

# Using OpenIndiana

## User Resources

<a href="#">Component HCL</a> <b>List of supported hardware</b>	<a href="#">Systems HCL</a> <b>List of supported systems</b>
<a href="#">OpenIndiana Handbook</a> <b>Community-contributed user documentation</b>	<a href="#">Release Notes</a> <b>Information on OpenIndiana versions</b>

OpenIndiana is an operating system from and for the illumos community, it branches from the UNIX-derived family tree, and as such it can sometimes seem quite complex.

But with a little help and information, once you know the basics, you will find it actually has some of the nicest and friendliest tools around.

As most Unix-derived operating system, it can be completely controlled via a Command Line Interface shell, but it also supports a windowing GUI system.

From the CLI, it supports a number of different shells, the two main ones being ksh93 and Bash.

It also supports the original [SunOS SVR4](#) commands, the command and syntax familiar to BSD users, and a large portion of the GNU userland commands that most Linux users are familiar with.

You can select any or all of those different commands from your shell configuration, giving you the environment you are most happy with.

By default, the windowing GUI system is based on the popular MATE system, the continuation of GNOME2, but KDE, XFCE, and Enlightenment could use your help to provide OpenIndiana users with alternative environments.

OpenIndiana is provided with a powerful package manager, the Image Packaging System (IPS), using pkg(5) for updating and installing new software.

In addition to our main IPS repositories, OpenIndiana can use [Spec Files Extra](#) (SFE) repositories and [pkgsrc](#) packages.

OpenIndiana supports a wide range of popular software, including the main open source internet server software, databases, internet client software, development languages and tools and more.

The articles contained herein, are instructions and advice from the OpenIndiana community on how to use and get the most out of the incredibly powerful OS that is OpenIndiana.

However, this Wiki is always work in progress, and much information is still missing. It is worth searching the web not only for blogs and articles on OpenIndiana, but also for the older, OpenSolaris and illumos in general.

While OpenIndiana has areas which have changed, a lot of the information is still valid as well as sources from other illumos distributions. This is also true of OpenIndiana in relation to Oracle Solaris.

Our friendly and helpful mailing list and IRC channels are happy to answer any support all questions.

We hope you find the information you need quickly and easily, but if you don't, please join the community and add some info on anything you've learned. The Wiki is locked to anonymous updates purely to keep the quality high.

However, we are happy to grant access to anyone who wants to help. So please feel free to send us an email and we will get you up and running as fast as we can.

## Other Resources

<a href="#">OpenIndiana Docs web site</a> <b>Non-Wiki usable content site</b>	<a href="#">Opensolaris redistributable books</a> <b>Still usable Opensolaris documentation</b>
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