

Devuan Installation

My Devuan installation notes.

Use Tips

Some are applicable to any APT-based distro.

Note for APT-based distro: To remove translations, create file `/etc/apt/apt.conf.d/99translation` and insert `Acquire::Languages { "none"; };`.

Note: look into `unattended-upgrades` (simply `apt install` and run `dpkg-reconfigure --priority=low unattended-upgrades`???)

Reconfigure Package

Basically, run a `dpkg-reconfigure <pkg>`

e.g. To change timezone

```
# dpkg-reconfigure tzdata
```

Upgrading APT-based systems

To do an upgrade:

- Modify `/etc/apt/sources.list` and replace the release codenames

```
# sed -i 's/old_release/new_release/g' /etc/apt/sources.list
```

- skip `-i` option for a dry-run

- Update package list

```
# apt update
```

- Upgrade distribution

```
# apt dist-upgrade
```

- To make sure EVERYTHING is upgraded (avoids old packages held back)

- ```
apt full-upgrade
```

- Do house cleaning

```
apt autoremove
apt clean
```

That should do it!

## Search package for specific binary

- There is a specific tool for that

```
apt install apt-file
```

- Update the package/file mapping database

```
apt-file update
```

- Search for “top”

```
apt-file search --regexp '/top$'
```

## Avoiding marking package as manually installed

- Use dry-run (simulation) option -s

```
apt install -s <pkg1> ... <pkgN> 2>/dev/null|grep manually
```

- Removed the package(s) displayed from your install list and re-run without -s

## GRUB Stuffs

To prevent GRUB from looking for other OS every time it is updated:

- edit /etc/default/grub and insert

```
GRUB_DISABLE_OS_PROBER=true
```

- run update-grub

To add a custom entry:

- add a menuentry in /etc/grub.d/40\_custom
- uses the same menuentry format as in /boot/grub/grub.cfg
  - e.g. to boot my Slackware partition I can insert

```
menuentry 'Slackware' --class slackware --class gnu-linux --class gnu
 --class os $menuentry_id_option 'mylpart-<uuid>' {
 insmod part_gpt
```

```
insmod ext2
set root='hd0,gpt4'
if [x$feature_platform_search_hint = xy]; then
 search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root --hint-bios=hd0,gpt4
--hint-efi=hd0,gpt4 --hint-baremetal=ahci0,gpt4 <uuid>
else
 search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root 4d95a526-2518-4fd6-
a904-f7bd2729145d
fi
linux /boot/vmlinuz-huge-4.4.240 root=/dev/sda4
}
```

- use initrd (after linux line) to specify an initrd/initramfs
- of course, <uuid> should be a valid filesystem uuid
- run update-grub

## KVM Stuffs

If KVM group is missing, simply create one...

```
[-z "$(cat /etc/group|grep kvm)"] && addgroup --gid 125 kvm
```

## Issues

Issues... and maybe fixes (if any).

## Image Magick's convert error

I found an error when using image magick's convert to create EPS from fig that provides this message:

```
convert-im6.q16: attempt to perform an operation not allowed by the security
policy `EPS' @error/constitute.c/IsCoderAuthorized/421
```

Solution:

- (as root) edit /etc/ImageMagick-6/policy.xml
- modify following line (change none → read|write)

```
<policy domain="coder" rights="none" pattern="EPS" />
```

## GRUB Prompt

In some cases, after an installation is complete, the system boots to a GRUB prompt. The issue may be caused by a different disk assignment during installation. Things is not so bad since GRUB prompt is very shell-like (e.g. double-tab for completion):

To list available disks:

```
> ls
```

To list content of first partition on the first disk (/dev/sda1) that is using GPT:

```
> ls (hd0,gpt1)
```

So, to boot an installation on second partition instead:

```
> linux (hd0,gpt2)/boot/vmlinuz<...>
> initrd (hd0,gpt2)/boot/initrd.img<...>
> boot
```

## BCM Wireless

Device:

```
lspci -nn | grep BCM
02:00.0 Network controller [0280]: Broadcom Limited BCM43142 802.11b/g/n
[14e4:4365] (rev 01)
```

Install: broadcom-sta-dkms, firmware-linux, firmware-b43-installer (b43-fwcutter)

\*note\*: only solves the Wireless Driver part... NOT the bluetooth hardware!

```
lsusb | grep BCM
Bus 002 Device 004: ID 0a5c:216d Broadcom Corp. BCM43142A0 Bluetooth 4.0
dmesg | grep blue
[8.850007] bluetooth hci0: firmware: failed to load
brcm/BCM43142A0-0a5c-216d.hcd (-2)
[8.850197] bluetooth hci0: Direct firmware load for
brcm/BCM43142A0-0a5c-216d.hcd failed with error -2
```

So, download BCM43142A0-0a5c-21d6.hcd in [here](#) and place it /lib/firmware/brcm/ (create that path if it does not exist).

## XFCE Desktop

- tapping on my laptop touchpad is NOT working

- moving around & button clicks are working
- need to create file `/etc/X11/xorg.conf.d/90-touchpad.conf`

### 90-touchpad.conf

```
Section "InputClass"
 Identifier "libinput touchpad catchall"
 MatchIsTouchpad "on"
 MatchDevicePath "/dev/input/event*"
 Driver "libinput"
 Option "Tapping" "on"
EndSection
```

- lid event does not trigger suspend (but manual suspend works)
  - this is a systemd-related aftermath: xfce power manager allows/assumes login to handle lid
  - fix:

```
$ xfconf-query -c xfce4-power-manager -p /xfce4-power-manager/logind-handle-lid-switch -s false
```

- issues when logging out/shutdown
  - may be caused by intel graphics library? i915?
  - can install lightdm - but shutdown/restart always gets login page (=logout)
- wicd feature is an issue for system with multiple users
  - shared wifi password, no option to make private

## Cinnamon DE

- login page (lightdm?) - cannot shutdown/reboot! read [here...](#)
  - found a fix [here](#)
  - i just needed to edit `/etc/pam.d/lightdm-greeter` and changed `pam_systemd.so` to `pam_elogind.so` (but, may cause issues with suspend/hibernate?)
- laptop battery quickly drain below 30 percent
  - setup higher critical value for power management

```
gsettings list-keys org.cinnamon.settings-daemon.plugins.power
gsettings set org.cinnamon.settings-daemon.plugins.power use-time-for-policy false
gsettings set org.cinnamon.settings-daemon.plugins.power percentage-low 30
gsettings set org.cinnamon.settings-daemon.plugins.power percentage-critical 25
gsettings set org.cinnamon.settings-daemon.plugins.power percentage-action 23
```

- or use `dconf-editor`

## PulseAudio

Youtube videos keep resetting the volume settings to 100%! The culprit is `flat-volumes`. Modify `/etc/pulse/daemon.conf` and set `flat-volumes=no`.

## (Re)-Compiling Syslinux

I need to recompile syslinux - just to remind myself, other than the usual development packages (build-essential, etc), I also need `nasm` and `upx-ucl`.

```
apt install nasm and upx-ucl
```

## Unwanted Background Program

I found this in my old notes... I somehow found an autostart program `geoclue-demo-agent.desktop`, which I obviously do not need. So, simply remove that from autostart path

```
rm /etc/xdg/autostart/geoclue-demo-agent.desktop
```

## Sound muted on startup on my HP laptop

trying two options found... so far, not successful? keeping this here for reference.

1. option 1:
  - install `alsa-utils`
  - make sure sound is not muted and set to desired volume level
  - run (as root) `alsactl store`
2. option 2:
  - edit (as root) `/etc/pulse/defaults.pa`
    - can also copy this to home folder ??? for 1-user solution...
  - comment out 'load-module module-device-restore'

## General Issues

- wifi firmware missing after first restart
  - manually install `firmware-ralink`
- network manager cannot connect using wifi
  - edit `/etc/NetworkManager/NetworkManager.conf`
  - add

```
[device]
wifi.scan-rand-mac-address=no
```

# Using Wine on Devuan

Setup Wine (as root):

- enable multiarch
- install wine and winetricks

```
apt install wine wine32 winetricks
```

Configure Wine (as user):

- if required, remove previous settings

```
$ rm -rf $HOME/.wine
```

- config for win32

```
$ WINEARCH=win32 winecfg
```

- setup nice fonts

```
$ winetricks corefonts
```

*Note: Install fuseiso to enable mounting ISO as user*

## Game: Red Alert 2

Setup Installer ISO:

- create link to ISO as CDROM device

```
$ ln -sf /path/to/install.iso $HOME/.wine/dosdevices/d::
```

- mount ISO

```
$ fuseiso mount /path/to/install.iso $HOME/.wine/drive_d
```

- create link to mount path as CDROM drive

```
$ ln -sf $HOME/.wine/drive_d $HOME/.wine/dosdevices/d:
```

Run installer

- ```
$ wine D:\\Setup.exe
```

Fixes:

- menu does not show (solution available at [WineHQ](#))
 - download ddraw.dll from <https://github.com/CnCNet/ts-ddraw/releases>
 - place in RA2 install path
 - run winecfg add that to library (as window native, instead of builtin)

Application: LTSpice

- download windows version from ltspice website and run

```
$ wine /download/path/LTspiceXVII.exe
```

Devuan on Raspberry Pi

Check out [here](#).

RasPi400

Using rpi-devuan-chimaera-5.10.110-ext4-2022-04-16.zip

- boots ok (default hostname=bcm2711)
- login (root:toor)
- setup

```
# run-setup
```

- change hostname (edit /etc/hostname and /etc/hosts)
- reboot
- remove default user

```
# userdel -r devuan
```

- most development stuffs i want are preinstalled! yay!
- install vim

```
# apt install vim
```

- remove nano

```
# apt remove nano
```

- also

```
# rm .nanorc
```

- install xorg stuffs

```
# apt install xorg libx11-dev libxft-dev libxinerama-dev
```

- install suckless stuffs

```
# apt install stterm suckless-tools
```

- create user and login as that user
- get mylshell and mylubuild

```
# git clone https://codeberg.org/azman/mylshell  
# git clone https://codeberg.org/azman/mylubuild
```

- install dwm from source
- install browser & font

```
# apt install surf fonts-liberation2
```

work in progress... 2 issues: {surf cannot validate cert}{reboot hangs}

//**Note:** Will simply use Raspberry Pi OS for now... //

From:

<https://azman.my1matrix.cc/> - Azman @MY1

Permanent link:

https://azman.my1matrix.cc/doku.php?id=linux:devuan_install&rev=1775356559

Last update: **2026/04/05 02:35**

