

Installing Slackware 11.0 on An HP Pavilion dv8000

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First of all, I have to tell everyone how great of a distribution Slackware is. I have personally sampled (meaning that I downloaded, installed, and ran for a trial period) *at least* 50 different distributions. It seems that, no matter how fancy a new distribution is, I always find myself returning to Slackware. I have to admit, it doesn't have a lot of the eyecandy and user-friendly features of other mainstream distributions right off the bat, but you could add them if you wanted to. Among my reasons for liking Slackware so much are:

- It's the fastest (by default) I've used
- Stability
- Security
- Educational value

Now that we have a little background as to why I like Slackware so much, let's move on to the installation, shall we? To make it a little more simple, I'm just including the notes that I took while installing.

- Insert disc 1
- Boot Menu: Hit enter to boot with default options
- Select keyboard map: Enter for default US
- Login as root
- Check partition scheme: # `fdisk /dev/hda`

Here are some useful commands to get around in fdisk:

- `p` to print partition table
- `d` to delete, followed by partition number
- `c` to create; primary/extended; start sector; end sector
- `a` to toggle bootable flag
- `w` to write partition table
- `q` to quit
- # `setup`
- ADDSWAP to activate swap partition
 - select your swap partition and hit ok
 - choose whether you wish to check for bad blocks while preparing the swap partition [no]
 - hit ok when your swap partition has been configured
- Choose your root (/) partition
 - Select the proper partition from the list and hit select
 - Choose your formatting type
 - Format: Quick format with no bad block checking

- Check: Slow format that checks for bad blocks
- No: No, do not format this partition
- [FORMAT]
- Choose filesystem
 - ext2: Standard Linux Ext2 Filesystem
 - ext3: Ext3 Journaling Filesystem
 - reiserfs: ReiserFS Journaling Filesystem
 - [REISERFS]
- Add other partitions and follow the same process as above, specifying the mount point
- Hit ok when the partitions have been setup successfully
- Specify whether you'd like any existing FAT or NTFS partitions to be mounted in Linux
 - [YES]
 - Select the partition
 - Specify the mount point
- Hit ok when the FAT and NTFS partitions have been setup
- Choose your installation source
 - Install from a Slackware CD or DVD
 - Install from a hard drive partition
 - Install from NFS (Network File System)
 - Install from a pre-mounted directory
 - [CD or DVD]
- Choose the CD/DVD device
 - auto: Scan for the CD or DVD drive (recommended)
 - manual: Manually specify CD or DVD by device name
 - [AUTO]
- Select the package sets you'd like to install and hit ok
- Select prompting mode
 - full Install everything (3+ GB of software, recommended)
 - expert Choose individual packages from interactive menus
 - menu Choose groups of packages from interactive menus
 - newbie Use verbose prompting (and follow tagfiles)
 - custom Use custom tagfiles in the package directories
 - tagpath Use tagfiles in the subdirectories of a custom path
 - [FULL]
- Specify your kernel
 - bootdisk Use the kernel from the installation bootdisk
 - cdrom Use a kernel from the Slackware CD or NFS mount
 - floppy Install a zimage or bimage from a DOS floppy

- skip Skip this menu (use the default /boot/vmlinuz)
- [CDROM]
- Re-insert disc 1
 - Select your kernel
 - [/cdrom/kernels/sata.i/bzImage]
- Make a bootdisk
 - Create Make a Linux bootdisk in /dev/fd0
 - Skip Skip making a bootdisk
 - [SKIP]
- Modem configuration [NO MODEM]
- Specify whether you'd like to start hotplug/udev at boot [YES]
- Install the bootloader, LILO
 - simple Try to install LILO automatically
 - expert Use expert lilo.conf setup menu
 - skip Do not install LILO
 - [SIMPLE]
- Choose your frame buffer mode for LILO [standard]
- Pass the kernel a parameter if you have an IDE CD/DVD-RW drive
 - [hdc=ide-scsi]
- Select LILO destination
 - Root Install to superblock (not for use with XFS)
 - Floppy Install to a formatted floppy in /dev/fd0 (A:)
 - MBR Install to Master Boot Record (possibly unsafe)
 - [MBR]
- Select your mouse type [IMPS2]
- Specify whether you'd like to start GPM at boot [NO]
- Specify whether you'd like to configure your network
 - [YES]
 - Enter your hostname
 - Enter your domain name
 - Specify IP setup
 - static IP Use a static IP address to configure ethernet
 - DHCP Use a DHCP server to configure ethernet
 - loopback Set up a loopback connection (modem or no net)
 - [DHCP]
 - Specify DHCP parameters
 - Verify and accept network configuration
- Specify services to start at boot time

- rc.cups
- rc.httpd
- rc.mysql
- rc.pcmcia
- rc.samba
- rc.scanluns
- rc.sendmail
- rc.syslog
- rc.sshd
- Specify whether you'd like to try out some screen fonts [NO]
- Specify whether your machine's clock is set to local time or UTC/GMT [NO]
- Select timezone
- Select your default desktop [KDE]
- Set a root password
- Reboot
- Login as root
- Add a new (normal) user: # `adduser`
- Configure XWindows
 - # `xorgcfg`
 - save the configuration to `/etc/X11/xorg.conf`
- Logout and back in as the new user
- Bring up the GUI
 - \$ `startx`

Begin using your system!!

Comments

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If you need (or want) a computer that's easy to take along, you can see it from <http://www.adapterlist.com/hp/dv8000.htm> hp dv8000 battery which offer the long life and consistently reliable performance you need to get the most out of your notebook.

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