FOSS DOCS 101

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WHO AM I?
WHY AM I HERE?
DOCUMENTATION MATTERS!
(to me, to you, and you, and you...)

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TIMES ARE A' CHANGING...

Documentation is an afterthought of software delivery

Documentation is a key component of successful software
HOW DOCUMENTATION HELPS

Unified and intuitive user experience

Portable and adoptable workflow

Scalable and adaptable project
JOIN THE DOCS CLUB

Content Strategy

DevOps for Docs

Community Engagement
ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS
(even if the answer is as simple as 42)
WHO

are my readers?
WHAT

do my readers want to know?
WHEN

do my readers need this content?
WHERE
do my readers consume this content?
WHY

do my readers even need this content?
GNOME HELP
Gnome Help

Users

Even though it’s extremely user-friendly, GNOME is a large and complex system, and thus, requires some learning to use to the fullest. To make that easier, we’ve provided some very useful documentation.

Administrators

Across the world, there are many large to small deployments of GNOME, with their specific needs, and system administrators to manage them. Here you will find information on tools and methods to work with many GNOME desktops.
GNOME HELP

Introduction to GNOME
A visual introduction to your desktop, the top bar, and the Activities overview.

Log out, power off or switch users
Learn how to leave your user account, by logging out, switching users, and so on.

Start applications
Launch apps from the Activities overview.

Desktop, apps & windows
Introduction, keyboard shortcuts, calendar, notifications...

Networking, web, email & chat
Wireless, wired, connection problems, web browsing, email accounts...

Sound, video & pictures
Digital cameras, iPods, editing photos, playing videos...

Files, folders & search
Searching, delete files, backups, removable drives...

User & system settings
Keyboard, mouse, display, languages, user accounts...

Hardware & drivers
Hardware problems, printers, power settings, color management, Bluetooth, disks...

Universal access
Seeing, hearing, mobility, braille, screen magnifier...

Tips & tricks
Special characters, middle click shortcuts...

Get more help
Tips on using this guide, help improve this guide, mailing list, IRC
GNOME HELP

Guides

GNOME System Administration Guide
A guide for GNOME 3 system administrators
Previous Versions

Manuals

GNOME Display Manager Reference Manual
GDM is the GNOME Display Manager, a graphical login program.
Previous Versions

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GNOME HELP

GNOME Developer Center

Welcome to the GNOME developer center! Here you will find all the information that you need to create fantastic software using GNOME technologies.

Human Interface Guidelines
Advice and guidelines on designing effective interfaces with GTK+.

 GNOME Platform Demos
Introductory tutorials to help you get started.

Guides
A growing selection of development guides on common topics.

API Reference
Comprehensive API reference documentation for GNOME libraries, including GTK+.
ARCHLINUX WIKI
RHEL OpenStack
DevOps for Docs
(not just for developers anymore!)
DevOps for Docs

- Unified Toolchain
- Continuous Integration
- Iterative Authoring
- Content Curation
- Automation
DOCS OR IT DIDN'T HAPPEN
(even when nobody got time for that)
HEY, SO I WROTE THIS FEATURE AND IT COULD USE SOME DOCUMENTATION, I WAS WONDERING MAYBE YOU COULD....

NO
CONTRIBUTION GUIDELINES
Contributing to Nix documentation

Contents

1. Where do I find the docs?
2. How do I create a topic?
3. How do I add a topic to a book?
4. How do I build and test the manual?
   4.1 Prerequisites
   4.2 How to build the NixOS manual
   4.3 How to build the Nixpigs manual

Where do I find the docs? [edit]

The Nix documentation is on GitHub in the following repositories:

- Nix package manager
- NixOS
- NixOpkg
- Hydra

How do I create a topic? [edit]

Nix documentation uses DocBook, an XML markup language. For general information on how to work in DocBook, see DocBook the Definitive Guide.

You can use an existing topic as a basis for the new topic or create a topic from scratch.

Keep the following guidelines in mind when you create and add a topic:

- Make sure to store the topic file in the same directory as the book file to which you want to add the topic. The book file is an XML file normally named manual.xml.
- If you include multiple words in the file name, separate the words with a dash. For example, installing-cli.xml
- Make sure that the xid:id value is unique. You can use abbreviations in the ID if it is too long. For example: nixos-config
- Determine whether your topic is a chapter or a section. If you are unsure, open an existing topic file and check whether the main element is chapter or section.
TEMPLATES
READ THE DOCS

TEMPLATE

A simple template for you to start with, for your README. Name the file README.rst if you want to use reStructuredText. More information about these can be found in the sidebar on markup.

```python
$project

$project will solve your problem of where to start with document
by providing a basic explanation of how to do it easily.

Look how easy it is to use:

    import project
    # Get your stuff done
    project.do_stuff()

Features

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- Be awesome
- Make things faster

Installation

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Install $project by running:

    install project

Contribute

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- Issue Tracker: github.com/$project/$project/issues

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COLLABORATION AND TRAINING
SPRINTS AND HACKFESTS

@thedocs lady
.djangogirls rock the docs!!! #ep14 #djangogirls #writethedocs

@thedocs lady
Fellow #redhat writers take us thru DevAssistant and Jenkins docs usage at @devconf_cz :-) #writethedocs #DevConfCZ

@thedocs lady
Fedoristas happily hacking away at the #fedora docs at #flocktofedora. Docs rock! #writethedocs #redhat
CONFERENCES AND COMMUNITIES

WRITE THE DOCS

MAY 17-19
PORTLAND
OREGON

ABOUT

Join us for a three-day event to explore the art and science of documentation. You can look forward to learning more about documentation systems, tech writing theory, information delivery, and more. Past tracks have covered such diverse topics as typography, empathy, and Wiki-wars.

The main event takes place from May 17-19 (Monday and Tuesday) from 8am to 6pm. We will return to the historic Crystal Ballroom, centrally located in the heart of Portland.

Calling for participation: Writing Openly; Open Source Documentation Miniconf at Linux.conf.au 2015

As part of the southern hemisphere’s premier open source conference, Tim Hasted (Secretary of the STC Australia chapter) will be facilitating an open source documentation mini-conference. The mini-conference will be fast-paced and engaging. We are seeking participation in the form of lightning talks, short presentations, and interactive sessions from documentation and those who believe that good documentation can improve user experience and deliver real value.

If you are interested in participating or contributing, head over to the call for participation page for more information, and to submit your idea. If you know someone who might be interested, please let them know.
WELCOME TO THE CLUB!
THANK YOU!

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NOT SURE IF QUESTIONS TIME

OR AWKWARD APPLAUSE TIME