobile



**Daniel Evans** .-. So now you're gay for checking a persons age? Well then.

Like · November 25 at 9:05pm



Write a reply...



 **Will Dougherty** It is a photo shop. He is in shape he's just not this big. This is from his movie coming out soon. Compare the pics



Like · Reply ·  2 · November 26 at 11:30am · Edited

 **Jonathon Talbot** You mean if I buy your product, I can look like a terribly photoshopped terrible actor? Where do I sign?

Unlike · Reply ·  3 · November 25 at 8:46pm

 **Brian Williamson** ryan renolds is a good actor

Like ·  2 · November 26 at 9:33am

 **Jonathon Talbot** You clearly know nothing of the greatest profession. He couldn't act his way out of a paper bag.

Like · November 26 at 12:09pm

 Write a reply... 

 **Douglas B. Broome** bad photo shop should be banned.....

Like · Reply ·  3 · November 25 at 4:00pm

 **Ryan Allen Garloff** Lol, Ryan Reynolds is not that muscular. Ugh, Gross..

Like · Reply · Yesterday at 7:00am

 **Keithen Booher** Godamn nigga blew up lawl

Like · Reply · November 26 at 10:02am

 **Chester Arthur** Fag.

Like · Reply ·  2 · November 25 at 4:07pm via mobile

 **Chester Arthur** What a Fag.

Like · Reply ·  2 · November 25 at 4:00pm via mobile

 **Timothy Es** Aren't you a little old to be using the term "fag?"

Like ·  3 · November 25 at 4:03pm

 **Daniel Evans** I don't think he knows how to use the "reply" function. .-.

Like ·  1 · November 25 at 9:06pm

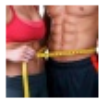
It became obvious that the image was altered with photo editing software, so the trolling commenced. So apparently, the overall message is that in order to get ripped, one must fake it until they make it.

In other words, those "supplements" may actually be steroids. Or maybe it's that stuff you inject into your veins to make yourself look ripped, except it destroys muscle. Who knows.

Either way, the trolls came out in full force to blast the page. The saying that any publicity is good publicity doesn't apply here.

So remember this when using Photoshop, Gimp, or other image editing software: Google Images exists, so be more original.

Otherwise, trolllololol.



**Skinny & Ripped Now** · 13,452 like this

November 20 at 4:57pm · ✱



EXPOSED: Oprah shares her diet plan for everyone to loose 70% of unnecessary body fāt and 6 pant sizes. Try it Now!



**Oprah's Diet Sécet**

health-tips2013.com

People at Women's Fitness are going ballistic over Oprah's new Diet PLAN. This one tip alone helped her losē 6 dress sizes and 70% Body Fāt in no time without any diēt or exercise. Read and Try It NOW!

Like · Comment · Share

7,972

13,197 people like this.

Top Comments ▾



Write a comment...



**Pam Higdon** WTF ever.....she can afford plastic surgery, a personal trainer and a dietician!

Like · Reply · 667 · November 20 at 10:24pm

29 Replies · 2 hours ago



**Chuck McBurney** she didn't look like that on tv today

Like · Reply · 698 · November 20 at 10:26pm

17 Replies · 6 hours ago



**Allen E. Walter** I dont believe a word that BITC\$ says....

Like · Reply · 106 · November 21 at 11:56am

2 Replies · 2 hours ago



**Debi Smith** she must be on Obamacare!!!!!!

Like · Reply · 89 · November 21 at 7:23am

Overall lesson: Never overuse photo editing software.

## Distro Journey Series: Linux Mint Debian Edition 2013

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By Thomas Holbrook II

The following systems were used to evaluate this distro (Mate was used as the interface for all systems):

### ZaReason Breeze 3110

- 1.6 GHz Intel Atom CPU
- 1 GB RAM
- 320 GB Hard Drive
- DVD-ROM Drive
- Intel GMA 950 Graphics

### Toshiba Satellite L305-S5921

- Dual Core Pentium T3400 (Max Speed: 2.16 GHz)
- 2 GB RAM
- Intel GMA X4500 Graphics (mobile version)
- 120 GB Hard Drive
- DVD Burner
- 1280x800 LCD Screen
- Multimedia Buttons
- Atheros Wireless Adapter
- Ethernet Controller
- VGA Port
- 3 USB Ports

### Acer Aspire One 722 (USB DVD-ROM used for installation)

- Dual-Core AMD C60 (Max Speed: 1.33 GHz)
- AMD Radeon 6250 Graphics
- 2 GB RAM
- 320 GB Hard Drive
- Ethernet
- Atheros Wireless Adapter
- LCD with 1366x768 resolution and integrated webcam

### Nvidia Desktop (formerly Intel Desktop)

- Intel D946GZIS Motherboard
- Intel Core 2 6300 CPU at 1.83 GHz
- 2 GB DDR-2 PC-5300 RAM
- 80 GB Hard Drive
- DVD/CD-RW Combo Drive
- EVGA Nvidia GeForce 210 (1 GB RAM)
- Intel Audio
- Ethernet

### HP Pavilion Elite 410y

- AMD Phenom II X6 1045T (Max Speed: 3.2 GHz)
- 8 GB RAM
- AMD Radeon HD 5570 Graphics (1 GB RAM)
- 1 TB Hard Drive
- Ethernet
- Wireless Adapter (not used)

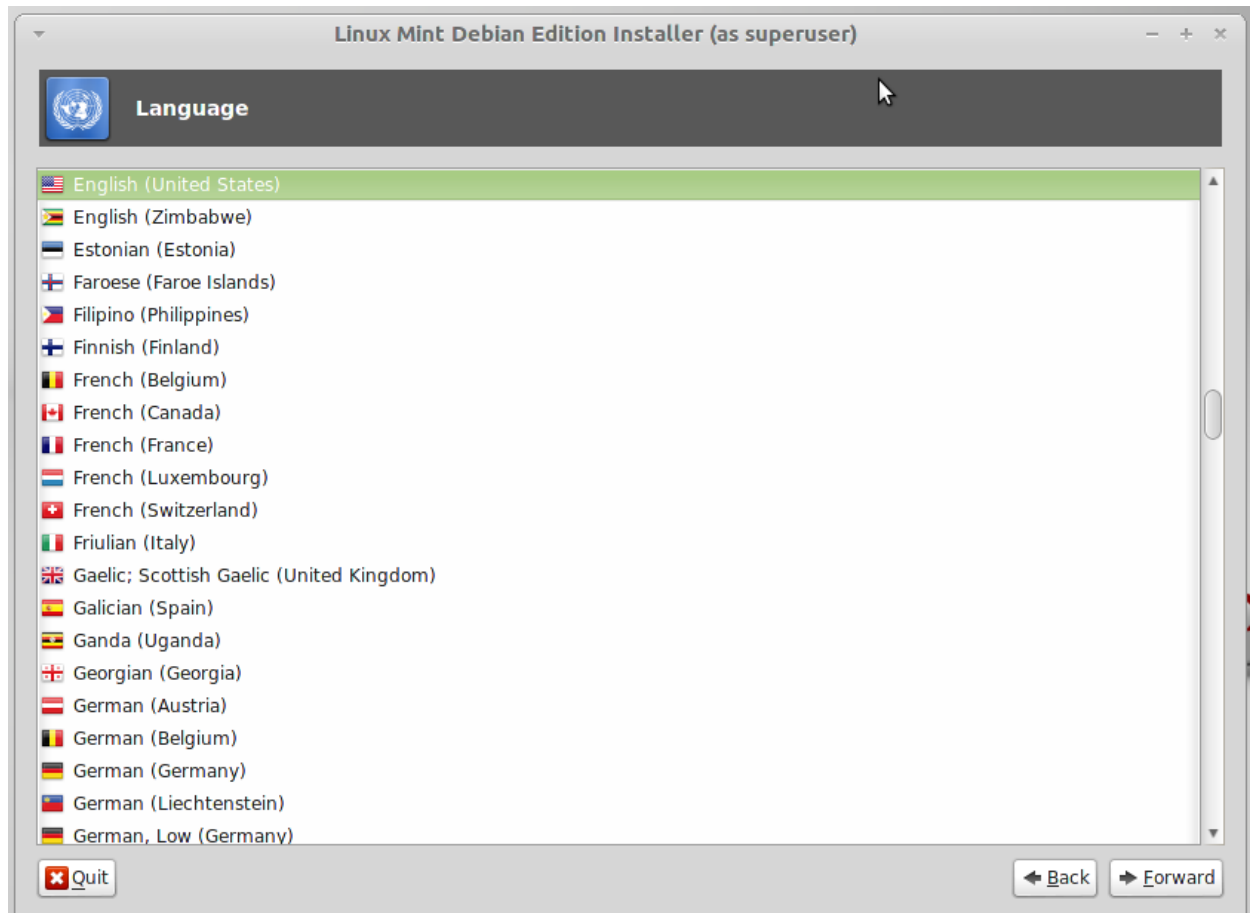
### Introduction

Initially, Oracle Solaris was going to be the next stop on the journey, but it turned out to be nothing more than a speed bump with the lack of available software. Even the forked variants of OpenSolaris were not able to fit the bill. Compiling software just to add applications was not an attractive option.

Then I encountered [Linux Mint Debian Edition](#). When Ubuntu began to change direction, the development team began experimenting with a Debian Testing base. In order to prevent instability, updates come via Update Packs, though software sources can be changed to follow Debian Testing if desired.

Though MATE was chosen for the user interface, users can run Cinnamon. Another Mint original is the live installer. It's quite functional, and requires little polish.

Again, the MATE user interface was selected for all systems for simplicity's sake. LMDE is also the final stop for 2013's Distro Journey.



## Installation

The Live DVD boots to the MATE Desktop. The live installer is simple and straightforward. Once the language, username, root password, partitions, and others are set up, the installer copies the files to the hard drive.

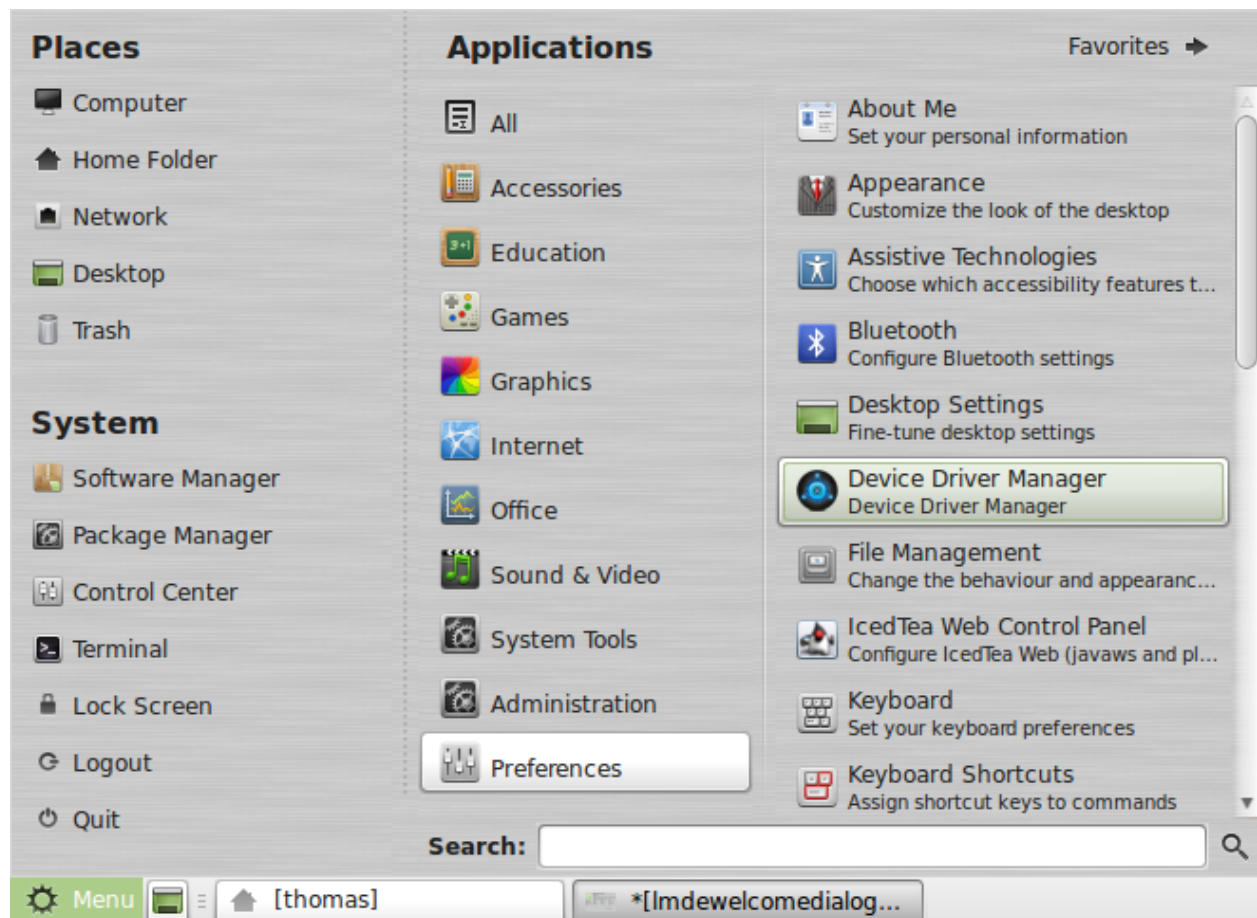
Upon first boot, if there are any updates, Mint Update Manager will notify the user in the system tray. Since update packs are used instead of simply using Debian's Testing repositories, installing security patches and newer software may take a while.

It's also important to note that the driver manager will need to be used in order to enable multi-core CPU support since the initial kernel is i486. Proprietary graphics drivers can be installed through that avenue as well.

The good news is that updates are infrequent.



## Desktop Environment



The MATE Desktop Environment was chosen across the board. The fork of the older GNOME Environment has come a long ways, especially with Mint's own Mint Display Manager, which handles logins. Since network transparency is no longer a requirement, the fork of GNOME's GDM has been made more lightweight.

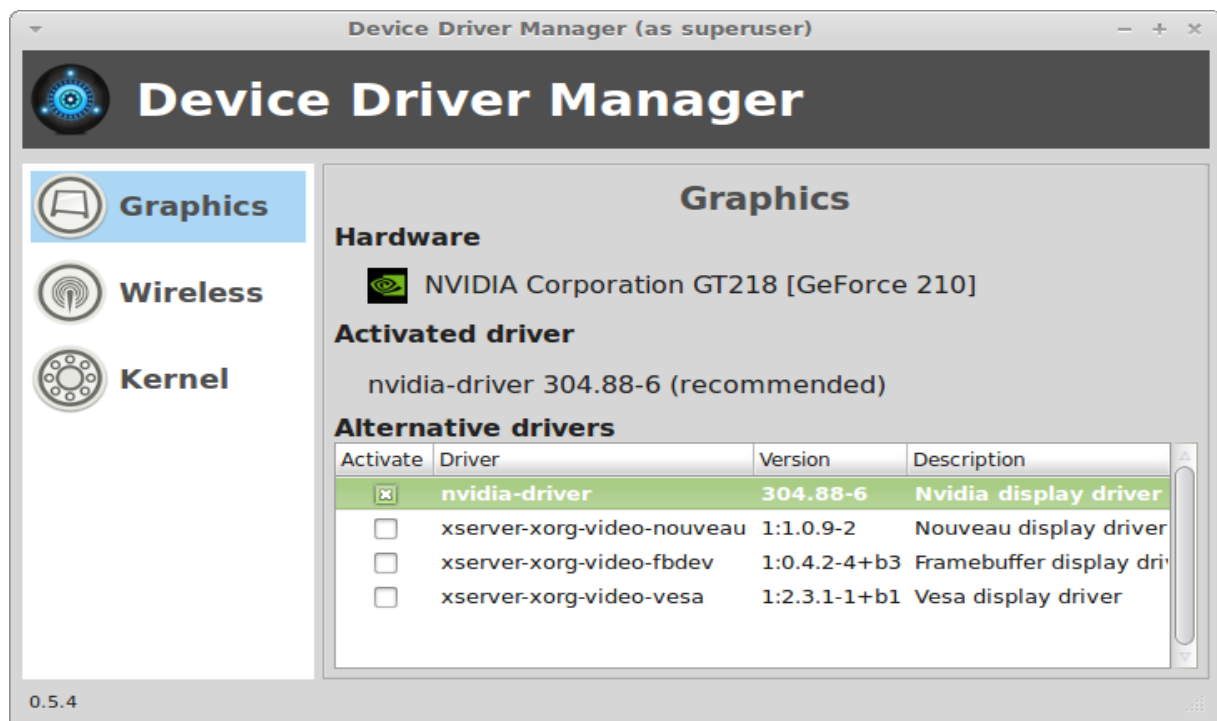
Mint's software manager can be used to search for applications to install, and includes app descriptions, ratings, and more. Power users are able to use Synaptic as well. LibreOffice covers productivity, Firefox takes care of web browsing, and Banshee is available for music playback.

Multimedia creation and editing apps such as GIMP, OpenShot, and Audacity are available in the repositories, so there are plenty of applications. Furthermore, during the update process, an APT mirror is recommended to speed up package downloads.

## What I Liked

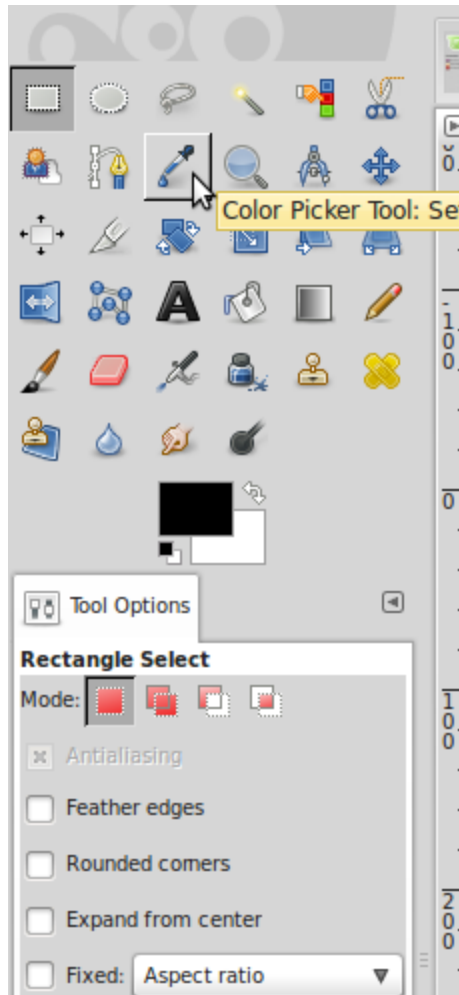


The welcome dialogue has plenty of helpful links for new users. Since this edition of Mint is Debian based, proprietary drivers are handled by Mint's own driver manager.



Where there would have been holes from the lack of an Ubuntu base, Mint has filled. All systems were stable and never crashed once.

### What could be better



As can be seen on the left, MATE is based on an older GNOME environment, which uses the GTK 2 environment for themeing. Newer versions of GIMP use GTK3, and the theme partially works, but not all of it. This may seem like nitpicking, but having a consistent look can help any distro in terms of adoption.

There's also the matter of choosing Banshee as the music player. It has plenty of features, but the Mono runtime environment can be a bit of a resource hog. It might be better to choose a more lightweight player, such as Exaile.

As to single core only support for the live environment, they may want to change that as that can slow down operation to a degree (not to mention play havoc with some proprietary graphics drivers).

The only other item that would be needed is more mirrors to improve the downloading experience.

### Conclusion

Linux Mint Debian Edition is an excellent system. The MATE Desktop Environment simply needs a bit more polish. At the moment, it's able to compete with other desktop environments. In the future, it wouldn't be surprising if it gave every one of them a run for their money, because 3D effects is not always necessary.

Overall, Mint has an alternative direction to go if Canonical makes decisions they deem too harmful. Their site is <http://www.linuxmint.com> and this is the final stop on this year's Distro Journey. Here's to Distro Journey 2014!

By Thomas Holbrook II

I wanted to do something different at the end of 2013. I have recently acquired some more hardware, including the ARM-based Chromebook you see to the right. Thus far, the machine has failed to disappoint me, and I made up my mind to try an experiment.

Would it be feasible to put together the final issue using Google Drive?

Mostly, I was able to do so. The main hiccup I encountered was the fact that Adobe Flash is a resource hog and is prone to crashing from time to time, so I wouldn't be able to have multiple tabs open while editing images in Pixlr.



Editing in Google Docs is feasible, but challenging at times. Images aren't as easily moved throughout the document, though text wrapping is available. If I want to do brief interviews for the podcast, it's possible. However, doing more than a few minutes at a time may require the use of another system or voiding my warranty by switching the Chromebook to Developer Mode and installing Crouton and adding an Ubuntu-based environment.

## What's to Come in 2014

Steven Tompkins has been hard at work preparing reviews for the Raspberry Pi and Dell Venue 8 Pro tablet systems. On my end of things, I've been using the Samsung Chromebook more often so that I can understand it inside and out before doing a review of it myself. In other words, we plan on starting the new year off with low powered devices with the first distro reviewed being Fedora 20. Happy 2014!