



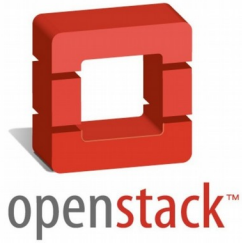
# FOSS DOCS 101

Mikey Ariel

Senior technical writer, Red Hat

EuroPython, July 2015

# WHO AM I?



# WHY AM I HERE?



# DOCUMENTATION MATTERS!

(to me, to you, and you, and you...)



# TIMES ARE A' CHANGING...

Documentation is an afterthought of  
software delivery



Documentation is a key component of  
successful software

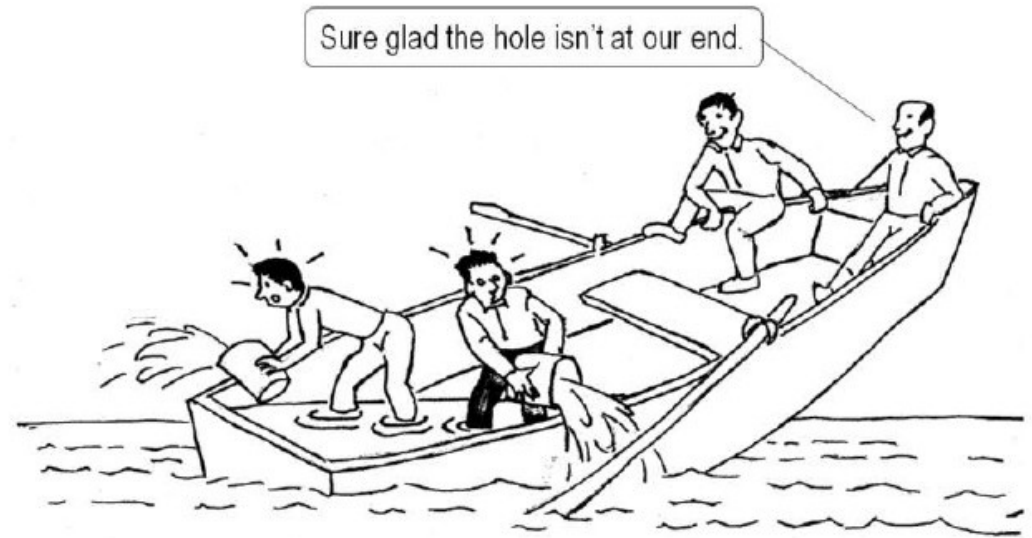


# HOW DOCUMENTATION HELPS

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

[About](#)[Users](#)[Developers](#)[Administrators](#)

## 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



## 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](#)



# 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



# ARCHLINUX WIKI



HomePackagesForumsWikiBugsAURDownload

create accountlog in

navigation

- Main page
- Categories
- Getting involved
- Wiki news
- Random page

search

GoSearch

interaction

- Help
- Contributing
- Recent changes
- Recent talks
- New pages
- Statistics
- Reports
- Requests

tools

- What links here
- Related changes
- Special pages
- Printable version
- Permanent link
- Page information

in other languages

- العربية
- Български
- Čeština
- Dansk
- Deutsch
- Ελληνικά
- Español

page | discussion | view source | history

## Main page

Welcome to the **ArchWiki**: your source for Arch Linux documentation on the web.

Visit the **Table of contents** for a listing of article categories.

### The distribution

**Arch Linux**  
Brief overview of Arch Linux description and the process of installing and configuring Arch Linux.

**The Arch Way**  
Illustrates the principles and philosophy that experienced Arch users.

**Arch compared to other distributions**  
Summarizes the similarities and differences between Arch Linux and other Linux distributions.

**Arch Linux press coverage**  
What they say about us.

### Our community

**Getting involved**  
Describes various ways Archers can get involved in the Arch Linux community.

**ArchWiki: Contributing**  
If willing and able to contribute to the wiki, please see this article for ideas.

**Help: Editing**  
Short tutorial on editing and contributing to the Arch Linux wiki.

**Forum etiquette**  
Guidelines for Arch forum members.

**IRC channels**  
Get together with your fellow Archers for a good chat.

### Help

ArchWiki pages follow specific conventions, so if you have trouble reading ArchWiki or understanding some instructions, see **Help: Reading** for a clarification.

If looking for specific information, try using the search box to the left. Alternatively, use your favorite web search engine which likely provides a special syntax or interface for restricting results to a particular website (usually appending `site:wiki.archlinux.org` to the search terms is enough). See **Help: Searching** for other tricks.

search

GoSearch



# RHEL OPENSTACK



# RHEL OPENSTACK

Red Hat Enterprise Linux

OpenStack Platform

## Select a version

6 5 4 3 2

## Select a category

All Release Notes

Upgrading

Getting Started

Configuration

Configuration-  
Advanced Networking

## Getting Started

Installation and deployment

**Capacity Planning for Red Hat Enterprise Linux OpenStack Platform**  
Resource metrics to consider when planning a RHEL OpenStack deployment. [↗](#)

**Choosing a Network Back-end for Red Hat Enterprise Linux OpenStack Platform**  
Describes a network back-end for selecting an OpenStack Networking (neutron) or OpenStack (nova) back-end. [↗](#)

**Evaluating OpenStack**  
Overview of the three OpenStack deployment types and their deployment tool. [↗](#)

**Evaluating OpenStack: Single-Node Deployment**  
Step-by-step guide to implementing a basic OpenStack cloud using the Packstack deployment tool. [↗](#)

**Evaluating OpenStack: Simple Networking**  
Step-by-step guide to configuring networking in a Packstack All-in-One environment. [↗](#)

**Evaluating OpenStack: Install OpenShift on OpenStack**  
Step-by-step guide for a proof-of-concept installation of OpenShift Enterprise in a Packstack-installed OpenStack environment. [↗](#)

**Deploying OpenStack: Enterprise Environments (Red Hat Enterprise Linux OpenStack Platform Installer)**  
Deploying Red Hat Enterprise Linux OpenStack Platform in an enterprise environment. [↗](#)

**Deploying OpenStack: Proof-of-Concept Environments (Packstack)**  
Deploying Red Hat Enterprise Linux OpenStack Platform in a proof-of-concept environment. [↗](#)



# DEVOPS FOR DOCS

(not just for developers anymore!)



**UNIFIED  
TOOLCHAIN**

**CONTINUOUS  
INTEGRATION**

**DEVOPS  
FOR DOCS**

**ITERATIVE  
AUTHORING**

**CONTENT  
CURATION**

**AUTOMATION**



# DOCS OR IT DIDN'T HAPPEN

(even when nobody got time for that)





# CONTRIBUTION GUIDELINES



# NIXOS



[Main page](#)  
[Nix project homepage](#)  
[Recent changes](#)  
[Random page](#)  
[Help](#)

#### Tools

[What links here](#)  
[Related changes](#)  
[Special pages](#)  
[Printable version](#)  
[Permanent link](#)  
[Page information](#)

[Create account](#)  [Log in](#)

Page **Discussion**

[Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#)

## Contributing to Nix documentation

### Contents [hide]

- 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 Nixpkgs manual

### Where do I find the docs? [edit]

The Nix documentation is on GitHub in the following repositories:

- [Nix package manager](#)
- [NixOS](#)
- [NixOps](#)
- [Hydra](#)

### How do I create a topic? [edit]

Nix documentation uses DocBook 5, 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 `xml:id` value is unique. You can use abbreviations the ID 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.md if you want to use markdown, or README.rst if you want to use reStructuredText. More information about these can be found in the [\*sidebar on markup\*](#).

```
$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
-----

- Be awesome
- Make things faster

Installation
-----

Install $project by running:

    install project

Contribute
-----

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



# COLLABORATION AND TRAINING



# SPRINTS AND HACKFESTS



**Mikey Ariel**  
@thatdocslady

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



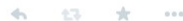
**Mikey Ariel**  
@thatdocslady

Fellow #redhat writers take us thru  
DevAssistant and Jenkins docs usage at  
@devconf\_cz :- ) #writethedocs #DevConfCZ



**Mikey Ariel**  
@thatdocslady

Fedoristas happily hacking away at the  
#fedora docs at #locktofedora. Docs rock!  
#writethedocs #redhat



# CONFERENCES AND COMMUNITIES

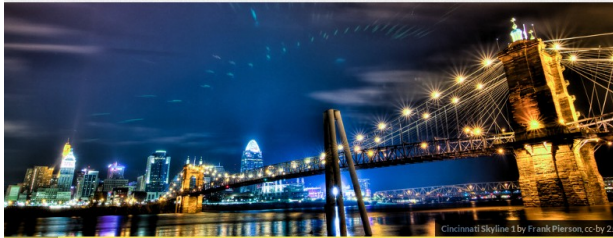
[Community](#) [Conference](#) [Planet](#)



## Open Help

Conference & Sprints  
2014

Conference: June 14-15, 2014  
Sprints: June 16-18, 2014




Cincinnati Skyline 1 By Frank Pierson cc-by 2.0

[Home](#) [Schedule](#) [Sessions](#) [Speakers](#) [Location](#) [Register](#) [2013](#) [2012](#) [2011](#)

The 2014 Open Help Conference & Sprints takes place June 14-18 in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio. Open Help brings together leaders in open source documentation and support, as well as people from across the technical communications industry who are interested in community-based help.

Spread the word!

 Follow @openhelptconf

Watch Open Help on YouTube

Track Open Help on Lanyrd

# WRITE THE DOCS 2015

MAY 17-19  
PORTLAND  
OREGON

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## 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 talks have also covered such diverse topics as typography, empathy, and Wabi-sabi.

The main event takes place from **May 18-19 (Monday and Tuesday) from 9am to 6pm**. We will return to the historic **Crystal Ballroom**, centrally located in the heart of Portland.

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[Home](#) [Events](#) [Calling for participation: Writing Openly, Open Source Documentation Miniconf at Linux.conf.au 2015](#)

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

Posted on November 14, 2014 by [thildred](#) — No Comments



As part of the [southern hemisphere's premier open source conference](#), Tim Hildred (Secretary of the STC Australia chapter) will be facilitating [an open source documentation mini-conference](#). The mini-conference will be fun and fast paced, and is currently seeking participation in the form of lightning talks, short presentations, and interactive sessions from documentarians 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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@thatdocslady

