CHAPTER 19.04 BONUS

Updates in Ubuntu 19.04

This short bonus chapter is provided to highlight interesting and important changes to Ubuntu that are available in the new Ubuntu 19.04 release, which came out after the publication of Ubuntu Unleashed 2019. This is an interim release that will be supported for 9 months. The next LTS (long term support) release will be 20.04, scheduled for release in April 2020 and will be supported for 5 years.

Full release notes for Ubuntu 19.04 are available online at https://wiki.ubuntu.com/DiscoDingo/ReleaseNotes.

Main Updates

This release received many updates that are not immediately visible. Let us begin with the visible things.

Sure, as always, the desktop wallpaper was updated to match the development nickname, in this case a Disco Dingo, and it has more aubergine (purple) in it than orange, likely indicating the balance of desktop work has likely shifted to more work from the community and less from Canonical.

The default desktop theme, Yaru, which was mostly developed by the community has received further improvements and touch ups, including a new icon theme. The icons and overall desktop look and feel have moved to a more "flat" style and away from the previous transparent versions.

Application menus have moved back into the application's window instead of across the top in the desktop toolbar.

The GNOME desktop has been updated to version 3.32 which promises to be faster and more responsive while using fewer

GPU resources. In addition, the GNOME settings app now includes the ability to control permissions for various apps.

As always, other desktop themes and icon sets are available for users to install, so whether you love the changes or not, you should adapt fine.

Most of the updates in this release relate to useful things like toolchains and server software upgrades (see Package Changes later in this document) or performance changes by the GNOME project that are not immediately visible, but which should improve the performance of the shell and make the desktop "feel faster." Early reports from testers show a measurable performance boost.

Ubuntu continues to push updates and improvements to their Snap app packaging format and currently ships with three Snap apps by default: Calculator, System Monitor, and Characters.

Other Official Ubuntu Flavors

Perhaps you would like to explore other desktop options. Here are the release notes for all the official desktop flavors (see https://www.ubuntu.com/download/flavours).

Kubuntu https://wiki.ubuntu.com/DiscoDingo/ReleaseNotes/Kubuntu

Lubuntu https://lubuntu.me/disco-released/

Ubuntu Budgie https://ubuntubudgie.org/blog/2019/03/27/19-04-release-notes

Ubuntu Kylin http://www.ubuntukylin.com/news/shownews.php?lang=en&id=923

Ubuntu MATE https://ubuntu-mate.org/blog/ubuntu-mate-disco-final-release/

Ubuntu Studio https://wiki.ubuntu.com/DiscoDingo/ReleaseNotes/UbuntuStudio

Xubuntu https://wiki.xubuntu.org/releases/19.04/release-notes

Package Changes

Each Ubuntu release receives updated packages for almost all the software in the software repositories. Ubuntu Unleashed readers will likely find the following few highlights of this release of greater interest:

- ► **Linux kernel:** This release uses the new 5.0 Linux kernel series with includes updates and support for many new pieces of hardware.

- ► **Toolchain updates:** Many toolchain-focused packages have been updated include new upstream releases of glibc, OpenJDK, boost, rustc, GCC, Python 3, ruby, PHP, Perl, Golang, and more.

► **Server updates:** Server packages also received updates, such as QEMU, libvert, DPDK, samba, open-vm-tools, and OpenStack.

► **Desktop updates:** The desktop has been upgraded to the latest GNOME release, 3.32. Desktop packages also received updates, such as Firefox and LibreOffice.

Installing Ubuntu 19.04

To perform a fresh install of Ubuntu 19.04, download the appropriate image (desktop or server, etc.) from http://releases.ubuntu.com/releases/19.04/ and the follow the install instructions provided in Chapter 1.

Upgrading from Ubuntu 18.10

You can upgrade your desktop from Ubuntu 18.10 by inserting an Ubuntu 19.04 disc or USB drive while 18.10 is running. A pop-up window appears and asks whether you want to upgrade. Just follow the onscreen directions.

A more common option is to do an online upgrade. On the desktop, you can do this using Software Updater by clicking the **Upgrade** button when it appears. Again, just follow the onscreen instructions while you are connected to the Internet, and you will be all set.

But what if you don't want to wait for the notification? Or what if you accidentally clicked Don't Upgrade when notified? Not to worry. You can choose to upgrade any time.

To upgrade from Ubuntu 18.10 on a desktop system, follow these steps:

1. Press **Alt+F2** and type **update-manager** into the command box.

   Update Manager should open and tell you, "New distribution release '19.04' is available."

2. Click **Upgrade** and follow the onscreen instructions.

To upgrade from Ubuntu 18.10 on a server system, follow these steps:

1. Install the `update-manager-core` package if it is not already installed.

2. Launch the upgrade tool with the command `sudo do-release-upgrade`.

3. Follow the onscreen instructions.

Note that the server upgrade will use GNU screen and automatically reattach in case of dropped-connection problems.