

ZENWALK LINUX MANUAL

The Zenwalker's Guide

Written by the ZenDoc Team .

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If you have any questions or comments about Zenwalk documentation, you can register to our mailing list. To subscribe, just send an email to : zenwalk-doc+subscribe~AT~ lists(dot)zenwalk(dot)org

See also the [Zenwalk GNU/Linux Wiki](#) for more general documentation.

The [ZenDoc Team](#)

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Preface (by Jean-Philippe Guillemin)

I started building Zenwalk (originally "Minislack") to learn the inner workings of GNU/Linux. Building an operating system is a great way to gain understanding because you're often on your own in solving problems when things do not work as expected.

Another reason for building Zenwalk was that I found myself performing the same modifications on systems after a new installation. Such repeated modifications included recompiling a more optimized and up to date kernel, removing loads of unused software and libraries, customizing the desktop, tuning the X window system, improving startup scripts, adding my preferred text editor, adding a movie player and codecs, and so on.

This project presented an opportunity to share this customization with friends, as well as being able to reinstall my system in exactly in the same state at any given time.

Then came the users and contributors, and the beginnings of the changes that molded Zenwalk into what it is today. We started replacing the original distribution with alternatives (gtk libs), adding new libs (Gnome libs), adding lots of administration tools, and a new way to manage packages remotely (netpkg). Users have improved Zenwalk by features requests posted and discussed on the support forum. The result is that Zenwalk, though still based on Slackware, is, in many ways very different : it is a daily development work, done by several Linux lovers to build the ideal Linux OS.

Zenwalk aims to be a GNU/Linux operating system rather than a distribution; it's not a collection of packages, it's a finished, coherent and rational product.

In the future, Zenwalk will not change its philosophy, it will only become more mature as a multipurpose Operating System:

- kernel hardware support will improve
- applications will become better with new releases
- system tools will be improved
- New tools will be added

Chapter 1. INTRODUCTION

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To master any Linux distribution, documentation is necessary, and Zenwalk is no exception. This manual is heavily based upon the excellent [Slackbook](#). These pages contain information about:

- Obtaining Zenwalk
- Burning an ISO image
- Installing Zenwalk on your rig
- Acquiring some basic knowledge of Linux
- Using Zenwalk's specific tools
- Running a performant system
- Enjoying your Linux experience

Good luck, and happy Zenwalking !

What is Linux ?

Linux was born in 1991. Initially, it was just a kernel, developed by Linus Torvalds. Nowadays people commonly refer to a GNU/Linux system as just "Linux". As the full name of the OS says, GNU/Linux is a combination of the Linux software and GNU software components. GNU, an acronym for GNU's not Unix, started out as a project in the early nineties to develop a free Unix-like OS. Now, lots of the applications on a Linux system are provided by the GNU project. Examples are the GNU C compiler (GCC) and the bash shell on your Linux box. More info on GNU/Linux can be found on [Wikipedia](#).

Free Software and Linux

Definition

According to [Wikipedia](#), computer software (or simply software) is that part of a computer system that consists of encoded information (or computer instructions). The term software is often used for a computer program, and vice versa. Software can consist of a single computer program, especially in recent micro-computer science, where raw processor performance and cheap memory capacity allow to run big programs. Over all, software is prevalently composed of one or more programs, but also of data that allow it to function. These programs can take different forms: executables, dynamic libraries ('dll' under Windows or 'so' under GNU/Linux), or just source files for an interpreter (e.g. Perl or PHP scripts). The data comes in different formats also: classic files, databases (relational, hierarchical, etc.), ... In micro-computer science, images, especially icons, are often integrated in the executable.

General Definition of "Software"

Software contains instructions that are executed by a computer, as opposed to the physical device on which it functions (the 'hardware'). A 'program' is a list of instructions, written by a programmer in programming language (e.g. C language, C++ language, Java language, Python language). Often they are stored in a simple file. 'Software' however, is used to indicate a set of instructions consisting of several programs. A person with the right knowledge can read the program; this is called the 'source code' and is the receipt of the program. Closed-source software developers guard these secrets well; only Open-source software make their source code available to the public. The characteristics of the software are clearly described in the source code (translation of the binary 0 and 1, which are the only instructions the machine grasps). Compilers are used to translate source code into machine language. After this transformation we have what we call 'binaries', which can be interpreted by a machine. We still need to adapt them to the system software however (MS Windows, Mac OS, GNU/Linux, BSD, etc.) to make it function. Once it has been adapted to the host system, the software is ready to be installed and executed.

Software can be classified as follows:

- Open source: anyone can read the code ; this is not the same as free software though !
- Closed source: the code is only available for a small group of people.
- Free software: anyone can study, copy, distribute and modify the software (This is the definition of the Free Software Foundation. Free software are often protected by a usage licence).
- Proprietary software: at least one of the rights mentioned above is not applicable for the user. Most of the time, one needs to acquire a usage licence by paying the creators of the software.

- Commercial software: software meant to be sold ; it can be either free or proprietary.

Presentation of free software

The origins of free software

History begins at the start of the eighties, when Richard Stallman, a researcher of the MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, U.S.A.), faced an ethical dilemma. His IT research section had been closed down; for years, he had shared his knowledge with his colleagues. Now, did he have to sell his knowledge to the highest bidder, or would he take the occasion to share his knowledge with the world? To appease his conscience, he created the principle of 'free software'. This concept is defined by the following four principles:

- 1° The liberty to run the program, without restrictions upon its usage.
- 2° The liberty to study the inner workings of a program, and to adapt it to your needs. For this, access to the source code is a prerequisite.
- 3° The liberty to redistribute copies.
- 4° The liberty to improve the program, and to publish those improvements, so the whole community can benefit from it. For this also, access to the source code is a prerequisite.

The GNU Project

After writing this statement, Stallman create the "[Free Software Fondation](#)" The objective of this foundation is promoting and developing free software; for his foundation, Stallman started writing applications. His ultimate goal: create an entirely free system. To protect the GNU software from commercial enterprises, Stallman created a license, the GNU Public License. The license reincorporates the four elementary principles mentioned above, with a solid judiciary background. The first real test for the GPL was a German trial in 2004, where a judge ruled a company violated it. GNU, as many acronyms in the *nix world, an abbreviation – GNU's Not Unix (the first word, GNU, doesn't really mean anything). In the eighties, when Microsoft and Windows were still midgets, Unix was the proprietary system number one.

The Open Source initiative

Another movement arose during the nineties of the past century. They consider themselves more flexible than the FSF. The new current took form when in 1998 Netscape went free software – at that time, a group of people decided to support Netscape's move. They follow the [Debian concept of free software](#). You can find their ten criteria here: [original version of the OSI license \(version 1.9\)](#).

Understanding free software

Where does "free software" come from ?

The first free software was developed by Stallman himself. To start out with building an operating system, you need real basic software (like the GNU compiler collection). But after the FSF wrote the whole base of the new OS, still one thing was lacking: a kernel. Stallman choose an extremely ambitious concept for the new kernel: it should become a micro-kernel (Windows for example uses a macro-kernel; Linux, however, uses a micro-kernel). However, the development of his kernel, didn't went as smooth as planned. As we speak, this system (called GNU/Hurd) is still not operational. At that point Linus Torvalds jumped in. This student from Finland was studying the inner workings of x386 CPUs, and had written a POSIX compatible program to understand the functioning of this processor generation. Just for fun, he wrote a kernel, using the GNU software. Last but not least, he distributed the kernel under the GNU Public License. The newly bred GNU/Linux combo seemed the perfect match; the development shifted up incredibly fast, thanks to the contributions of the hacker community (the term 'hacker' means an IT passionate, as opposed to a 'cracker', which is a person aiming at destroying (or cracking) other's systems; however, the widespread term 'hacker' is mainly used by the general public with the meaning of 'cracker', thus giving it a negative connotation). When announced officially (version 1.0 is born in March 14th, 1994), the GNU/Linux system already has a solid reputation. Despite being usable by a hackers elite only, it looks very promising. A lot of kernels follow; in 1996, kernel 2.0 is released, in 1999, 2.2 follows. While 2.2 is rather buggy initially, with 2.2.13 it makes its way to the enterprise world, thanks to IBM's mainframe patches. In 2001, the 2.4 kernel comes out. At the end of 2006 follows the 2.6 kernel. While 2.6 is the only one actively maintained, 2.4 still receives security updates. The focal point of Linux' development is the internet; it's the lifeblood of the free software community. The GNU/Linux system being one of its biggest achievements, it could well have never seen the light without the exchange of information between the developers spread all over the world. The free software offers a lot of quality apps – heck, most of the worldwide web runs on Linux servers, using software like Apache and PHP... Many apps are not only available on Linux, but have been ported to the BSD's, Windows, and even Mac OS X. A quick summary of some of the most known apps:

- the OpenOffice.org office suite
- the internet browser Mozilla Firefox
- the Gimp (GNU Image Manipulation Program)

- Avidemux, a great video editor
- the Pidgin instant messenger
- the Apache web server
- the PHP language

Zenwalk Linux

Zenwalk Linux is the new name of the project "Minislack Linux". Zenwalk is based on [Slackware](#), a robust Linux distribution faithful to the spirit of Unix. Zenwalk is recognized today as one of the fastest distributions available in binary version.

Zenwalk is designed with the following objectives:

- Be simple and fast
- Provide one application for one task on the install CD
- Be a complete development/desktop environment
- Be small so that it can be distributed on a single CD

There are 2 versions of Zenwalk.

- Zenwalk (full version, ~ 430 MB ISO download):

Zenwalk is a complete system. Out of the box, you will be able to browse, mail, chat, listen to music, program in C, Perl, Python, Ruby,.. watch videos in various formats, write documents, print, scan, burn CD and DVD, connect your camera and edit your photographs, without adding anything. Coders will like the full set of development libraries and interpreters.

- Zenwalk Core (~ 180 MB ISO download):

Zenwalk-core is a Zenwalk system without X applications. Zenwalk-core is intended to be used as a starting point to build a custom desktop or server system, for users with limited disk space, or perfectionists desiring to build a desktop system themselves.

Some features of the 4.8 release are:

- Kernel: Linux 2.6.22.7
- Development: GCC-4.1.1, Python-2.5, Perl-5.8.8, GTK2-2.10.12
- Editors: Geany-0.10.2, Bluefish-1.0.7, Mousepad-0.2.12, Vim-7.0.195
- Desktops: XFCE-4.4.1
- Internet: IceWeasel-2.0.0.6, IceDove-2.0.0.6, Pidgin-2.2.0, Transmission-0.82, Gftp-2.0.18
- Multimedia: Gnome-Mplayer-0.50, Streamtuner-0.99.99, Grip-3.3.1, GnomeBaker-0.6.1
- Office: Abiword-2.4.6, Gnumeric-1.7.10

Chapter 2. Help

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Often there are times when you might need help with a specific command, setting up a program, or getting a piece of hardware to work. Maybe you simply want to understand a given command better, or see what other options are available to use with it. Luckily, there are a variety of ways that you can get the help you're looking for. After you have

installed Zenwalk you have the option of installing packages from the [extra/f] series which includes FAQs and HOWTOs. Programs also come with help about their options, configuration files, and usage.

System Help

man

The man command (short for "manual") is the traditional form of online documentation in Unix and Linux operating systems. Comprised of specially formatted files, the "man pages", are written for the vast majority of commands and are distributed with the software itself. Executing `man somecommand` will display the man page for (naturally) the command specified, in our example this would be the imaginary program `somecommand`.

As you might imagine, the amount of man pages can quickly add up, becoming overly confusing and seriously complicated, even for an advanced user. So, for this reason, man pages are grouped into enumerated sections. This system has been around for a very long time; enough so that you will often see commands, programs, and even programming library functions referred to with their man section number.

For example :

You might see a reference to man. The numbering tells you that "man" is documented in section 1 (user commands) ; you can specify that you want the section 1 man page for man with the command : `man 1 man`. Specifying the section that man should look in is useful in the case of multiple items with the same name.

Table 2.1. Man Page Sections

Sections	Contents
Section 1	user commands (intro only)
Section 2	system calls
Section 3	C library calls
Section 4	devices (e.g., sd, sr)
Section 5	file formats and protocols (e.g., wtmp, /etc/passwd, nfs)
Section 6	games (intro only)
Section 7	conventions, macro packages, etc. (e.g., nroff, ascii)
Section 8	system administration (intro only)

In addition to man, there are the commands `whatis` and `apropos` available to you, whose shared purpose is to make it easier to find information in the man system.

The command `whatis` gives a very brief description of system commands, somewhat in the style of a pocket command reference.

Example :

```
% whatis whatis
whatis (1) - search the whatis database for complete words
```

The command `apropos` is used to search for a man page containing a given keyword.

Example :

```
% apropos wav
cdda2wav (1) - a sampling utility that dumps CD audio data into wav sound files
netwave_cs (4) - Xircom Creditcard Netwave device driver
oggdec (1) - simple decoder, Ogg Vorbis file to PCM audio file (WAV or RAW)
wavelan (4) - AT&T GIS WaveLAN ISA device driver
wavelan_cs (4) - AT&T GIS WaveLAN PCMCIA device driver
wvlan_cs (4) - Lucent WaveLAN/IEEE 802.11 device driver
fadeplot (6) - draws a waving ribbon following a sinusoidal path
flag (6) - draws a waving flag, containing text or an image
interference (6) - decaying sinusoidal waves
```

If you'd like further information on any of these commands, read their man pages for the details. :)

The `/usr/doc` Directory

The source for most packages that we build comes with some sort of documentation : README files, usage instructions, license files, etc. Any sort of documentation that comes with the source is included and installed on your system in the `/usr/doc` directory. Each program will (usually) install its own documentation in the order of :

```
/usr/doc/$program-$version
```

Where *\$program* is the name of the program you are wanting to read about, and *\$version* is (obviously) the appropriate version of software package installed on your system.

For example, to read the documentation for the command man you would want to cd to :

```
$ cd /usr/doc/man-$version
```

If reading the appropriate man page(s) doesn't provide you with enough information, or address what you're looking for in particular, the `/usr/doc` directory should be your next stop.

HOWTOS and mini-HOWTOS

It is in the truest spirit of the Open Source community that brings us to the HOWTO/mini-HOWTO collection. These files are exactly what they sound like - documents and guides describing how to do stuff. If you installed the HOWTO collection, the HOWTOS will be installed to `/usr/doc/Linux-HOWTOS` and the mini-HOWTOS to `/usr/doc/Linux-mini-HOWTOS`

Also included in the same package series is a collection of FAQs, which is an acronym which stands for :

Frequently
Asked
Questions

These documents are written in a “Question and Answer” style for (surprise) Frequently Asked Questions. The FAQs can often be a very useful place to look if you're just looking for a “Quick Fix” to something. If you decide to install the FAQs, you will find them installed to `/usr/doc/Linux-FAQS` directory.

These files are well worth reading whenever you're not quite sure to proceed with something. They cover an amazing range of topics, more often than not in a surprisingly detailed manner. Good stuff !

Online Help

In addition to the documentation provided an installable with the Zenwalk Linux Operating System, there are a vast multitude of online resources available for you to learn from as well.

The Official Website and Help Forum

[The Official Zenwalk Website](#)

The official Zenwalk website contains informations relevant to the latest Zenwalk version including the current version changelog as well as the developpement (also called snapshot) version changelog. You can also find an active help [Forum](#).

E-mail Support

Zenwalk have some dedicated mailing lists :

- Zenwalk Main (general help, bugs report, news, ...): To subscribe, send an empty email to `zenwalk-main+subscribe ~AT~ lists.zenwalk.org`
- Zenwalk Live : To subscribe, send an empty email to `zenwalk-live+subscribe ~AT~ lists.zenwalk.org`
- Zenwalk Documentation (Wiki and Manual stuffs) : To subscribe, send an empty email to `zenwalk-doc+subscribe ~AT~ lists.zenwalk.org`

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Hardware requirements

Zenwalk Linux requires a minimum of the following hardware:

- A Pentium II class processor
- 128 MB of RAM memory
- 2 GB of available space on your hard drive

How to get Zenwalk Linux

You can get Zenwalk by:

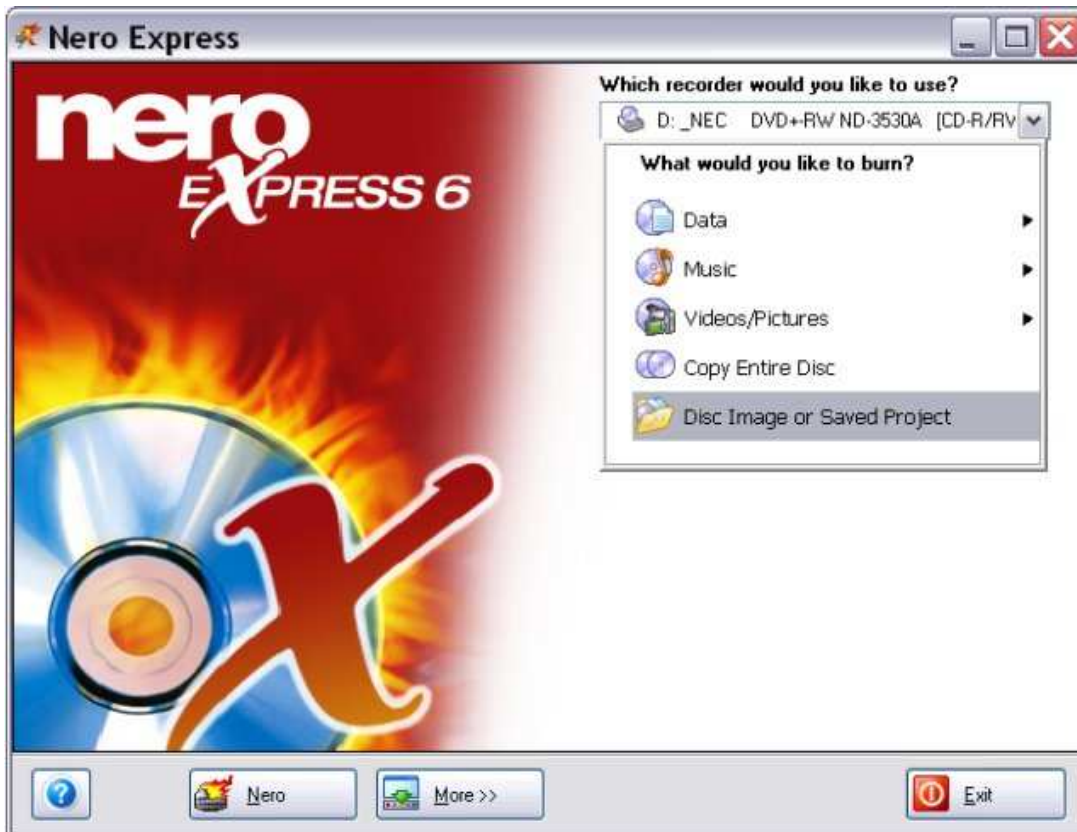
- Downloading the ISO image on one of official distribution : [mirrors](#).
- Using a tracker to download the ISO image on [Bittorrent](#) network.
- Buying a CD at [On-Disk.com](#).

How to burn a Zenwalk Linux ISO

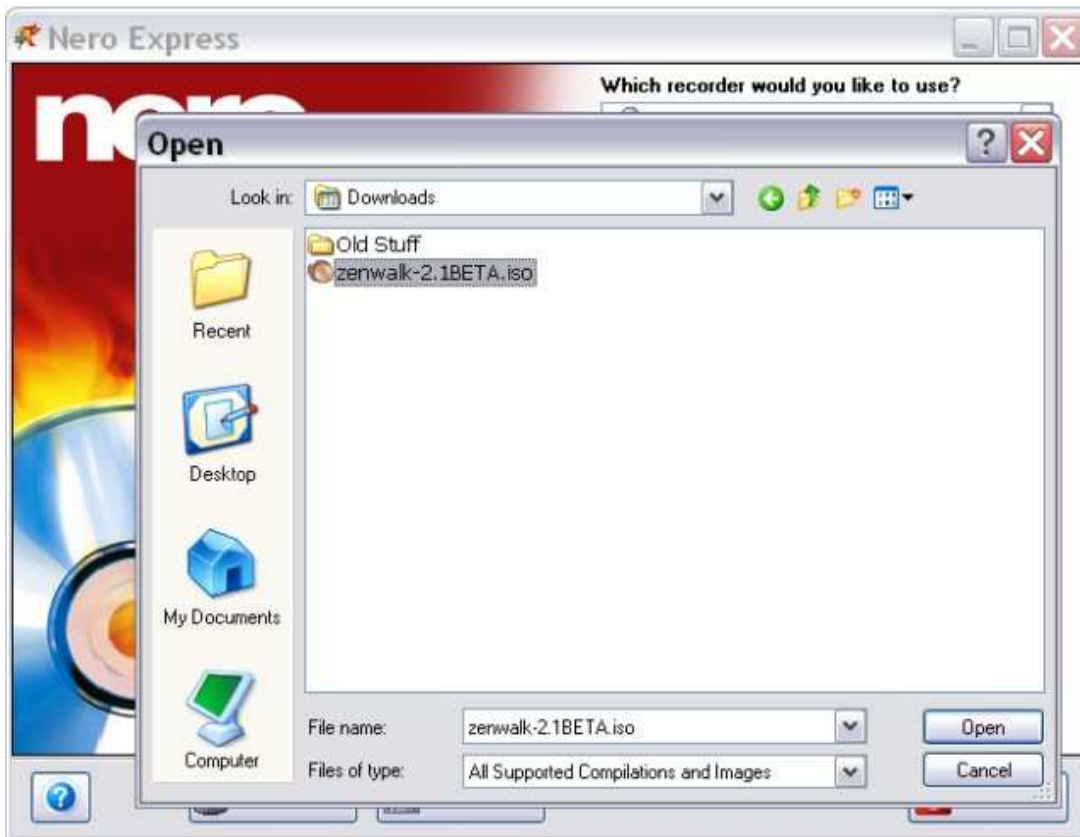
The ISO file that you downloaded must be burned as "image", not as "data", so that the system can boot from it. We will explain how to burn an "ISO", also known as an "ISO image", both under Windows and under Linux.

Using Windows (Nero)

After having launched Nero, select from the menu "Disc Image".



A window will now appear enabling you to choose the file you wish to burn.



After having chosen it, click on [open]

The image will be ready to be burned after the appropriate burning options are selected:



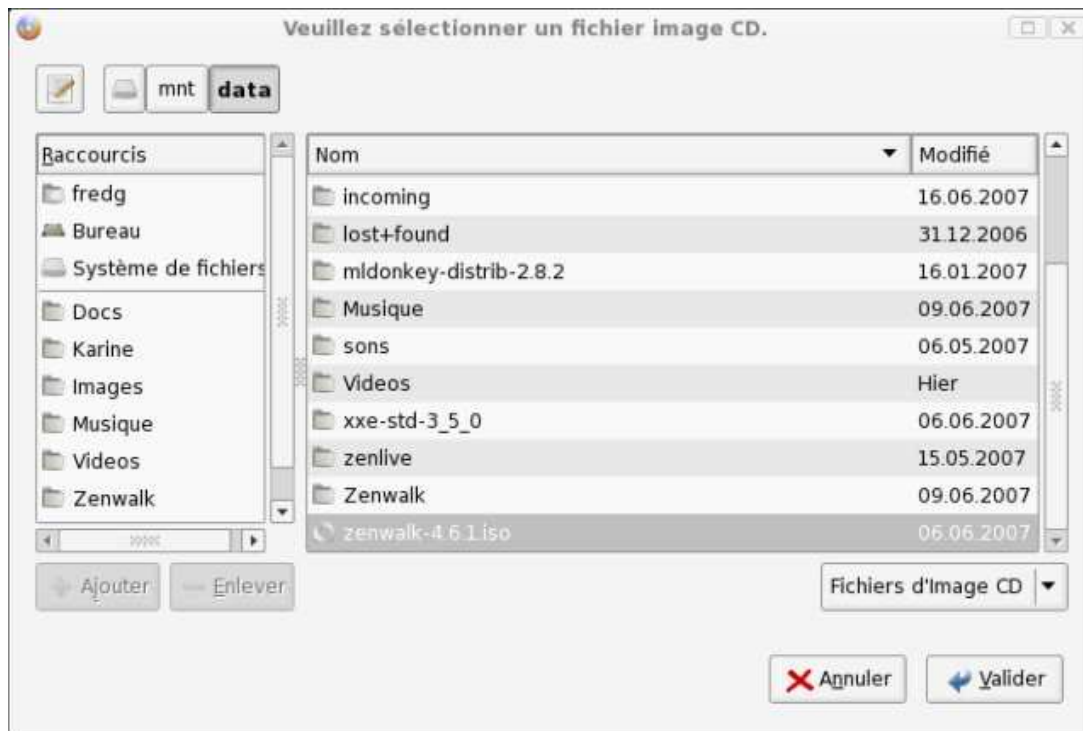
option [Disk at once], and not [track at once] then [write]

Using Linux (GnomeBaker)

After launching GnomeBaker, select from the menu "Tools" and "Burn an ISO file".



Choose your ISO file :



Select your burner device and options :



And finally, burn it.



Installation

Verify that your PC will boot from CD-ROM

After creating the Zenwalk installation CD, restart the system. If the boot screen of Zenwalk CD appears, begin the installation. If your current operating system loads, the computer may not be configured to boot from the CD-ROM. Restart your system to reconfigure the BIOS settings. As the PC boots, the word "Setup" appears on the screen followed by the name of a key or keystroke combination. Typically, it should be:

- Touch "Suppr" or,
- Touch "Del" or,
- Touch "F2" or,
- Touch "Ctrl+Alt+Esc" or,
- Touch "F1" or,
- Touch "F10" or,
- Touch "Ctrl+Alt+S" or,
- (Others are possible).

After pressing the correct key, the "BIOS Setup" section loads. Modify the boot options to enable the CD-ROM. Often, the order in which you system looks for an "Operating System" needs to be edited. Make sure that you move CDROM to the top of the list. Save the settings, and restart the system. If it boots from the CD-ROM, a prompt will ask if you want to proceed. (Press any key to continue.)

Installation of Zenwalk Linux

- Boot from the CD and perform one of the following actions:
- Accept the default boot options (if you use a standard IDE pata/sata controler)
- Or write the kernel name ("SCSI " for the SCSI controller)
- then press [enter], and the installation will begin

```

ZENwalk
linux

Welcome to Zenwalk version 5.0 (Linux kernel 2.6.23.12 )!

The Zenwalk kernel is configured with exclusive LIBATA subsystem, all SATA
and PATA devices are called "sdX" (Optical devices are called "srX").

If you need to pass extra parameters to the kernel, enter them at the prompt
below after the name of the kernel to boot (scsi or ata). In most cases
Linux will detect your hardware, and parameters are not needed.

Hit [ENTER] to boot the default "ata" kernel or press [F2]
for a complete list of boot options.

boot: _

```

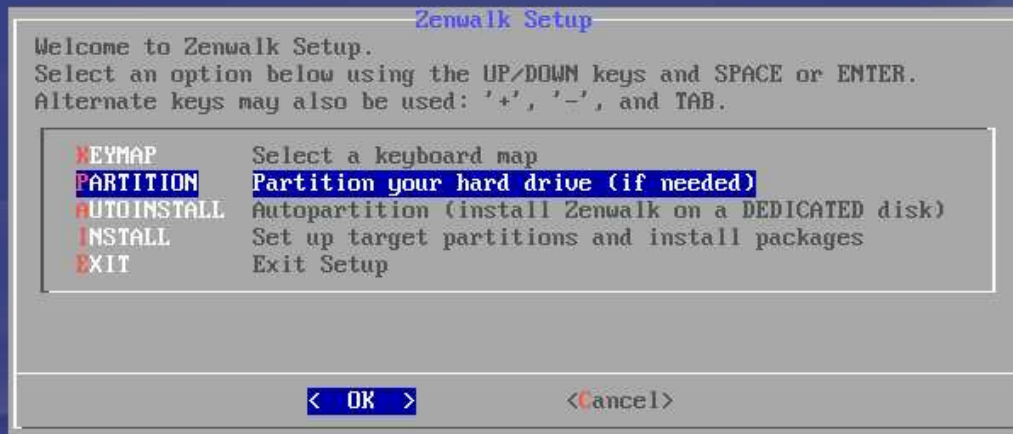
- Begin the install process by choosing your keyboard:



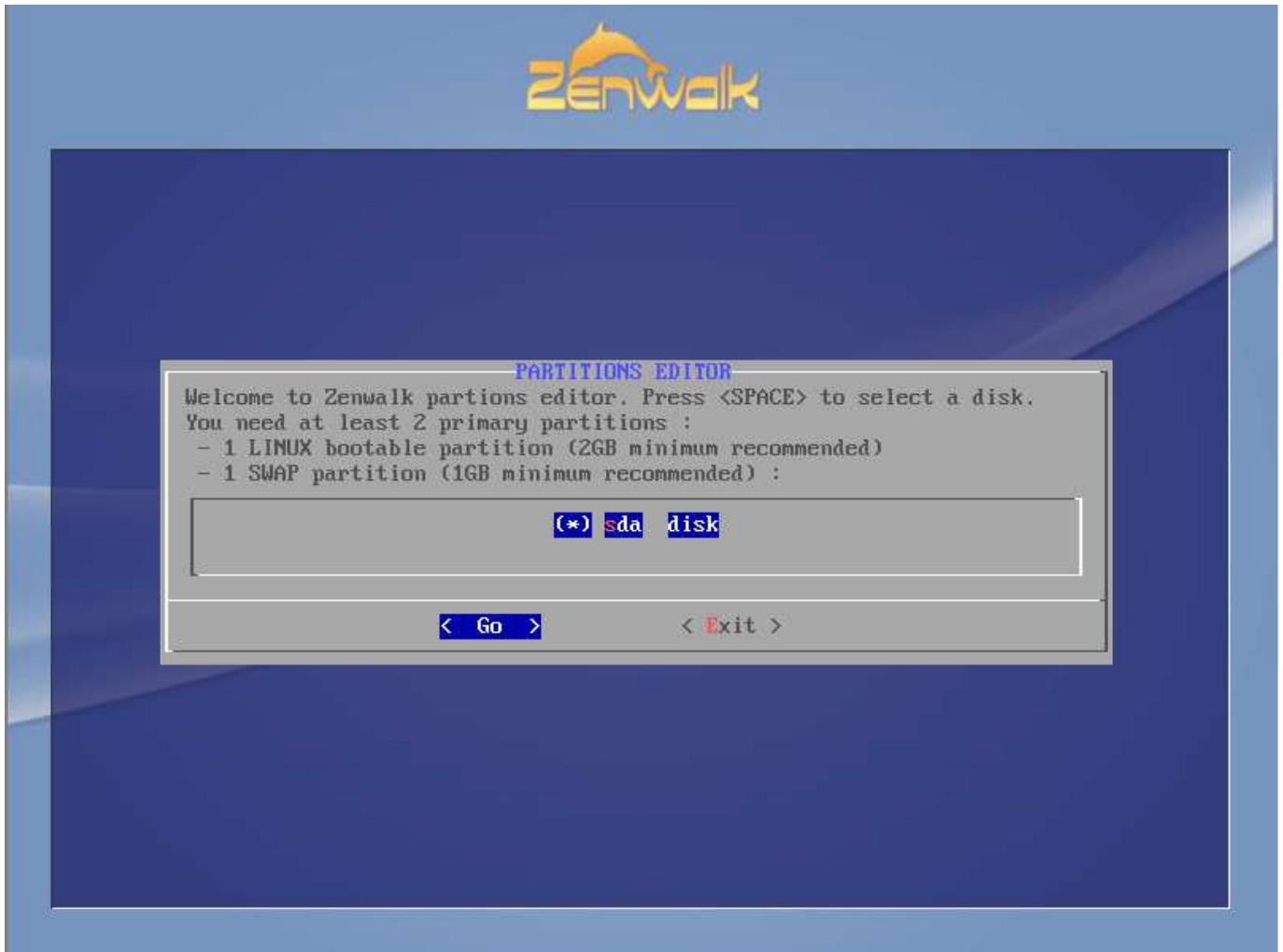
- Select the keyboard layout you are currently using.



- There are two installation procedures provided: AUTOINSTALL and MANUAL INSTALL.



- To install Zenwalk automatically, you can choose AUTOINSTALL tool, which automatically partitions your hard drive. However, it is necessary to reboot after this auto-partitioning. If your hard disk is larger than 10 GB, 3 partitions will be created (swap, / and /home). If the hard disk size is between 3 and 10 GB, 2 partitions will be made (swap and /). If the hard disk size is less than 3 GB, then you will have to create the partitions manually.
- With AUTOINSTALL, you will have to choose which disk is dedicated to Zenwalk.
- You must confirm that you want to erase all the data on this disk. If you don't want to do this, you may create the partitions manually.
- If you accept, the entire disk will be setup for Zenwalk.
- If you prefer to partition your disk manually, select PARTITION. Then select which hard drive you wish you partition.



- This will take you to cfdisk interface shown below.



- Select New to create a new partition. Select a partition type (Primary or Logical), partition size and so on. Select yes to create the first partition. Make it Bootable, and create another partition for swap. Select New, as before, choose a partition type and its partition size. Select yes, to create the partition. Then select Type from the menu, enter 82 for Linux swap partition type. If you don't choose the "autopartition" tool, Your hard-disk must be partitioned properly to install Zenwalk.
- If you wish to create more partitions, you can do so by selecting New again, and by following the same procedure as before, but this time, without changing the partition Type.



```

                                cfdisk 2.12r

                                Disk Drive: /dev/sda
                                Size: 8589934592 bytes, 8589 MB
                                Heads: 255 Sectors per Track: 63 Cylinders: 1044

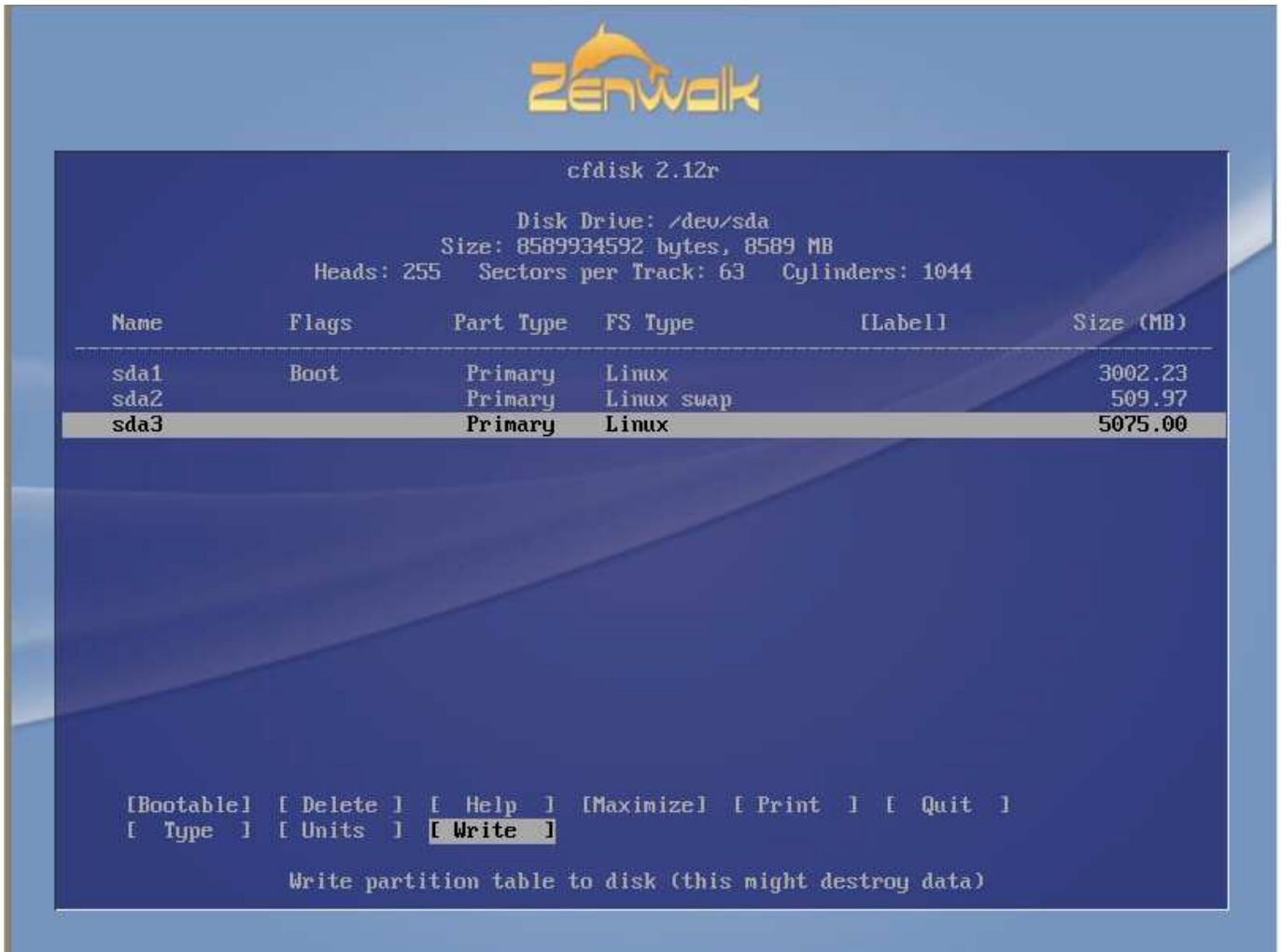
Name      Flags      Part Type  FS Type      [Label]      Size (MB)
-----
sda1     Boot      Primary   Linux        3002.23
sda2     Primary   Linux swap 509.97
          Pri/Log   Free Space 5075.00

[Bootable] [ Delete ] [ Help ] [Maximize] [ Print ] [ Quit ]
[ Type ] [ Units ] [ Write ]

Toggle bootable flag of the current partition_

```

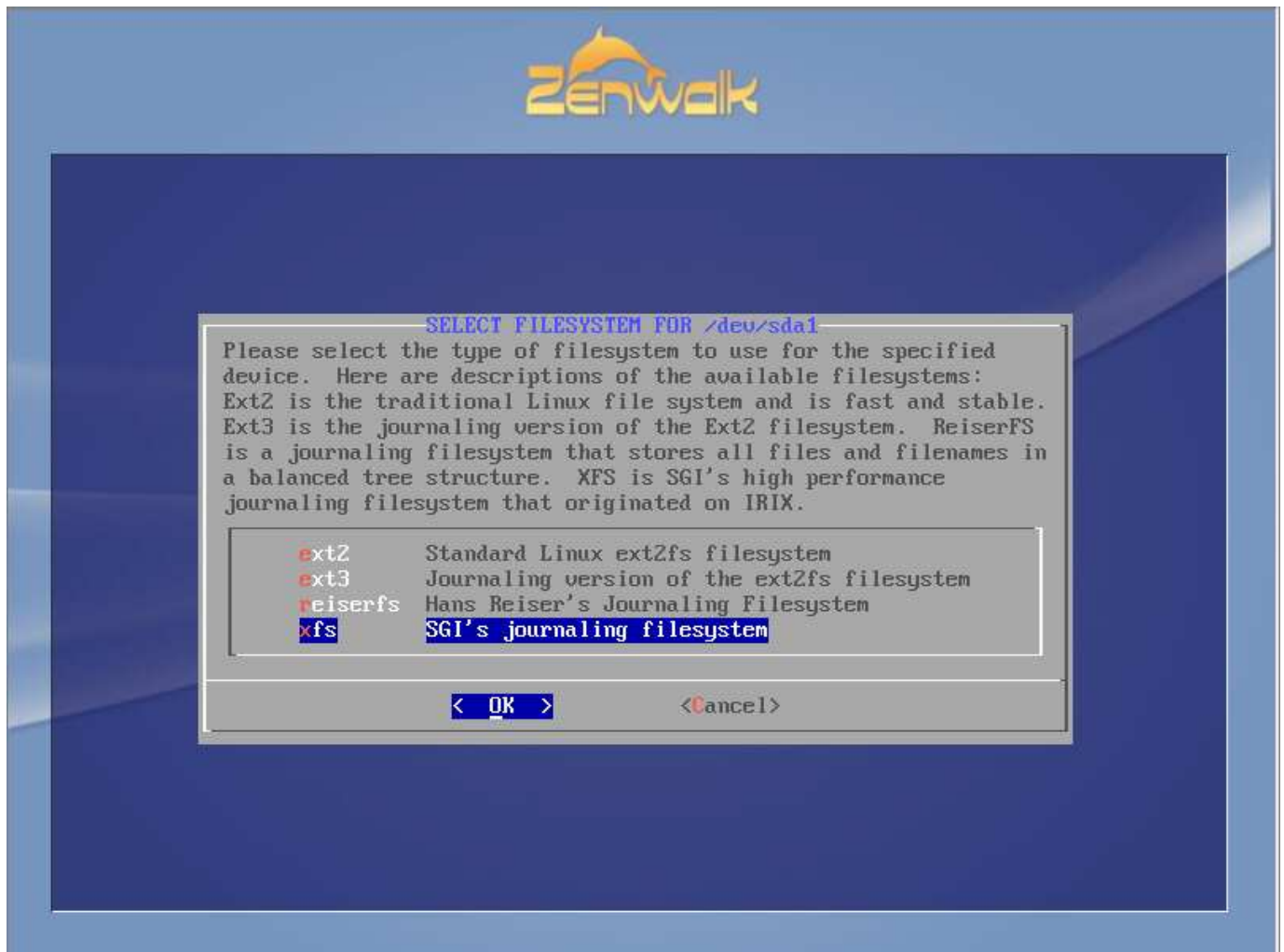
- In the example below, three partitions were created. Now select Write to write the partition table, and then Quit.



- Select INSTALL next to continue with the installation. You will be asked to set up a swap partition. This should be automatically detected. Select OK to continue.



- You will be asked to choose a partition for / directory. After selecting a partition, you need to choose a file system. Select one of the four available file systems, then format (or not format/check+format) the partition.



- You can add more partitions to the system, and mount them during boot. Select a partition you want to mount during boot.



Select other Linux partitions for /etc/fstab

You seem to have more than one partition tagged as type Linux. You may use these to distribute your Linux system across more than one partition. Currently, you have /dev/sda1 mounted as your / partition. You might want to mount directories such as /home or /usr/local on separate partitions. You should not try to mount /etc, /sbin, or /bin on their own partitions since they contain utilities needed to bring the system up and mount partitions. Also, do not reuse a partition that you've already entered before. Please select one of the Linux partitions listed below, or if you're done, hit <Continue>.

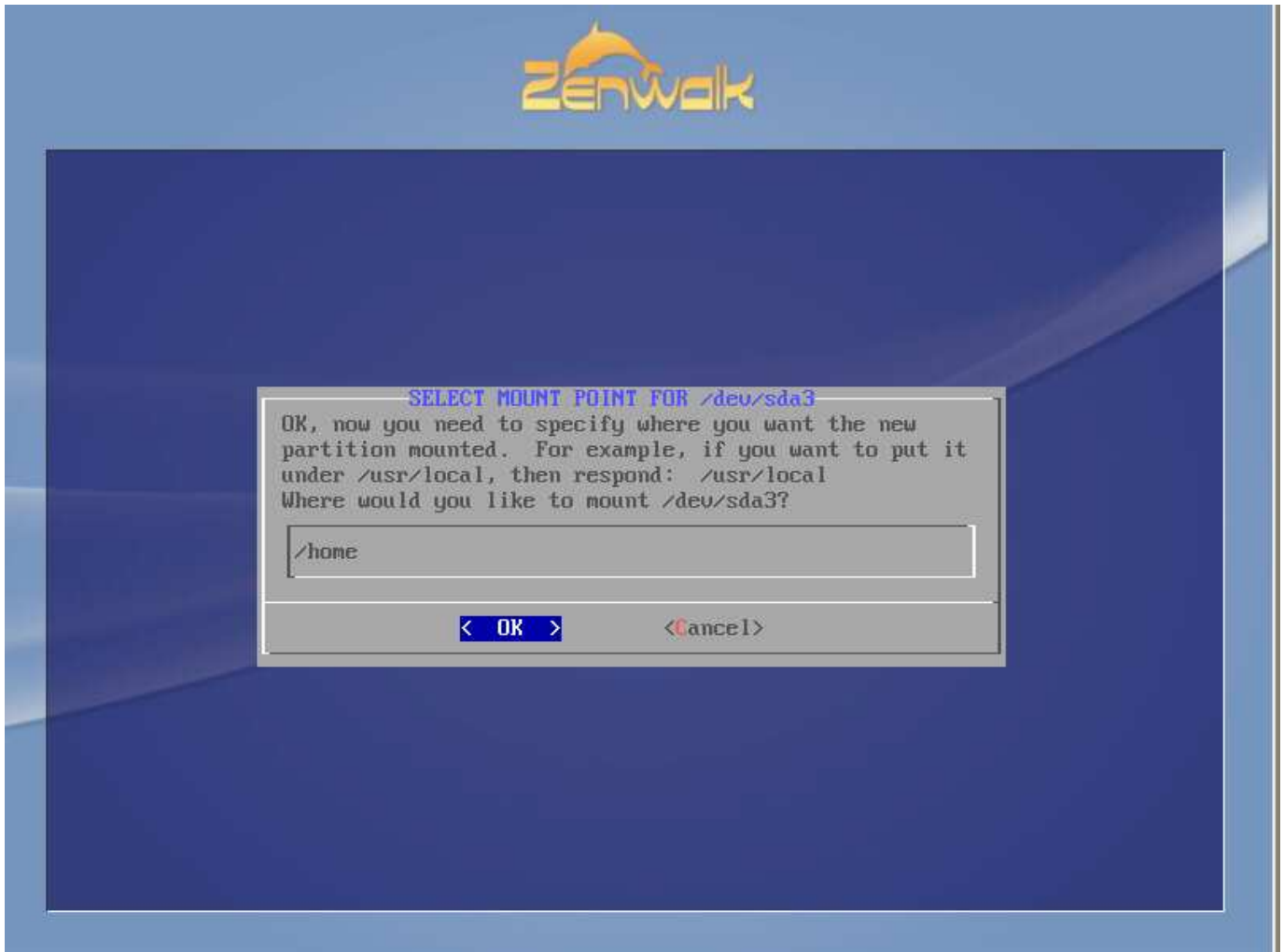
(IN USE)	/dev/sda1 on / Linux 2931831 KB
/dev/sda3	Linux 4956052 KB
---	(done adding partitions, continue with setup)
---	(done adding partitions, continue with setup)

1334

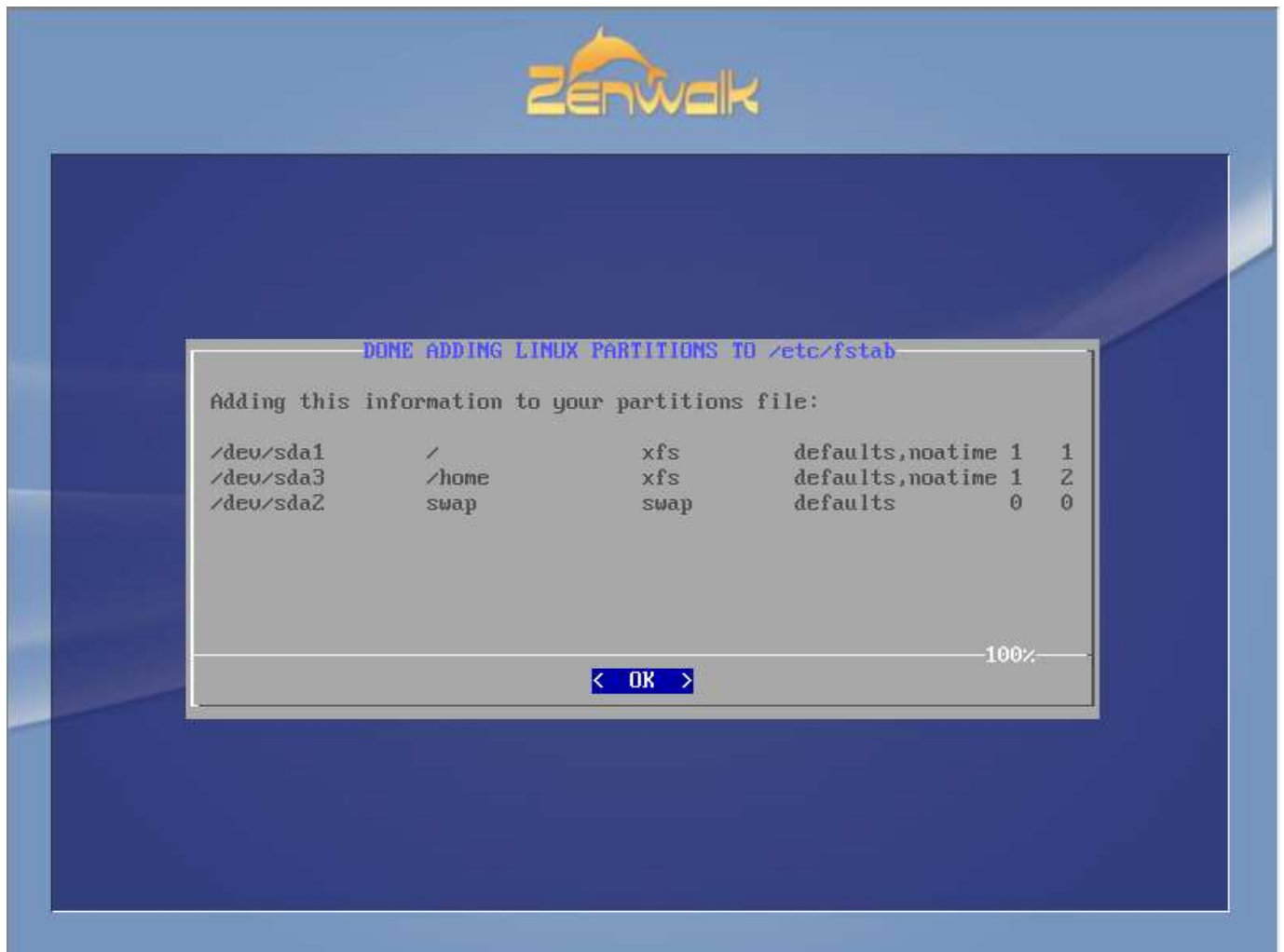
< Select >

<Continue>

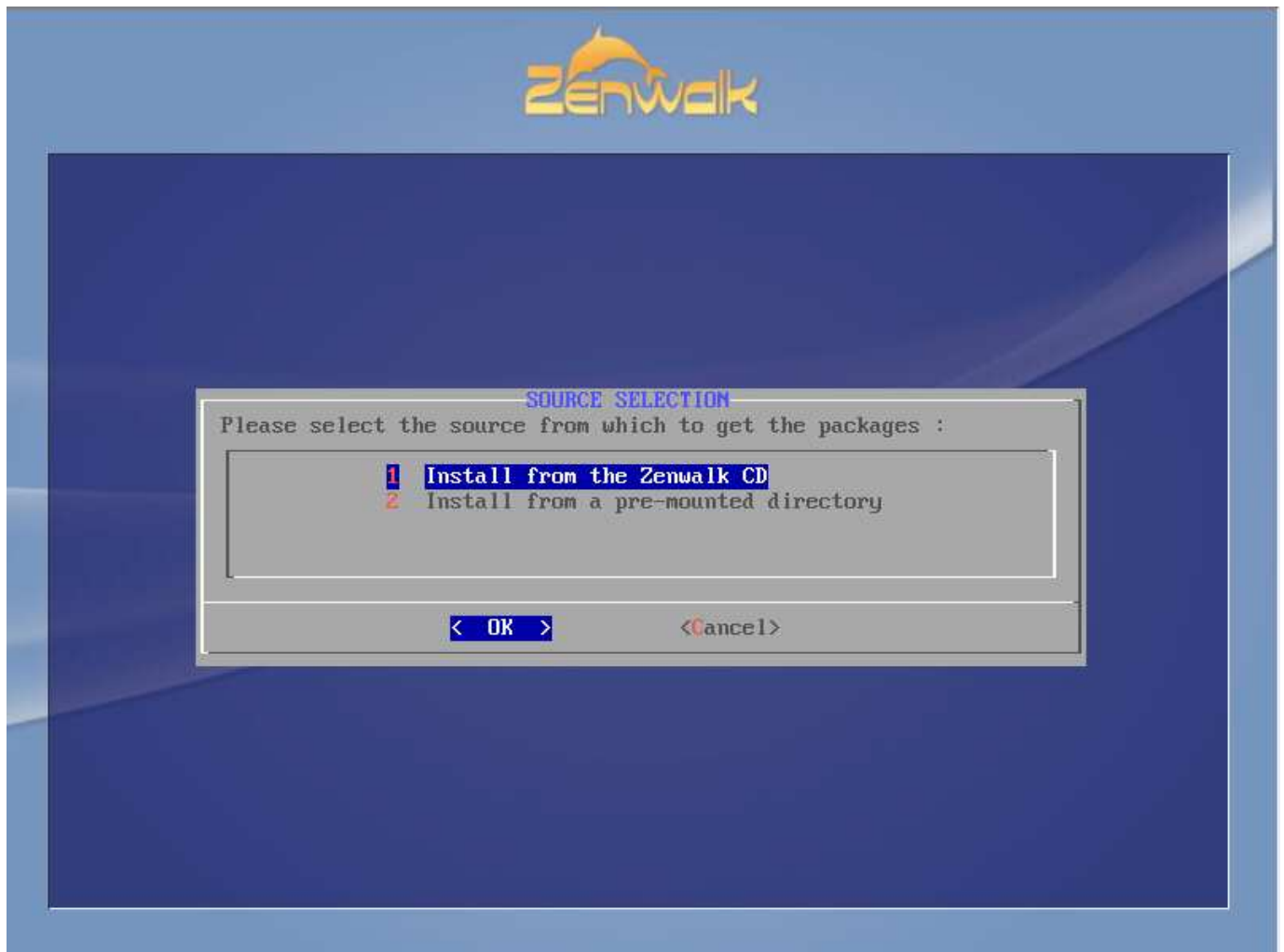
- After formatting the selected partition, you are asked to enter a target mount point directory for the partition.
- In the example below, partition sda3 is set to be mounted to /home directory.



- You can confirm the status of the partitions you mounted on the system, and the locations of their mount point directories.



- Now you are asked to select the installation source. Normally, it is your Zenwalk CD if you are installing Zenwalk from CD. Select the first option, Install from the Zenwalk CD.



- Setup will begin installing packages, which takes about 15-30 minutes. No package selection is needed because this is a "one app/one task" system. And Linux beginners also avoid obtaining a corrupt system.



Installing package bin-11.1-i486-1

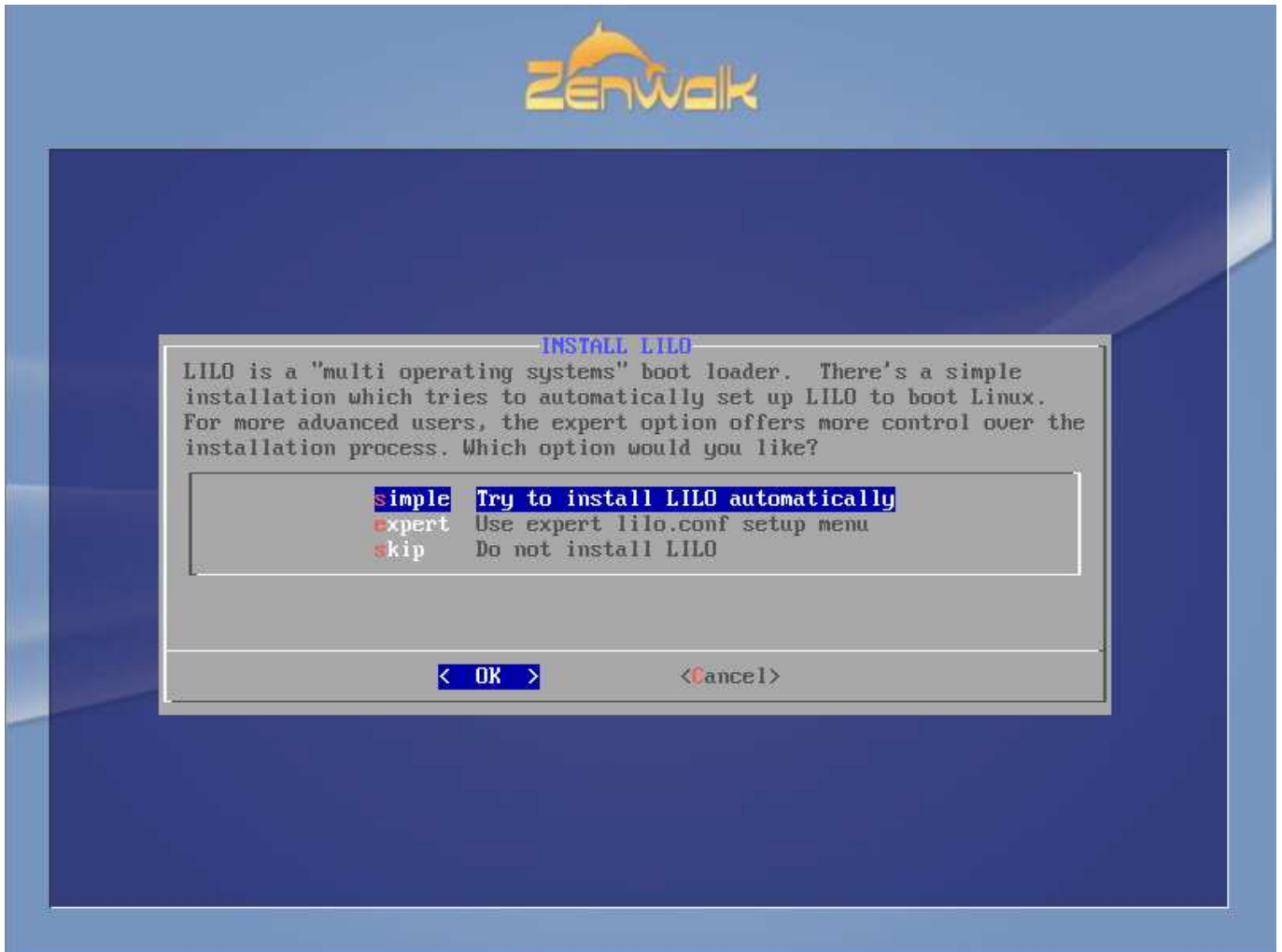
bin (some common system utilities)

The "bin" package is a collection of utilities for handling various kinds of archives, identifying file types, and processing data. Several of these tools are used by system scripts, so this is a required package. The bin package contains these programs:

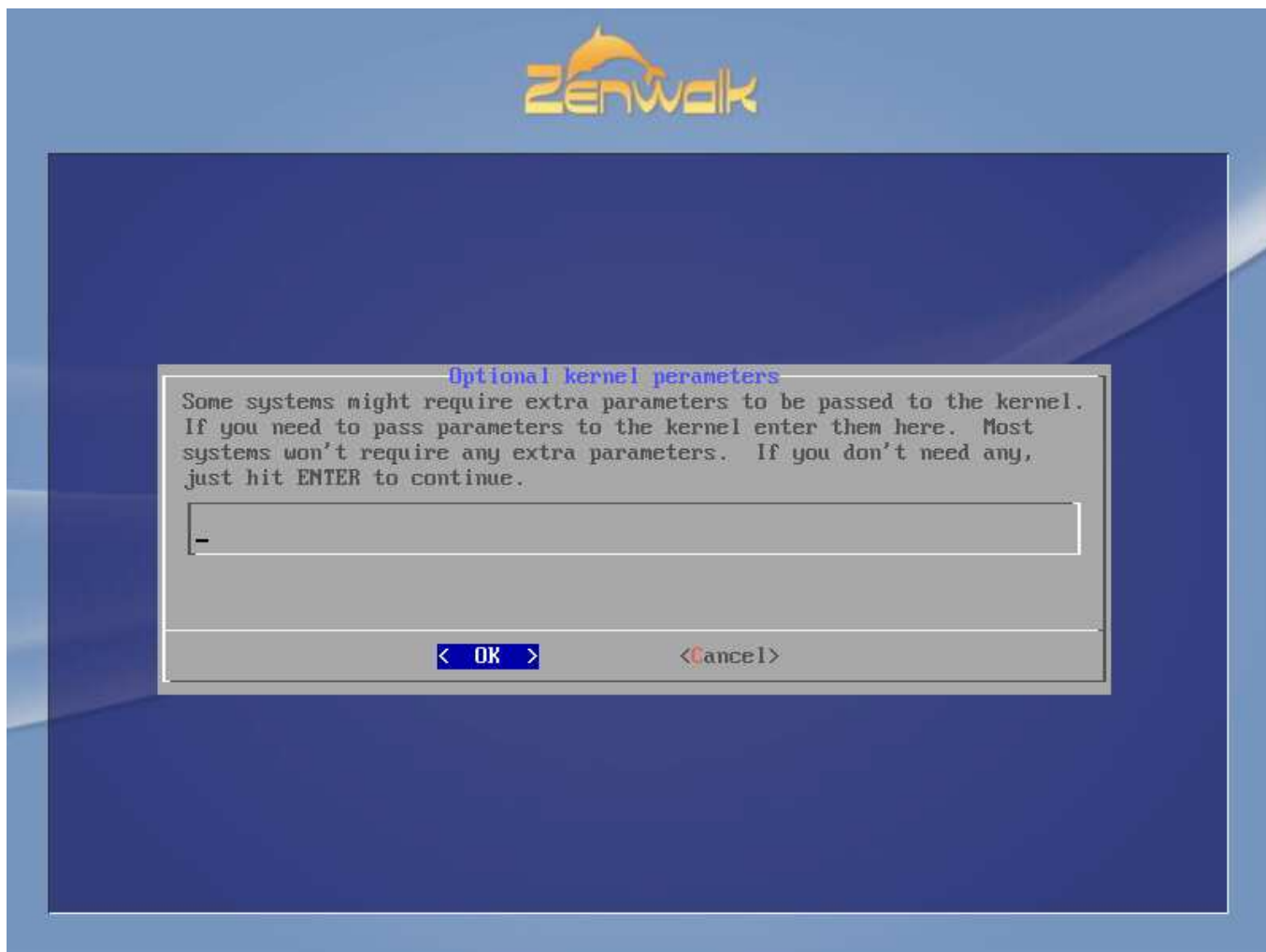
```
bban compress diskcopy dosfsck ed eject fbset file fiz fromdos lha  
mkdosfs mktemp patch rescan-scsi-bus rpm2targz rpmoffset run-parts  
saveolog shar splitvt sysubanner tempfile time todos tree unarj unshar  
uudecode uuencode volname which xx zoo
```

Size: Compressed: 52 K, uncompressed: 180 K.

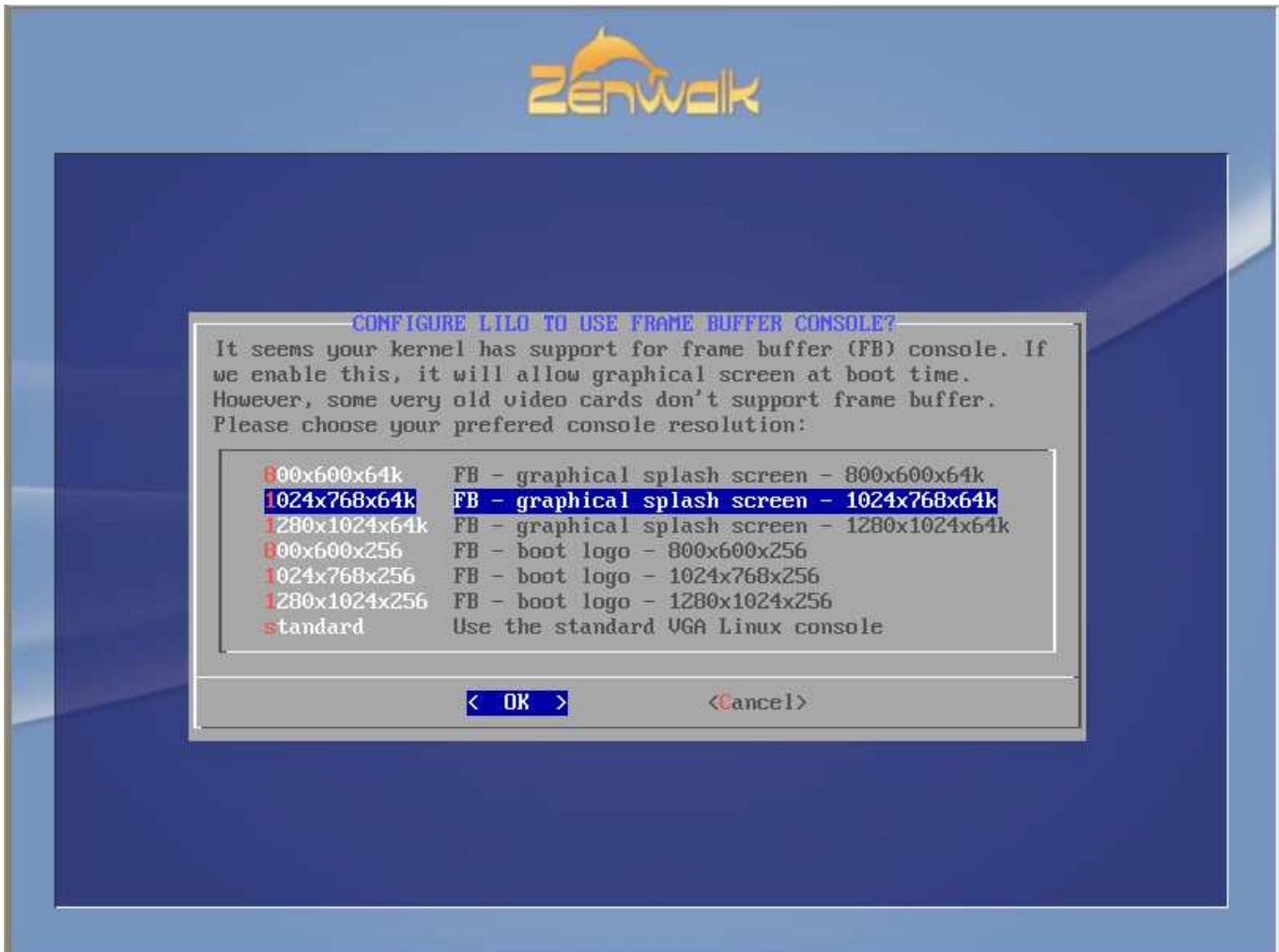
- Choose your preferred Linux Loader install mode. [simple] will work on most disks.



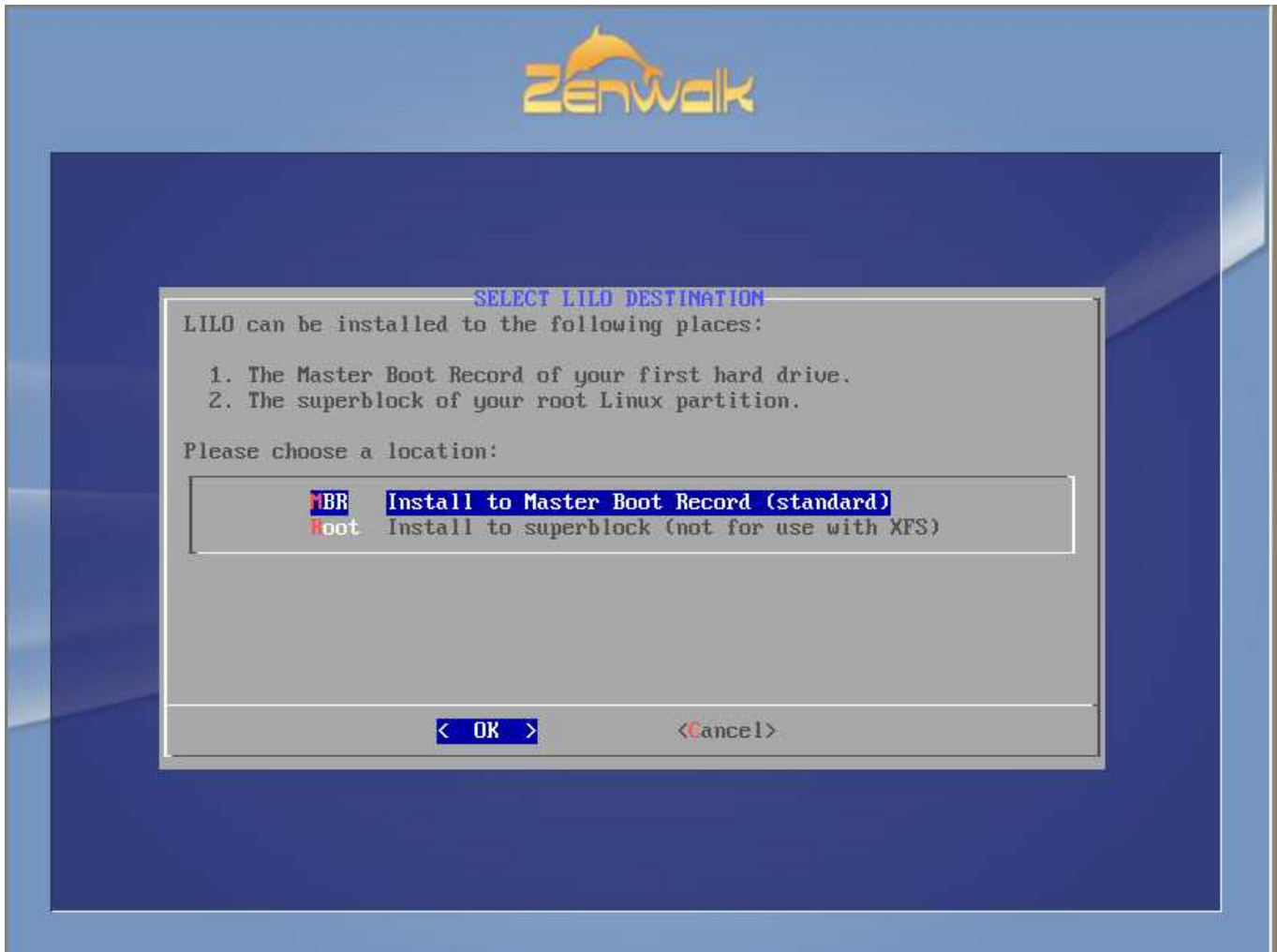
- Some systems might require extra parameters to be passed to the kernel. If you know you need extra parameters, then enter them here. In most systems, this is not required. Choose OK.



- standard is a safe choice, unless you're sure that your video card supports frame buffering (FB). You can select a resolution you want during boot. Options are with a lovely Zenwalk splash screen, with a boot logo or with nothing (standard).



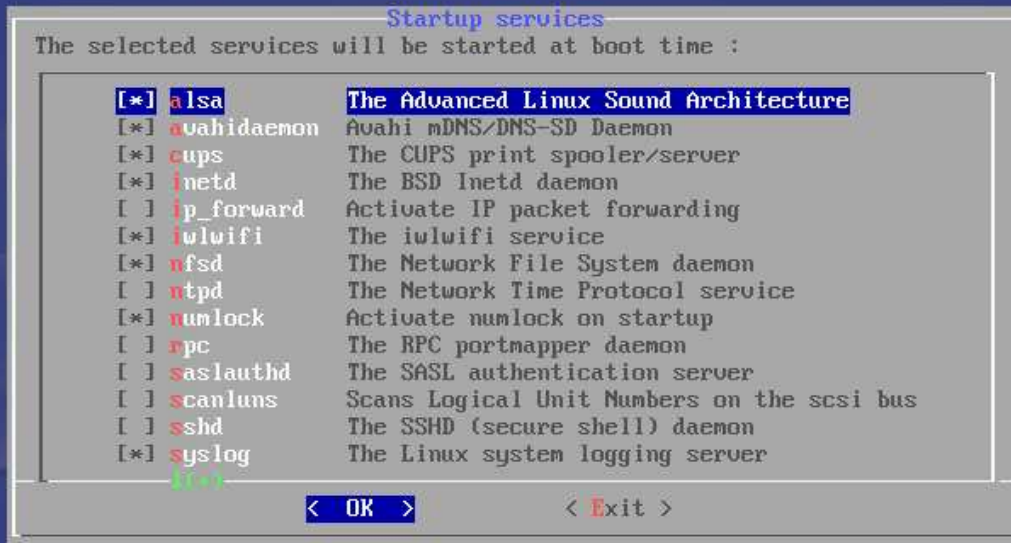
- MBR (Master Boot Record) is generally a good place to install LILO, so select MBR, unless you have a reason not to do so.



- Set the hardware clock to either local time or UTC. Here in the example, local time was chosen.



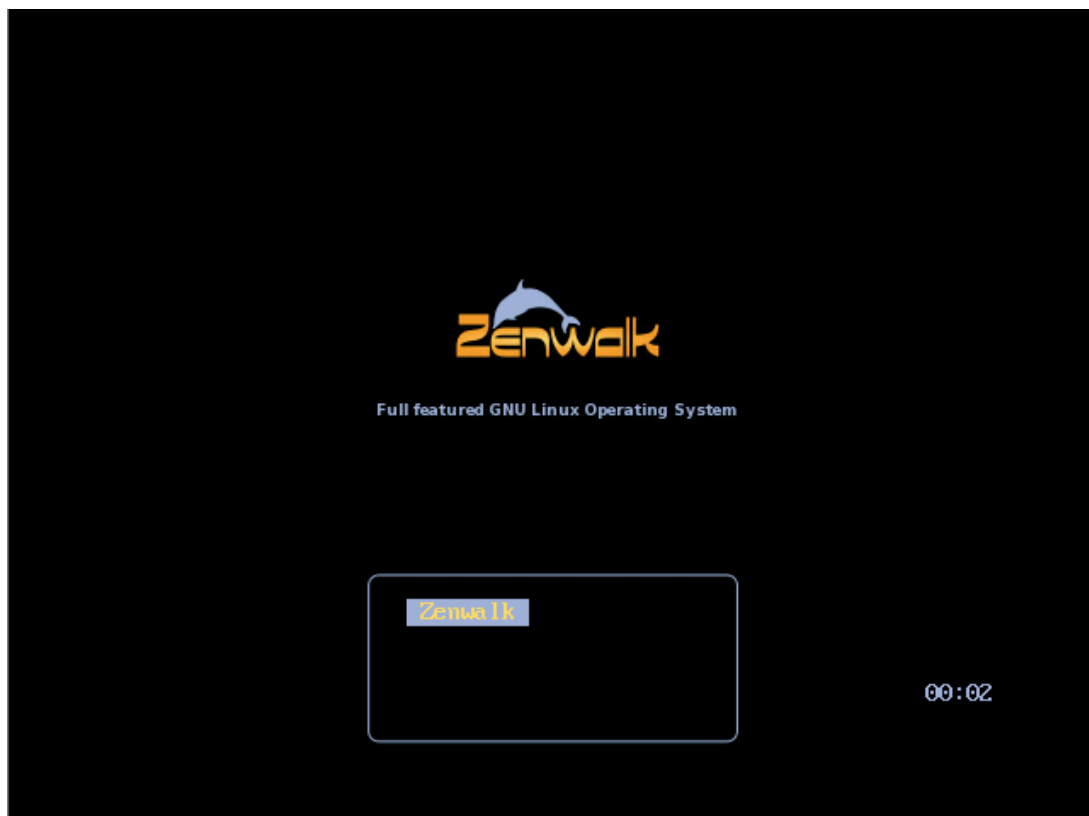
- Select on-boot services, hit the "spacebar" to select/deselect the desired start-up items. (take a look at the dedicated section in this manual)



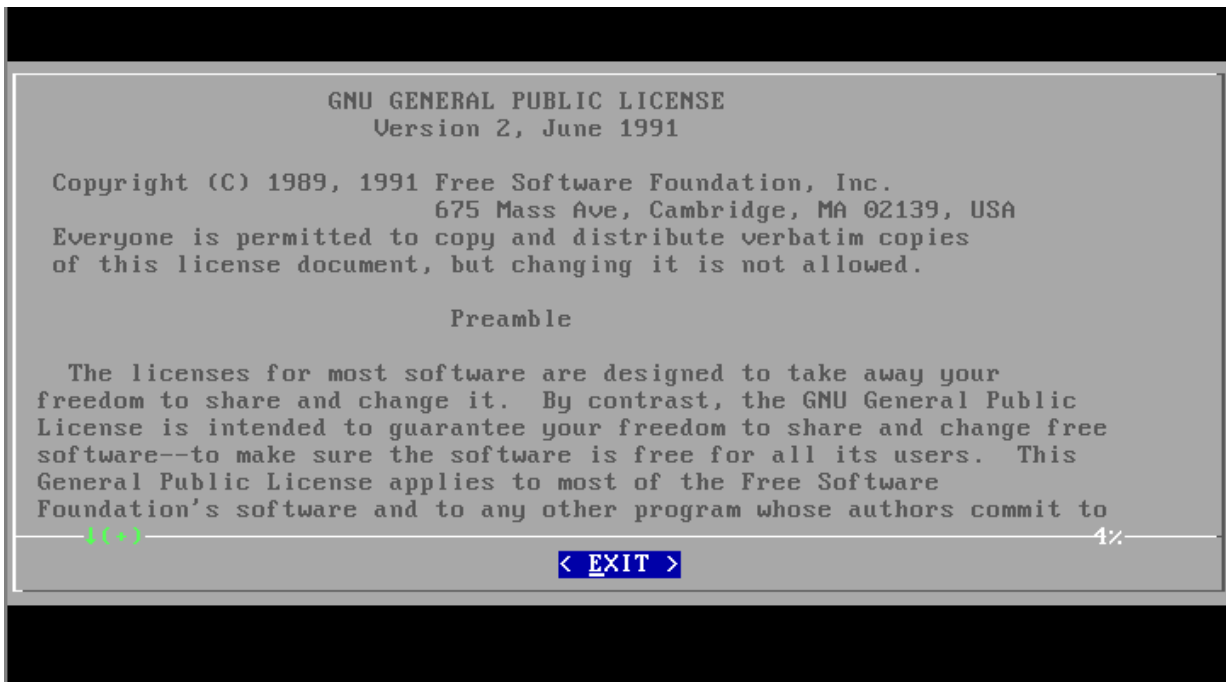
- It's time now to quit the install process and reboot, your disk will be automatically ejected, you will have to press Ctrl+alt+delete to reboot.



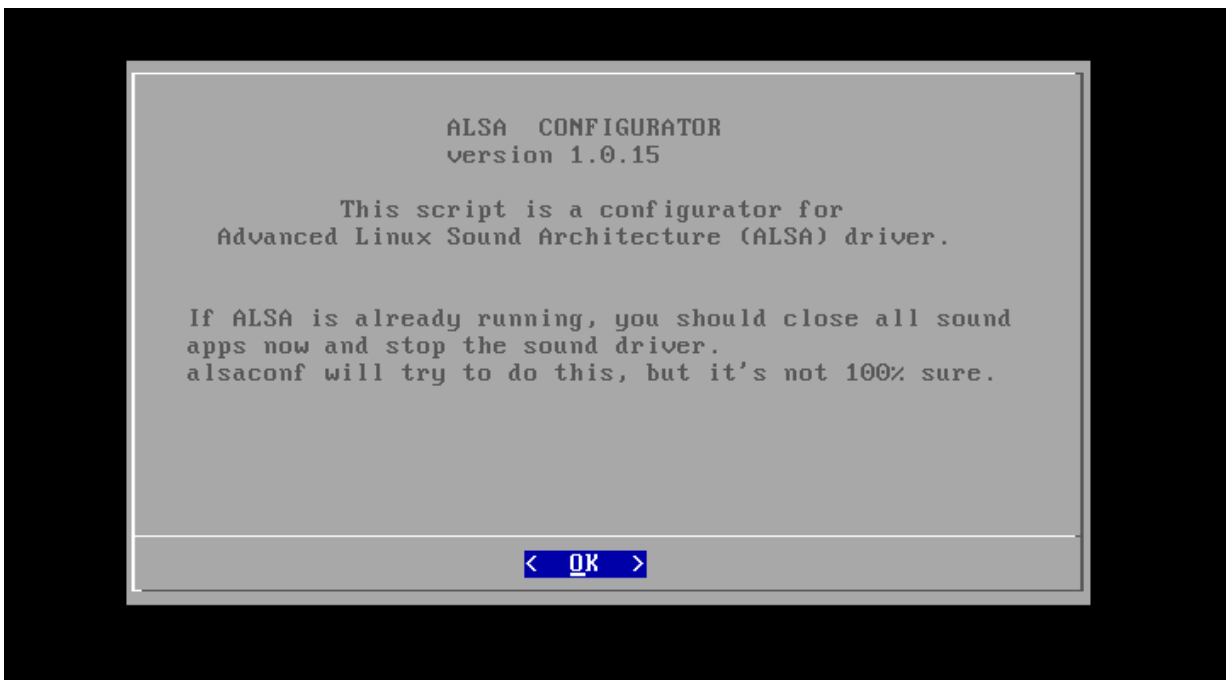
- If all is ok and if LILO is successfully installed, you will see the following bootsplash.



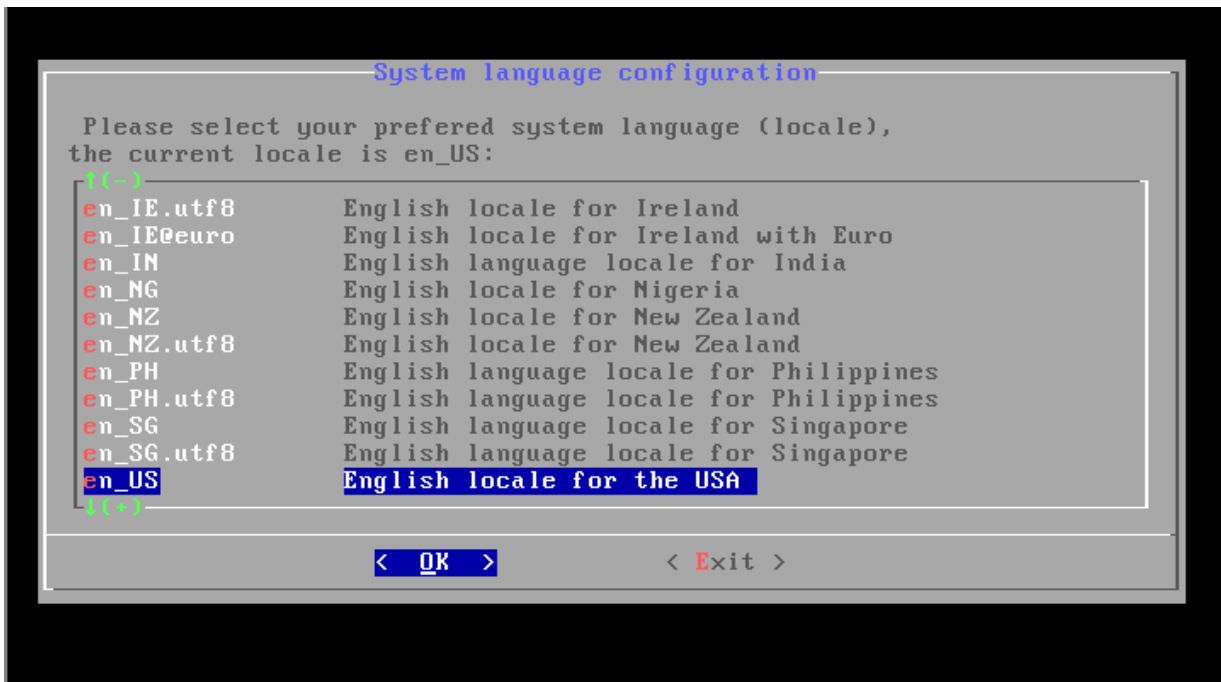
- Then you need to read through some licence agreements. If you agree with them, then select OK.



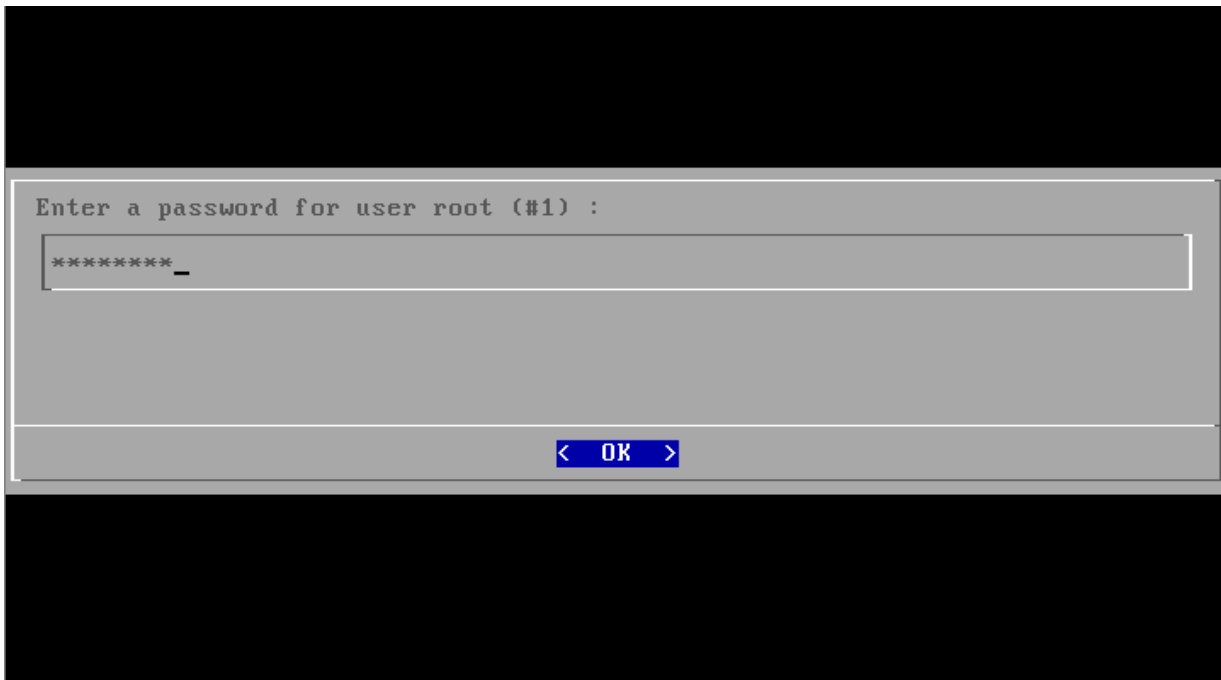
- Your sound card should be detected and configured by “alsaconf”:



- Select your system language:



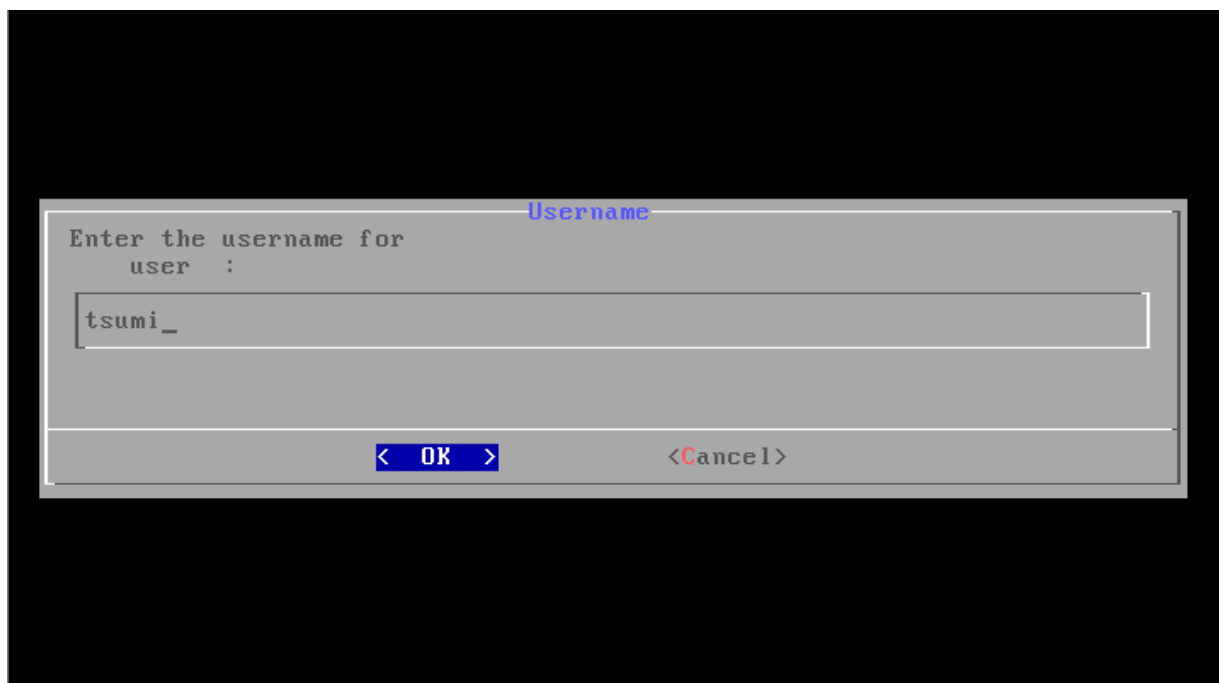
- Then, set the root password :



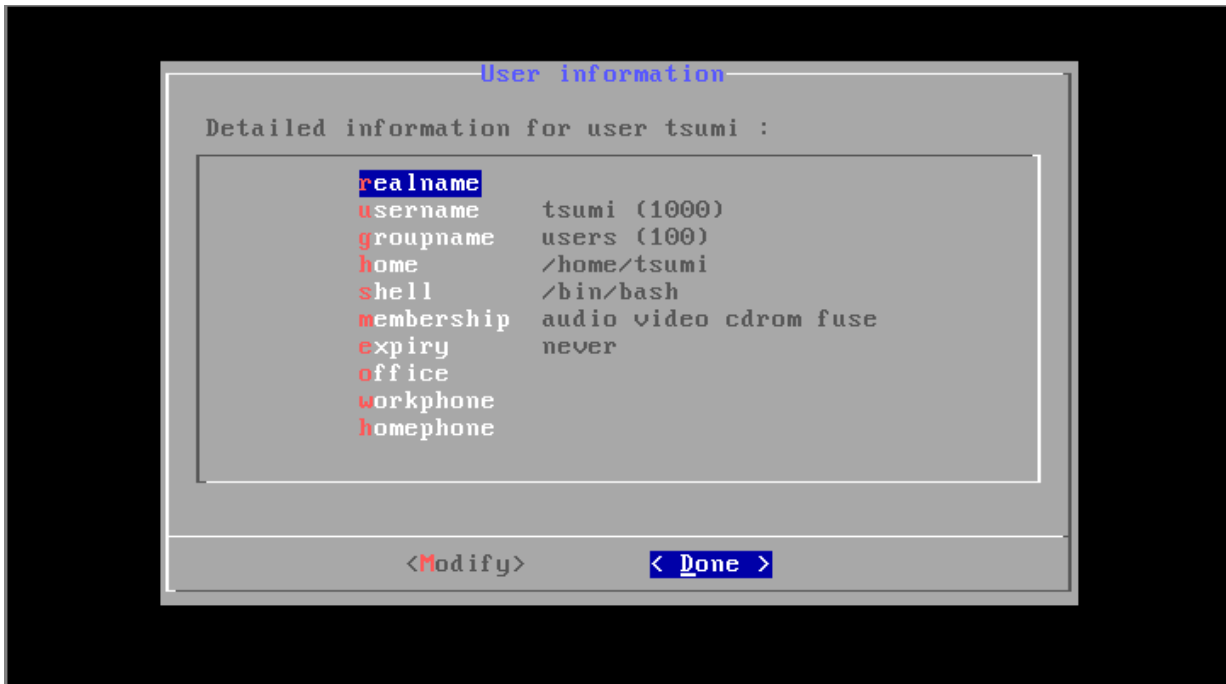
- Now it's time to add a user. Select Create User and follow the wizard (see the dedicated section of this manual).



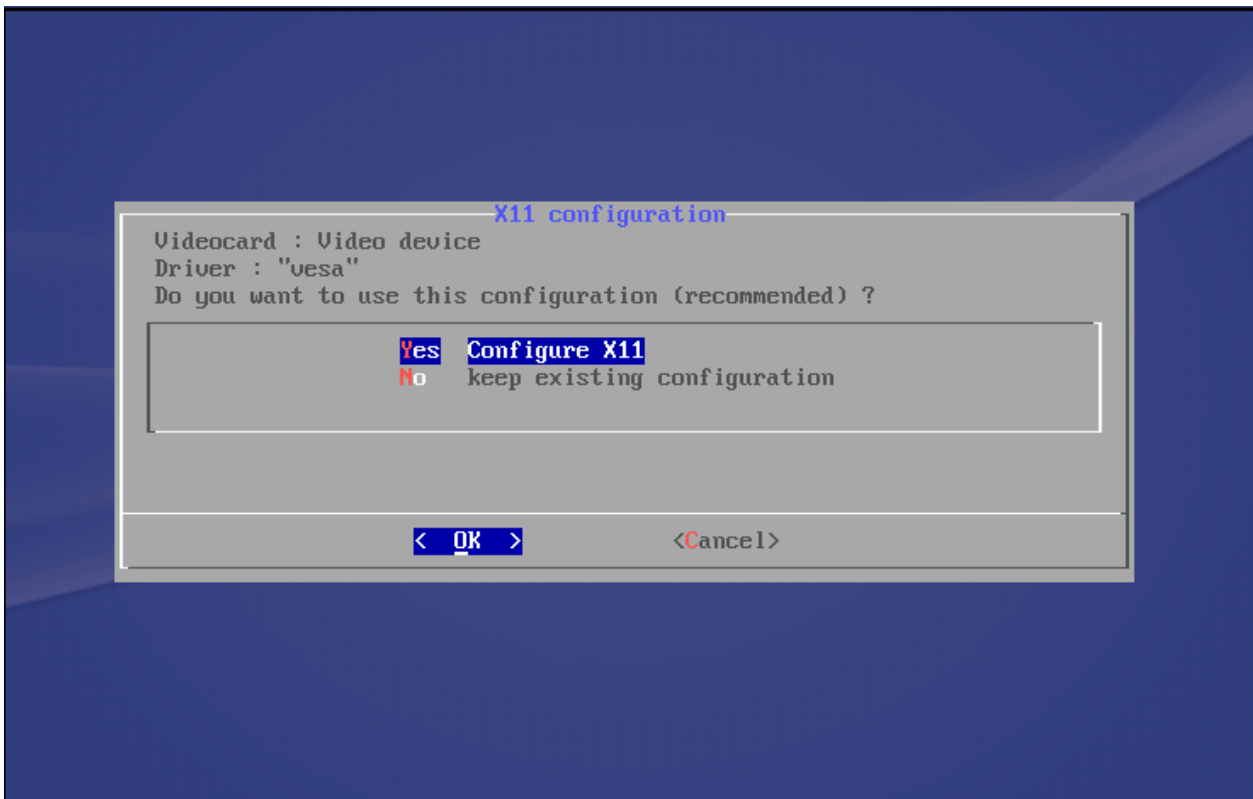
- It is a good idea to create at least one user, which you can use for everyday use. To keep the system secure, it is advisable not to use the root account unless you need to change something in the system. In this example, I am creating a user account called "tsumi".



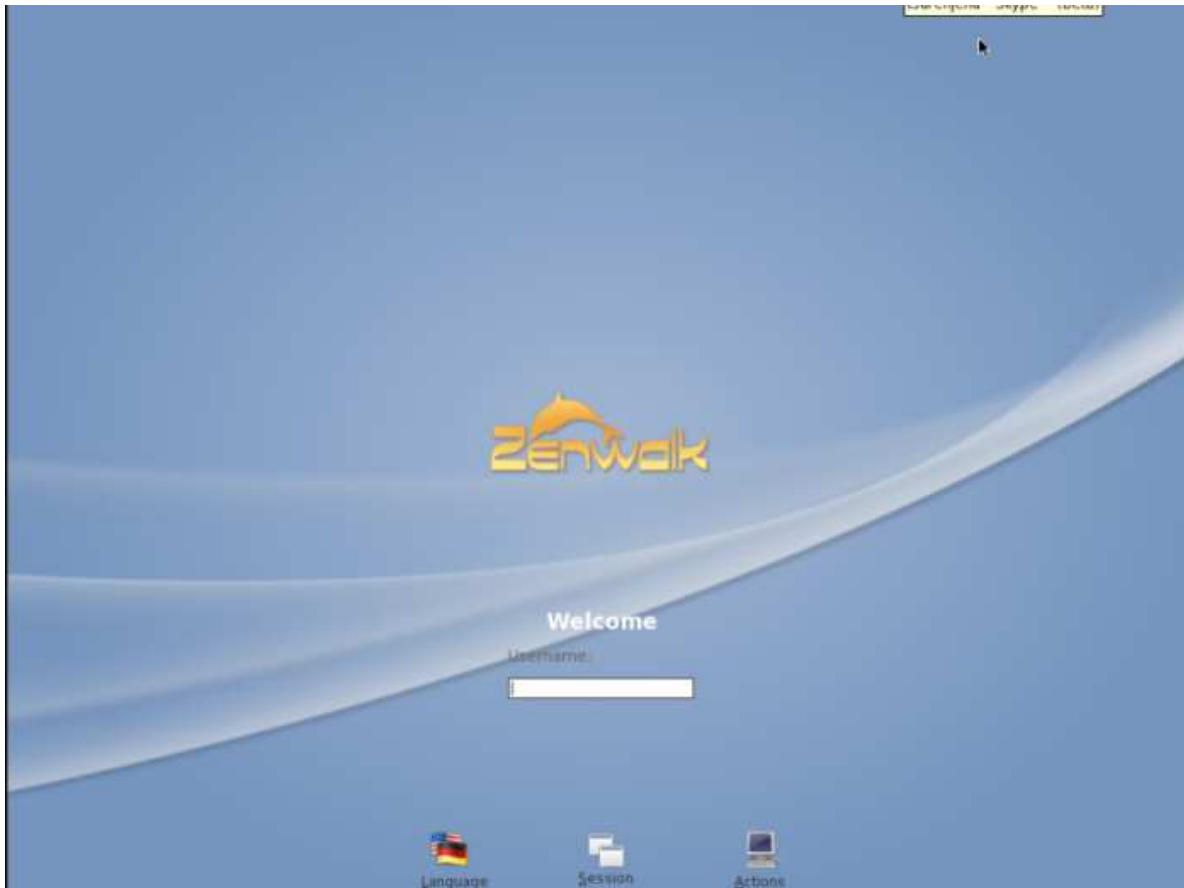
- Fill in the details for the new account. The ones you have to be aware of are: expiry date (choose Never, if you don't want to set an expiry date.), user group and password for the account. Once done, you can exit from UserConfig by entering Done (see the dedicated part of this manual for more details).



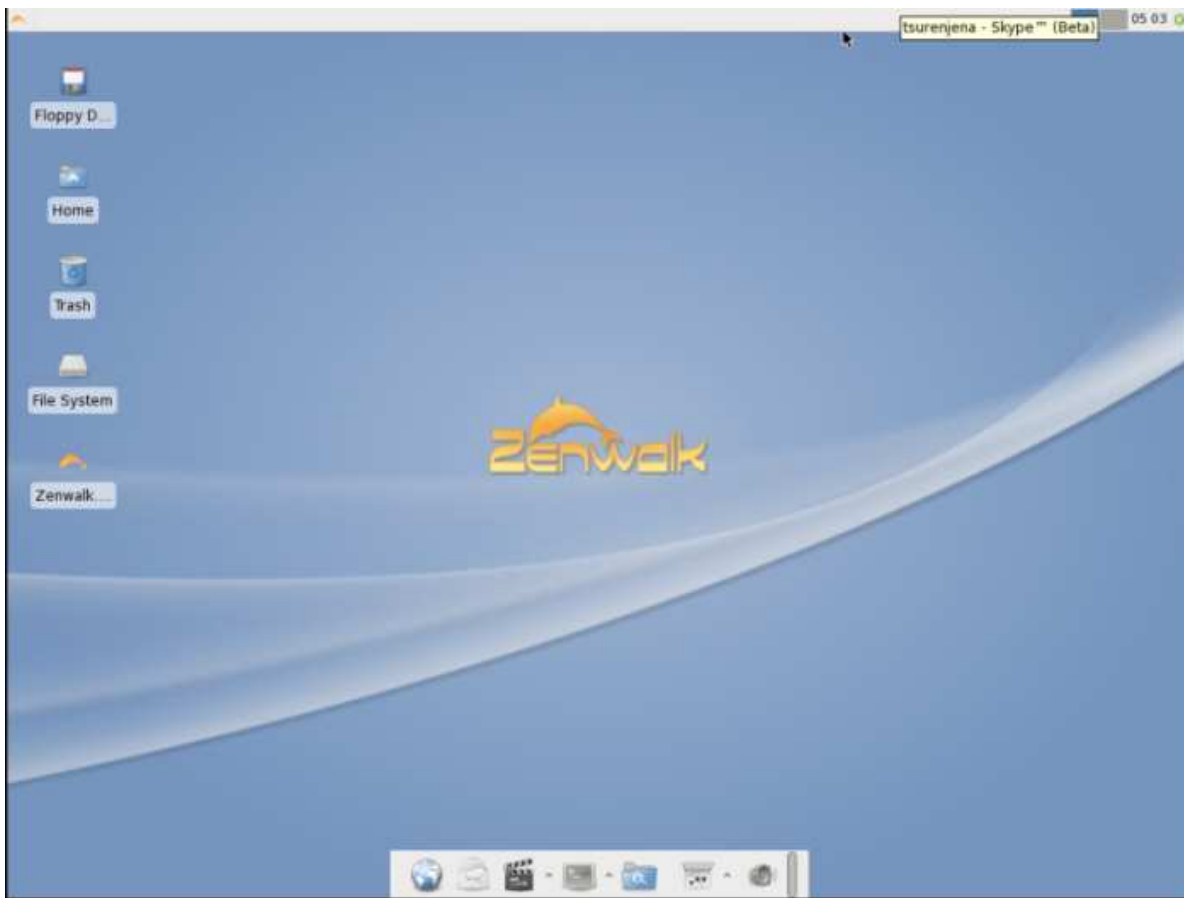
- Now, you can choose to activate Numlock at boot (a bad idea for laptop users ;)).
- Then, Videoconfig will setup your videocard or your graphic chipset and you will go to the graphical login



- Welcome to Zenwalk Linux !
- You will be welcome by the Graphical Desktop Manager



- Now log in to your Zenwalk Xfce Desktop!!!



Chapter 4. USING THE ZENWALK SYSTEM TOOLS

Table of Contents

ZENPANEL, THE SYSTEM TOOLS MANAGER[Presentation](#)[Start](#)[Use](#)KEYBOARD LAYOUT[Presentation](#)[Launch](#)[Basic usage](#)NETPKG[Presentation](#)[Start](#)[Options](#)[Netpkg.conf \(netpkg configuration file\)](#)[Some advice for upgrading your system](#)XNETCONF[Presentation](#)[Starting](#)[Use](#)STARTUP SERVICES[Presentation](#)[Starting](#)[Use](#)[Some comments about the services](#)SYSTEM LANGUAGE[Presentation](#)[Launch](#)[Basic usage](#)SYSTEM TIME[Presentation](#)[Use](#)USER PROFILES[Presentation](#)[Starting](#)[Some words about each menu item](#)VIDEO CONFIGURATION[Presentation](#)[Starting](#)[Use](#)XKERNELCONF[Presentation](#)[Starting](#)[Use](#)**ZENPANEL, THE SYSTEM TOOLS MANAGER****Presentation**

The Zenwalk system tools manager ("ZenPanel") allows easy access to common system utilities without the need to become root each time.

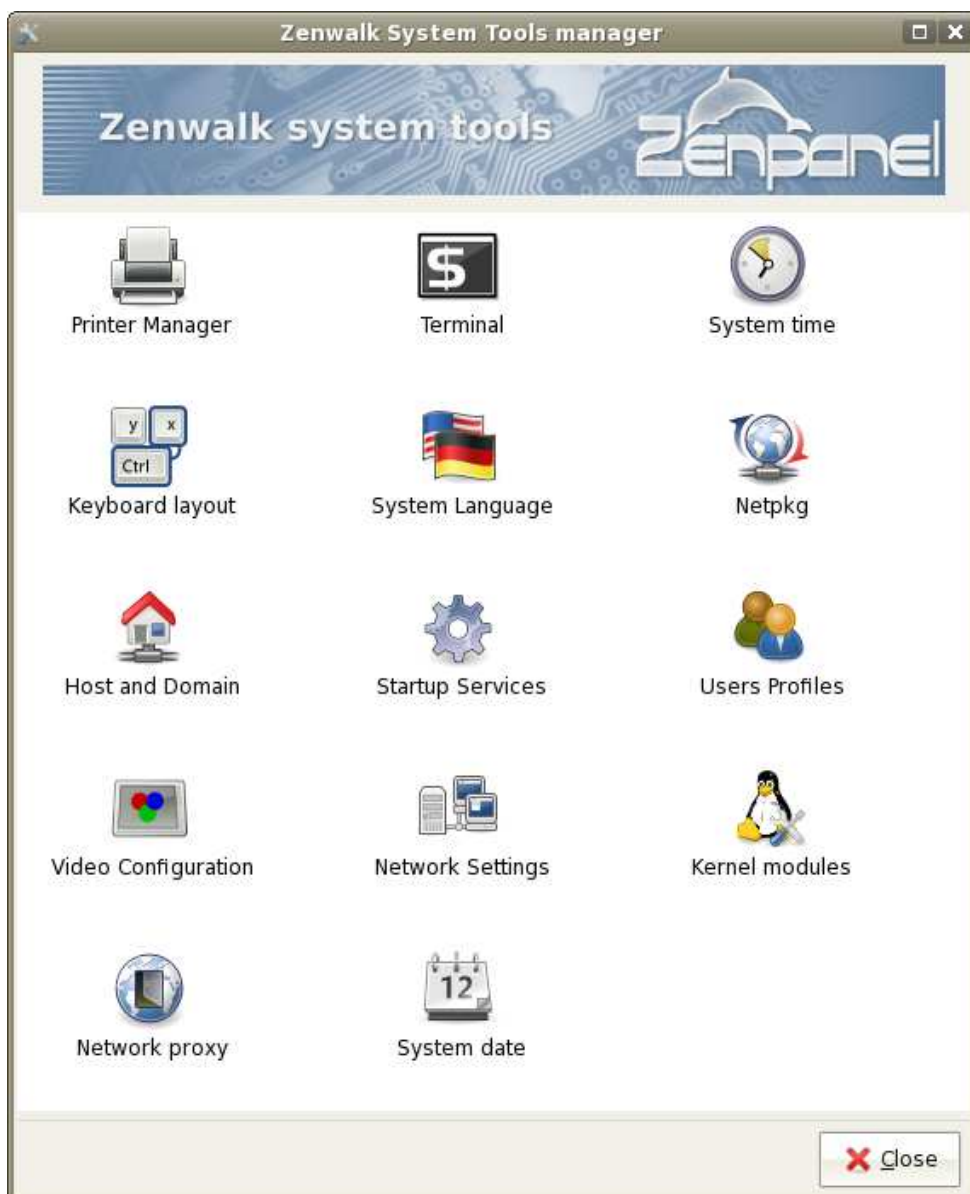
Start

You can run ZenPanel via the Xfce panel shortcut (or, via the Xfce menu and the "System" submenu)



Use

To run any of the tools described here, just click on it.



KEYBOARD LAYOUT

Presentation

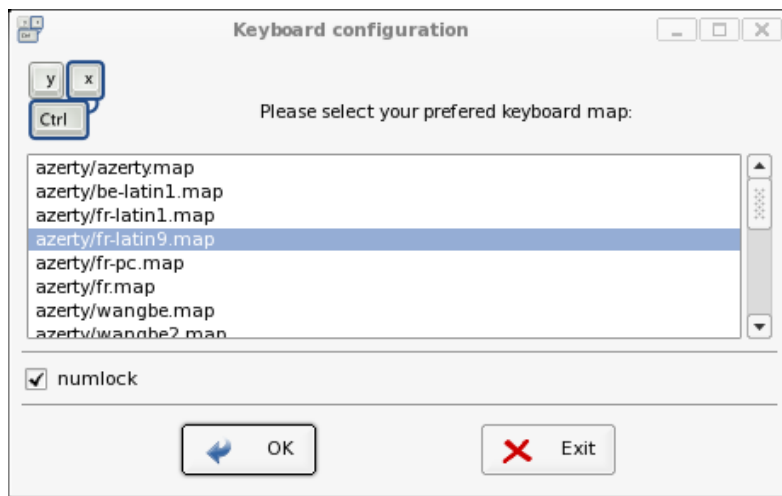
The `keyboardconfig` command allows the user to select various keyboard maps, based on country and keyboard layout, such as AZERTY, QWERTY, QWERTZ and DVORAK. For each of these types, national alternatives exist. For example, the French AZERTY is not the same as the Belgian AZERTY, and the German QWERTZ is not the same as the Swiss QWERTZ.

Launch

To use this command requires the root password. You can fire up "keyboardconfig" from within your graphical environment, or in the terminal, by typing `keyboardconfig`, because this tool runs with or without the X server running.

Basic usage

After you have clicked on "keyboardconfig", the window appears:



Just pick the keyboardmap you want and click [OK]. Notice that you can also setup the automatic activation of numlock at boot time.

NETPKG

Presentation

Netpkg is designed to update the system from a central repository. It can also install new software that is not on the install CD. Netpkg has a dependency management feature, enabled by default. A blacklist section in `/etc/netpkg.conf` can be edited for packages that you don't want to automatically update. `xnetpkg` is the GTK graphical user interface version of netpkg.

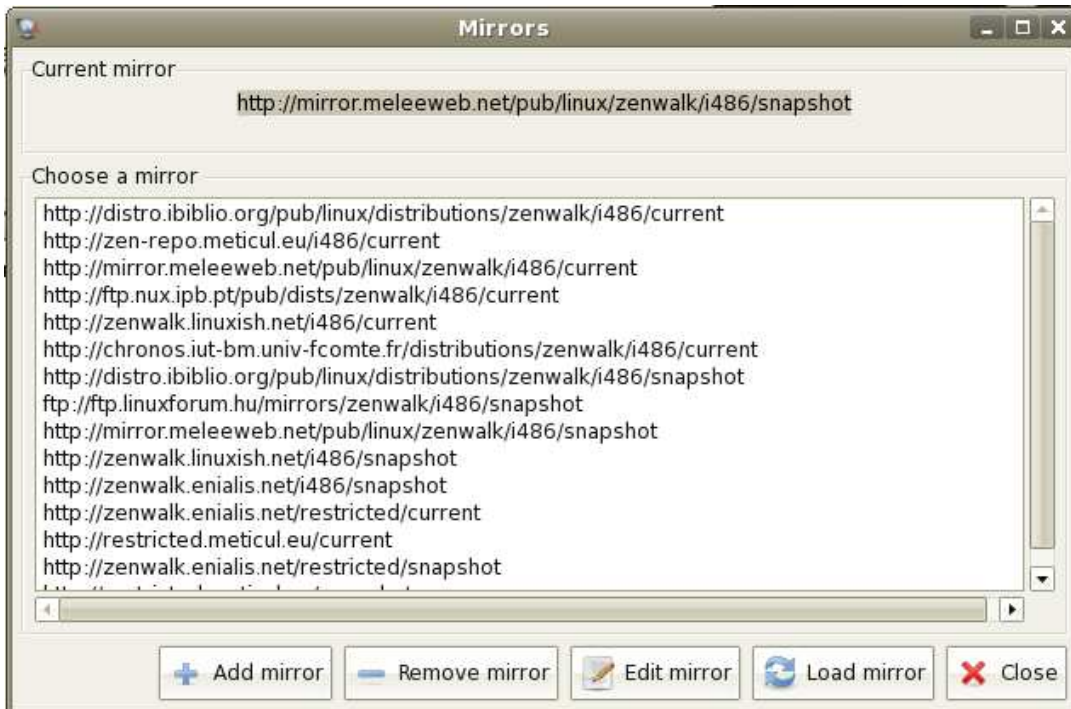
Start

netpkg can be started in graphical mode or via the terminal. The graphical front end is the easiest to use.

Using netpkg in the Graphical Mode (`xnetpkg`).

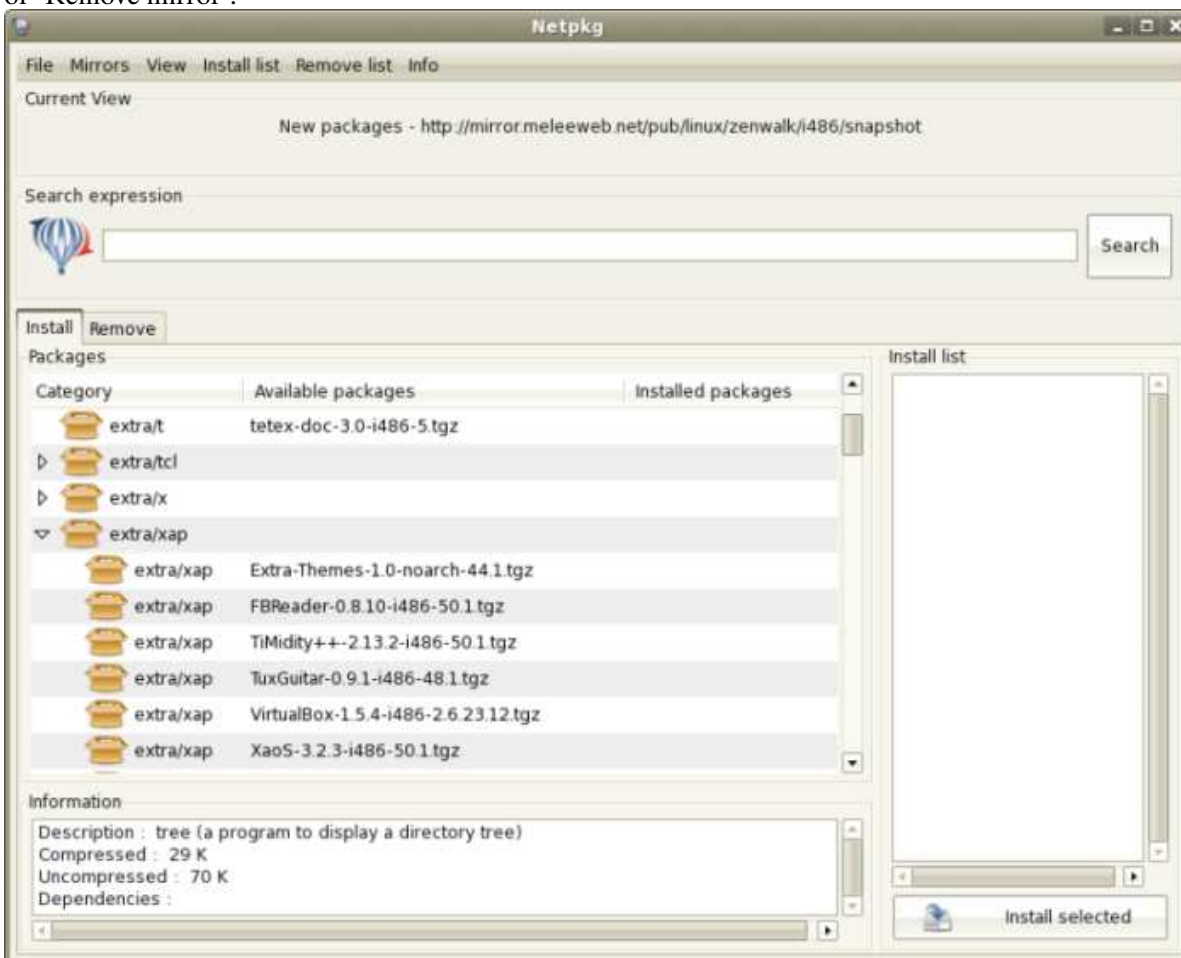
XFCE menu => system > netpkg or via the ZenPanel

The Netpkg window appears, and it asks you to choose a mirror if you use Netpkg first time.



Select a mirror and click "Load mirror". This will take you to the main interface. Note that all the official mirrors are identical in their contents, except for some restricted mirrors shown near the end of the list. The restricted mirrors host some packages that may not be lawful to use in some countries.

If you wish to edit, add mirrors that are not listed or remove mirrors, you can do so by using "Edit mirror", "Add mirror" or "Remove mirror".



Using netpkg via CLI - (Command Line Interface)

Become root by typing su, enter your root password, and type netpkg.

```
fredg[~]$ su
Mot de passe:
root[fredg]# netpkg
```

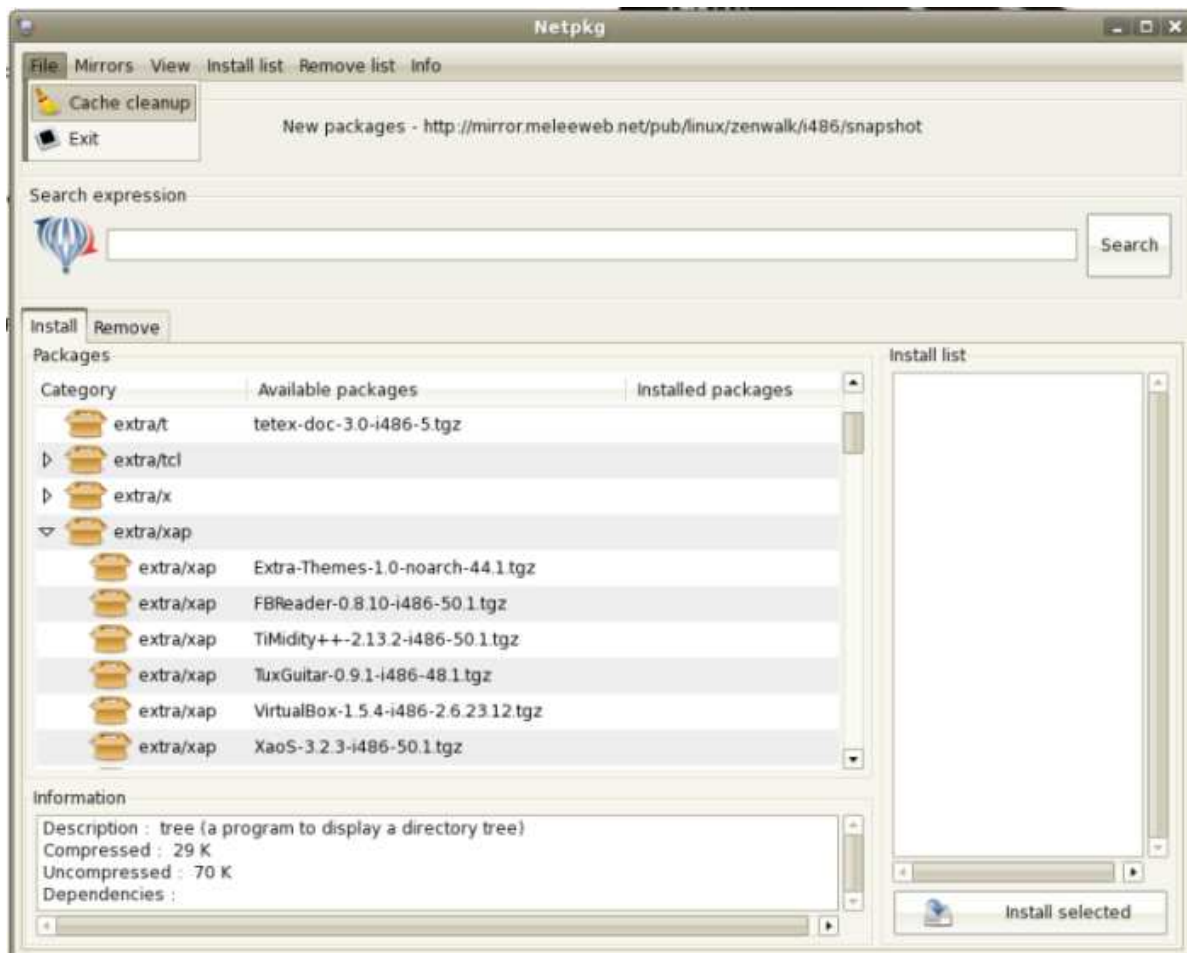


The terminal version of netpkg can do a lot more than the graphical version. Netpkg's parameters are covered in the next section.

Options

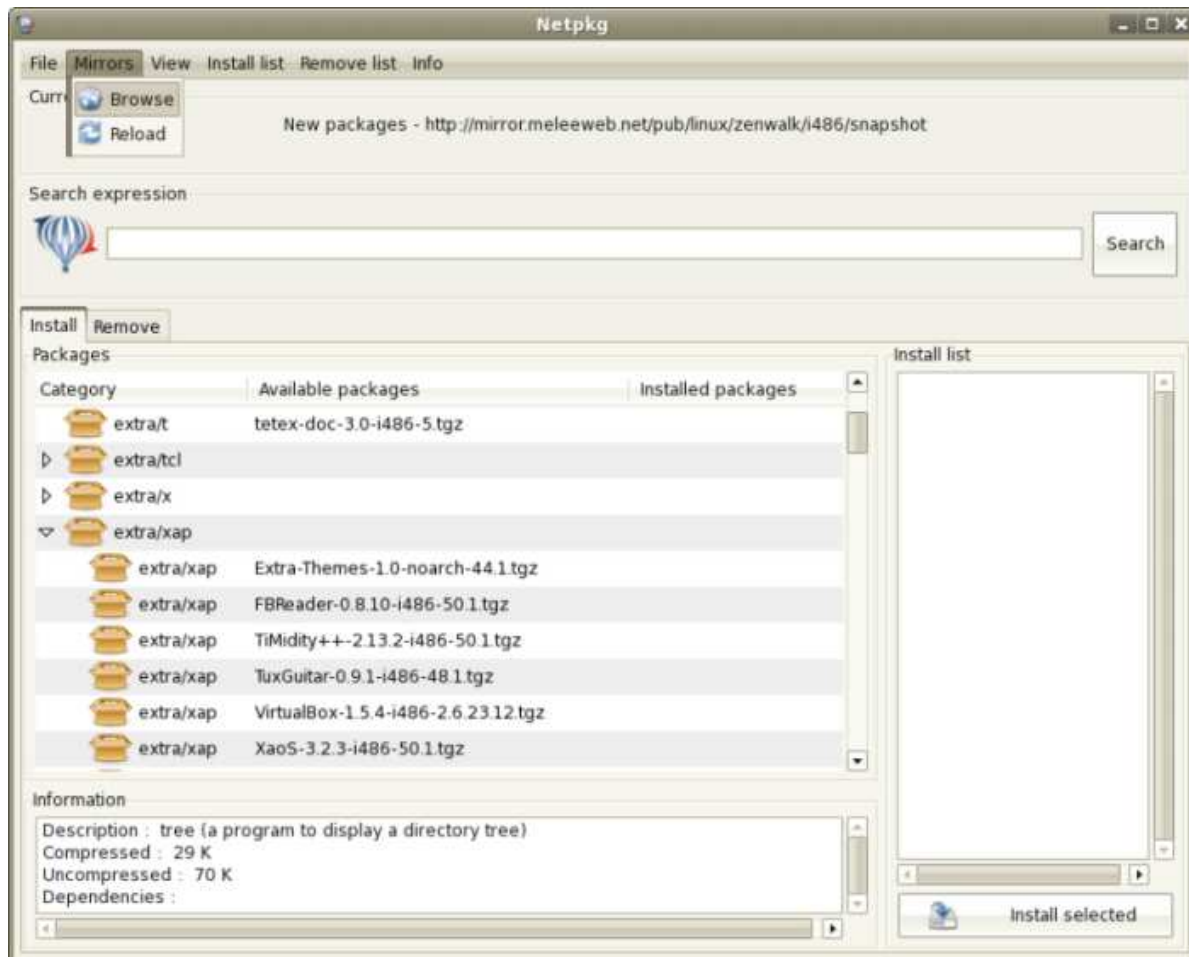
Netpkg's options via GUI - Graphical Mode

- If you choose "Files >> Cache clean up"

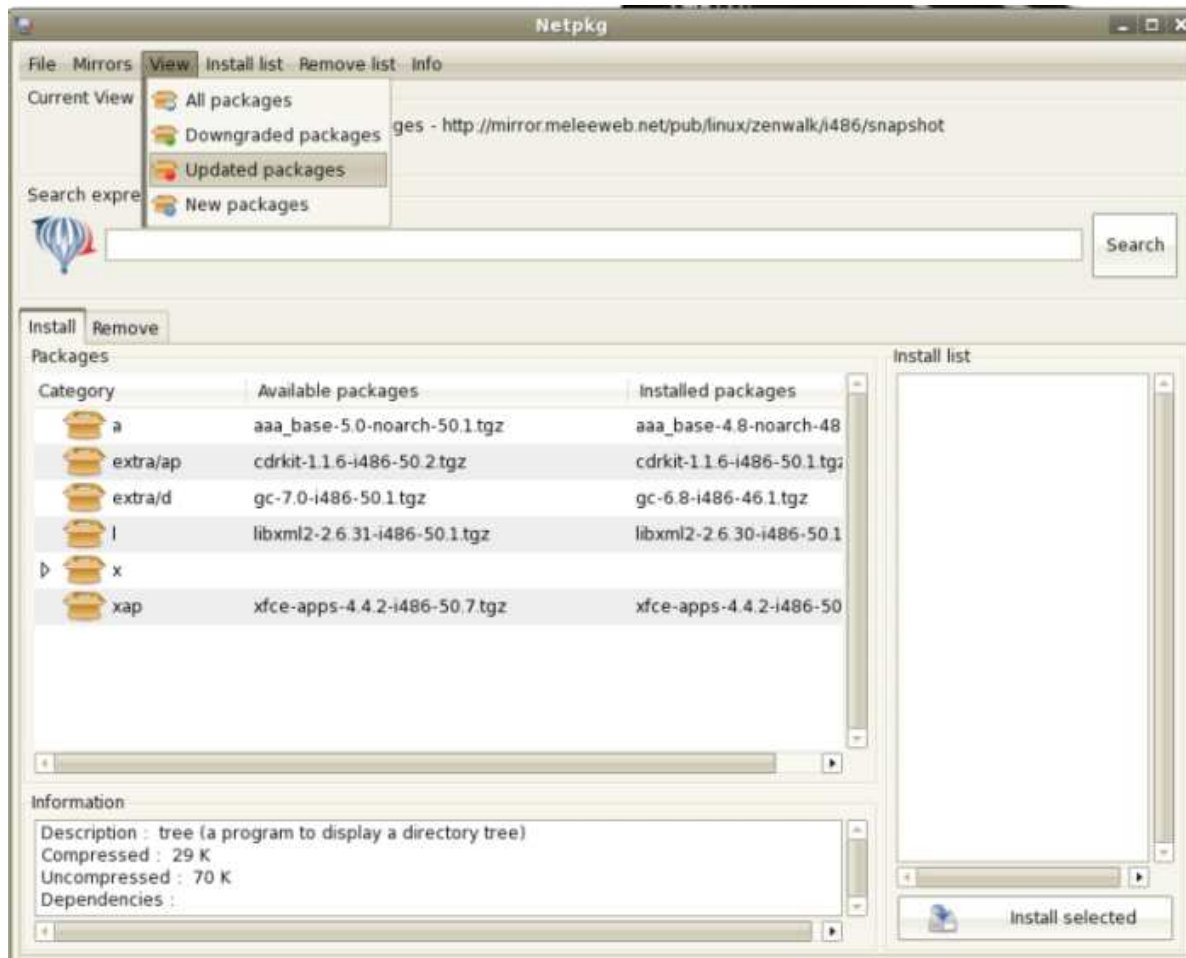


The downloaded and backed up packages will be removed.

- If you choose "Mirrors" >> "Browse"

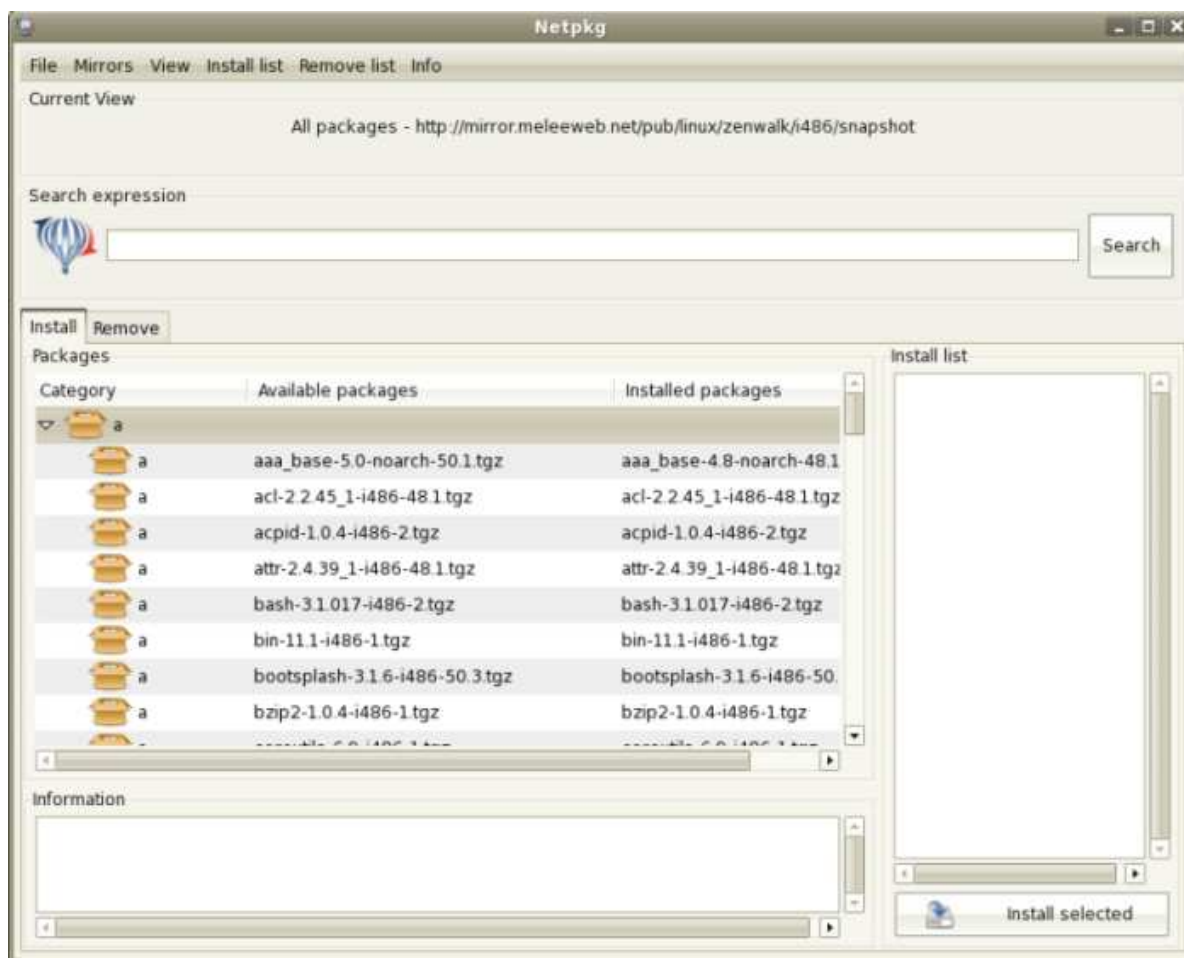


- Netpkg will prompt you to choose between different mirrors specified in the configuration file: `/etc/netpkg.conf`. You can select any mirror, but it is usually best to choose the first one.
 1. Current: the repository contains stable packages and security fixes
 2. Snapshot : the repository will contain the packages included in the development Zenwalk version
- If you want to use the last chosen mirror, use the "SynC" shortcut.
- Then, choose what you want to view.



1. All packages: The left column displays all available packages. Notice that the installed packages are shown on the right column.
 2. Downgraded packages: only packages older than those on your system are shown.
 3. Updated packages : only packages newer than those installed on your system are shown.
 4. New packages: only packages not installed on your system are shown.
- Package choice is simple, one click is needed to choose the package to install/upgrade. Once selected, the package will show up on the column on the far right, and a single click will remove the package from this list. Once your choices are made, click the install tab and the packages and their dependencies will be installed or upgraded.

- To look for a package, enter all or part of its name in the search bar and click the "search" button, or hit the [enter] key. Packages matching the search pattern will appear. Just click to install or upgrade them.



Netpkg options via the Command Line Interface

- packageX ... packageZ

A list of one or more package names to query the Internet repository for. There is no need to specify complex version numbers. For example, to check for vim-6.3.007-i486-1.tgz, just specify netpkg vim. Generic names are allowed.

```
fredg[~]$ su
Mot de passe:
root[fredg]# netpkg av

[I][l] Found installed avahi-0.6.15-i486-42.2.tgz on the repository
what should I do ?
1) reinstall
2) download
3) skip
#? 3
Skipping package [l]avahi-0.6.15-i486-42.2.tgz

[I][extra] Found installed avidemux-2.3.0-i486-42.1.tgz on the repository
what should I do ?
1) reinstall
2) download
3) skip
#? [
```

When a matching package is found, netpkg will prompt for the action to perform. If the installed package is an older version, the user will be prompted to upgrade it. If the installed package is the same version, the user will be prompted to reinstall it. If the package is not installed, the user will be prompted to install it. Netpkg takes the package from the local cache or downloads it. The integrity of the local package is verified, and the package is

downloaded again if it is corrupted. The download option overwrites any existing package having the same name.

- `install package1.tgz package2.tgz ...`

A list of 1 or more fully defined package filenames to query the Internet repository for. `netpkg` will NOT prompt for the action to perform. If the package is already installed but not in the same version, the package will be upgraded. If the package is already installed in the same version, the package will be re-installed. If the package is not installed, then `Netpkg` will install it. `Netpkg` first try to take the package from the local cache or download it. Integrity of the local package is checked : the package is downloaded again in case the local package is corrupted.

- `upgrade`

`netpkg` will attempt to upgrade every older installed package. Dependencies will be installed or upgraded, if needed, without prompting. A list of packages that should not be upgraded or installed can be specified in `/etc/netpkg.conf` by using the "Black_list" variable. Please use the "upgrade" option with caution, especially if you have a highly customized system. **ALWAYS BACKUP YOUR CONFIGURATION BEFORE PROCEEDING.** If you have a small storage area, set the "Keep_packages" variable in `/etc/netpkg.conf` accordingly

- `download`

`netpkg` will attempt to download packages from the Internet repository to build a local package cache. Packages will be sorted in directories matching the software categories. The location of the local cache is specified in `/etc/netpkg.conf`

- `list`

`netpkg` will list all packages on the Internet repository, and the similar locally installed versions, if they exist.

- `list I`

`netpkg` will list only packages on the Internet repository that are locally installed.

- `list D`

`netpkg` will list packages on the Internet repository newer than those locally installed. This option is useful to return to the previous repository after trying the snapshot repository.

- `list N`

`netpkg` will list packages on the Internet repository not already locally installed..

- `list U`

`netpkg` will list packages on the Internet repository that are not the same version as installed.

- `dotnew`

`netpkg` will search all ".new" files in `/etc` and prompt the user to replace original versions with these newer versions. `dotnew` will allow checking for differences between the current file and the .new one

- `mirror`

`netpkg` will prompt you to choose a mirror from the list specified in `netpkg.conf`

Netpkg.conf (netpkg configuration file)

Located in the `/etc` directory

You will be able to change some parameters by adding or erasing the '#' symbol at the beginning of some lines to (un)comment configuration lines. Uncommented lines (those without hash marks "#") are read and executed. Here are the most useful :

- If you have to use a proxy to connect to the network, even with login and password, just complete these lines:

```
# If you are behind a proxy server, set these options (at least set Proxy_Socket = proxy-address:port,
Proxy_Socket =
Proxy_User =
Proxy_Password =
```

- If you don't want to discard the `netpkg` downloaded packages, change it here:

```
# Do you want to keep packages in the "local repository" after install or upgrade ?
Keep_packages = yes
# Keep_packages = no
```

- if you don't want to upgrade some packages (with the `# netpkg upgrade` command), add them to the blacklist:

```
# Packages that shouldn't be installed automatically.
Black_list = aaa_base kernel kernelsource ndiswrapper
```

- If you've got some strategic files that shouldn't be overwritten during an upgrade, add them to this list. The files will be renamed `*.old`, it's up to you to decide if you want to get them back or not:

```
# These files won't be destroyed but renamed ".old" instead, put here all your strategic
# configuration files on a single line
Protected_files = /etc/lilo.conf /etc/fstab /etc/passwd /etc/shadow
/etc/group /etc/inittab /etc/rc.d/rc.local /etc/rc.d/rc.modules
/etc/rc.d/rc.netfilter /etc/profile /etc/hosts /etc/sudoers /etc/X11/xorg.conf
```

Some advice for upgrading your system

First, always upgrade Netpkg:

```
# netpkg netpkg
```

Then, when you have to update "X11, XFCE, Desktop", you should do it in text mode, with leaving the graphical one

Don't be afraid, it's quite simple:

1. Leave your graphical session:

Run your root Terminal, and go to init 3:

```
# init 3
```

2. Do the needed update:

```
# netpkg xorg xorg-drivers xfce
```

3. Go back to the graphical session, in init 4

```
# init 4
```

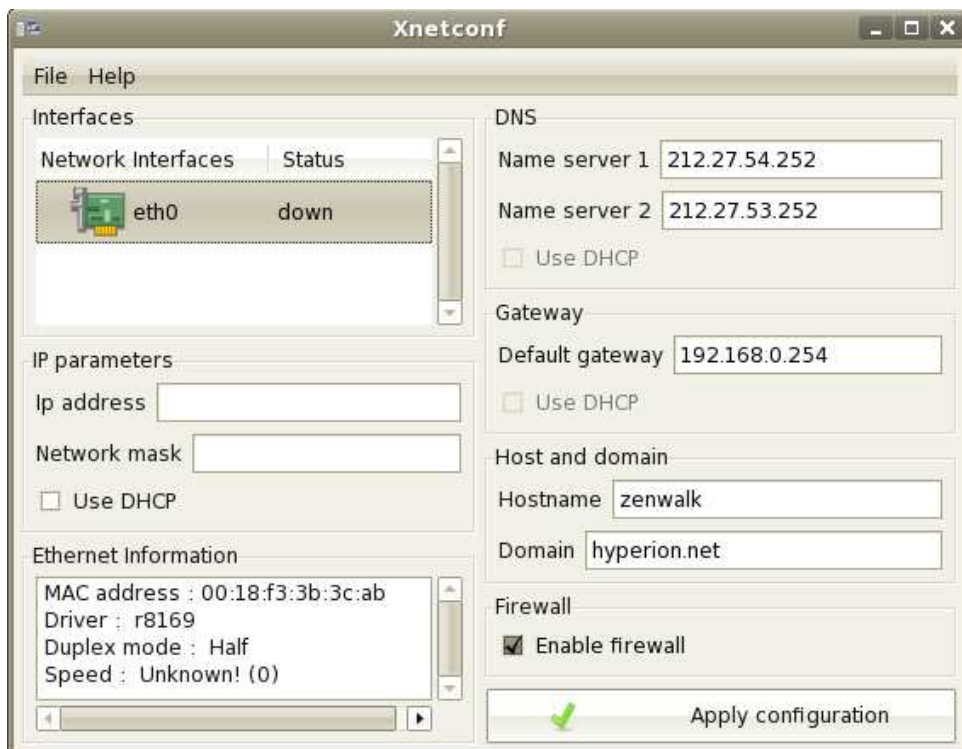
NETWORK SETTINGS (XNETCONF)

Presentation

A Zenwalk tool designed to get your network up and running. Xnetconf is able to configure settings for up to four network interfaces, set DHCP, DNS servers, gateways, the host and domain your Zenwalk box will be part of, as well as activate a simple generic yet efficient firewall.

Starting

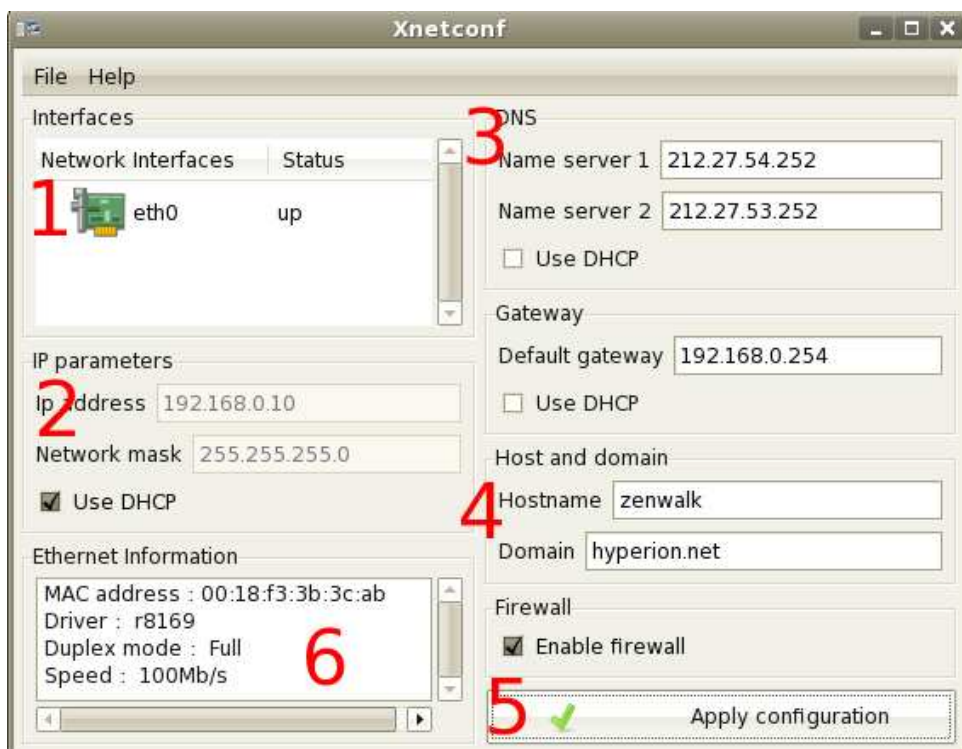
From Zenpanel, click on the icon Network Settings and You will get the following screen (Network is not connected in this example).



Use

To set up/start network connection, you need to highlight the network interface you want to configure (such as eth0) (1), then choose whether you want to use DHCP or manually attribute the IP address (2). Define some of the other configurations pertaining to the hostname, domain, firewall... as needed (3 and 4), and click on the button Apply configuration (5). If the connection is successful, the status of the network interface you selected should say 'up'.

Note: The button Apply configuration (5) toggles the state of your highlighted network interface up or down along with the different options you have defined for it.



In the above screenshot, eth0 interface settings is displayed. DHCP is enabled, and all is working fine. The driver the card uses is mentioned under the Ethernet Information section (6).

In general, enabling DHCP is your best option (and definitely the easiest). DHCP will negotiate an IP and renew its table when needed, completely in the background.

Die-hards can directly edit `/etc/rc.d/rc.inet1.conf`, which contains the settings for the network cards. Domain names are set in `/etc/hosts`. DNS servers are set in `/etc/resolv.conf`

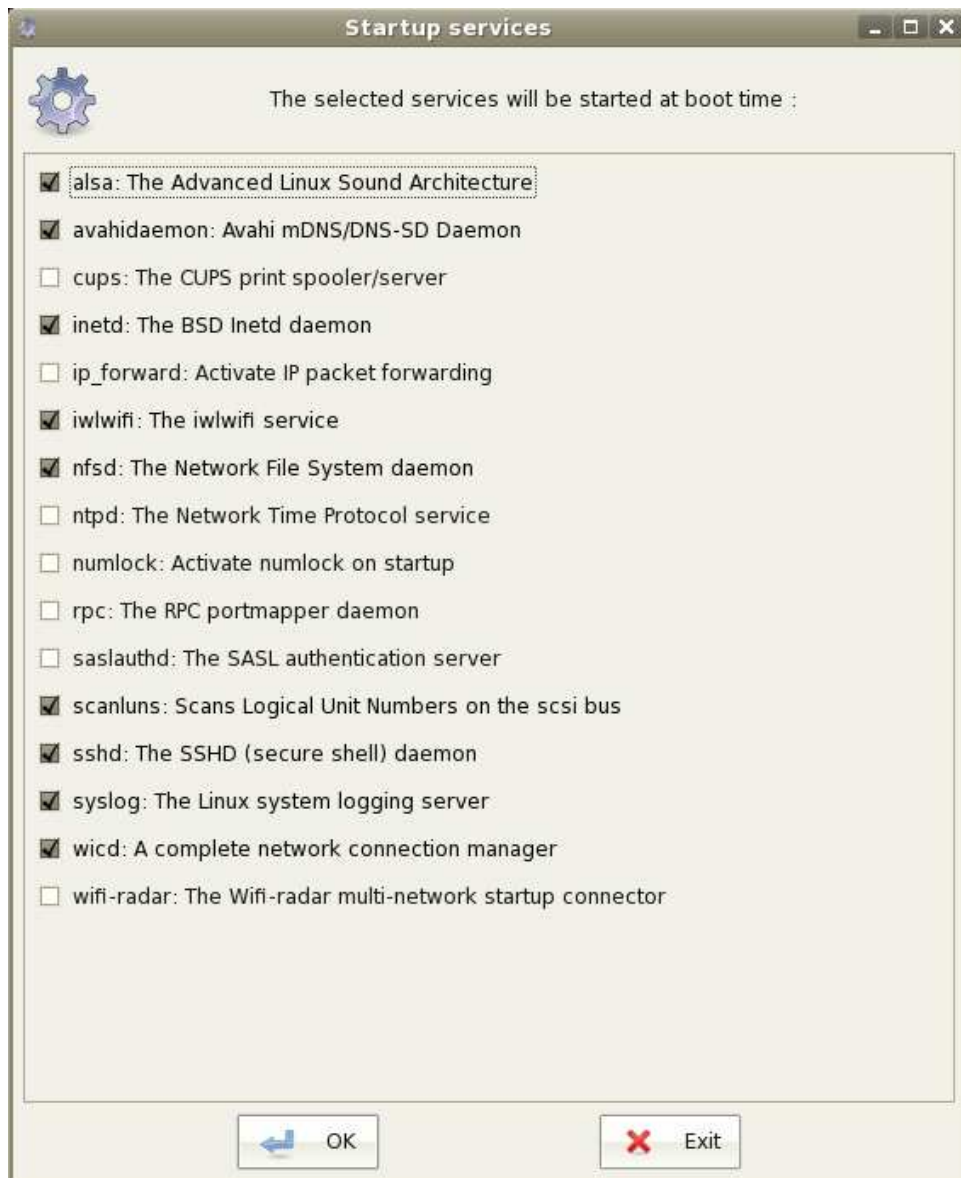
STARTUP SERVICES

Presentation

serviceconfig is a Zenwalk-specific tool to facilitate control over the installed services. If not configured by hand, Zenwalk will enable some default services at boot.

Starting

You will get the following screen.



Use

Depending on your configuration, some services are not needed (for example a ssh daemon or the gpm console mouse server). You can enable or disable multiple services to run at boot time. If you are unsure about disabling a service, check the available info at "Google", or ask in our help forum.

When xdialog is not installed, serviceconfig will use the ncurses interface. As with previous tools, use the spacebar to (de)select and tab and arrow keys to navigate.

In the terminal the service command can be used also to configure the daemons. Besides simple (de)activating those daemons, service can also stop/start/restart them. A sample syntax: - starting/stopping daemons: service start|stop|restart [servicename] - enabling/disabling daemons: service enable|disable [servicename] - list the state of the installed daemons: service list

- Starting/stopping daemons: `# service start|stop|restart [servicename]`

- Enabling/disabling daemons: `# service enable|disable [servicename]`
- List the state of the installed daemons: `# service list`

Some comments about the services

- `alsa`: The Advanced Linux Sound Architecture (ALSA) provides audio and MIDI functionality to the Linux operating system.
- `cups`: The Common UNIX Printing System ("CUPS") is a cross-platform printing solution for all UNIX environments. It is based on the "Internet Printing Protocol" and provides complete printing services to most PostScript and raster printers.
- `inetd`: `inetd` is a daemon on many Unix systems that manages Internet services. Often called a super-server, `inetd` listens on all ports used by internet services such as FTP, POP3, and telnet. When a TCP packet or UDP packet comes in with a particular port number, `inetd` launches the appropriate server program to handle the connection.
- `ip_forward`: covers IP forwarding.
- `iwlmwifi`: Activate drivers for Wifi.
- `nfsd`: The `nfsd` daemon runs on a server and handles client requests for file system operations. The Network File System (NFS) is a distributed file system that allows users to access files and directories located on remote computers and treat those files and directories as if they were local.
- `ntpd`: The `ntpd` sets and maintains the system time of day in synchronism with Internet standard time servers.
- `numlock`: activates the numeric keypad in console. You may want to untick this box if you are using a laptop.
- `rpc`: The `rpc` daemon converts RPC (Remote Procedure Call) program numbers into Internet port numbers.
- `saslauthd`: The SASL authentication server (SASL = Simple Authentication and Security Layer) .
- `scanluns`: looks for devices that have been plugged into a USB or IEEE1394 (Firewire) port that might not have been detected because they use a LUN (Logical Unit Number) other than 0.
- `sshd`: Secure Shell daemon, allows secure and remote logging to this machine.
- `syslog`: Logs all system activities.
- `wicd`: Comprehensive network manager (for both WiFi and Wired Network).

SYSTEM LANGUAGE

Presentation

The command `localeconfig` allows the user to select the locale of his system. A 'locale' is a set of conventions linked to the user's language, his environment and/or his cultural conventions (like monetary symbols, date display, ...etc.). This locale is then applied to the user's working environment. By default, a Linux system is configured with the "en_US" locale, so other locales have to be specified manually ("en_GB" for the United Kingdom, "es_ES" for Spain, and so on).

Launch

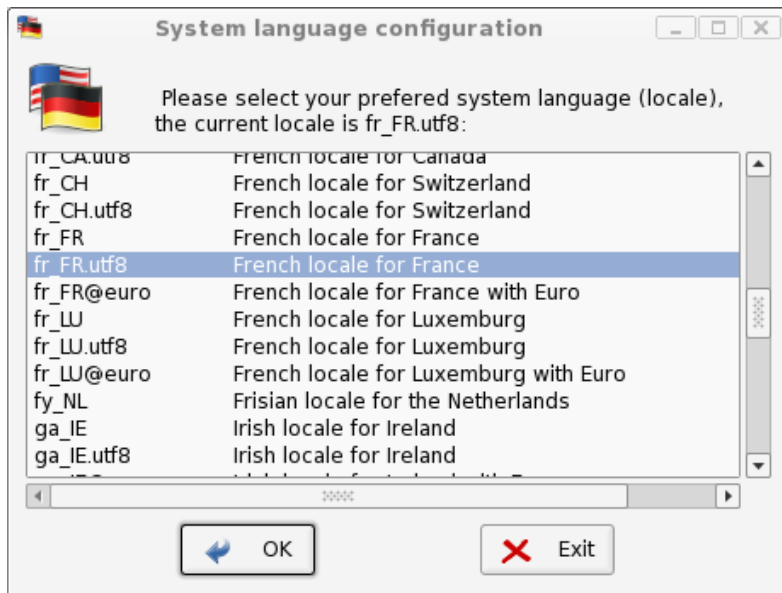
To use this command you need to know the root password. Only root can change the locale settings.

You can fire up "localeconfig" from within your graphical environment, but also in the terminal, just by typing `localeconfig`.

Basic usage

To set your system's locale, do the following:

Pick the language you want:



The "locale" choice is essential; a modern system will use UTF-8 instead of ISO. Don't worry, the € symbol comes with UTF-8 also. Once you've taken your pick, simply click [OK].

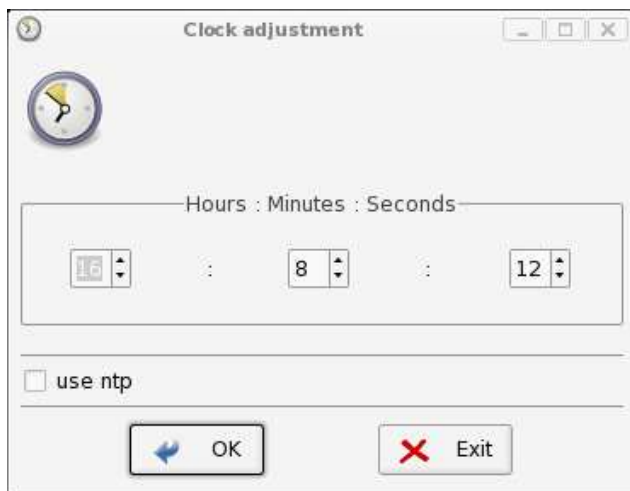
SYSTEM TIME

Presentation

This tool allow you to easily setup your system time.

Use

You just have to set the time in this dialog box. If you have internet access, you can also check the "ntp" case and hit [enter], and time will be synchronized with a time server.



USER PROFILES

Presentation

Userconfig is a Zenwalk-specific tool to facilitate control over the user registrations on your Zenwalk system, including the defined groups, etc.

Starting

You will get the following screen.



Some words about each menu item

- List users: lists all users on your system.
- Create user: Selecting "Create user" will prompt you for the new user's name, group this user should belong to, home directory, additional group membership, and shell interpreter (usually, bash). For the account expiry date, select NEVER to make the account permanent. You'll be prompted for some additional information (suitable for multiuser systems) and the user password. When finished, the user settings are listed, with an option to edit them if some entry needs editing. Select BACK to return to the main menu. This is a GUI to the "adduser" command.
- Delete users: presents you with a list of users on your system. Highlight one and press OK to delete that user. Press BACK to return to the main menu.
- Change password: presents you with a list of users on your system. Highlight one and press OK to change password for that user. Press BACK to return to the main menu.
- List groups: lists all groups defined on your system.
- Modify group: shows a list of groups on your system. Selecting OK will allow you to modify the name for the highlighted group. Selecting BACK will send you back to the main menu.
- Create group: allows you to create a new group on your system. This is suitable for example if you want to install the ClamAV antivirus programme. This programme must be given a special group name, which users are then allowed to access (if you will allow them to run ClamAV). You are prompted for the group name.
- Delete groups: shows a list of groups on your system. Selecting OK will delete the highlighted group. Selecting BACK will send you back to the main menu.
- About: pops the About box showing you the userconfig version you are running, etc...

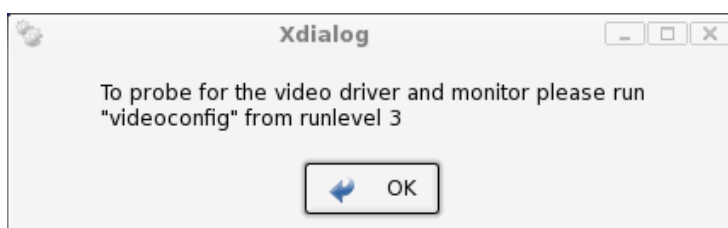
VIDEO CONFIGURATION

Presentation

Videoconfig is Zenwalk's tool to get X, the graphical server, up and running properly. It will probe for monitor refresh rates and optimal resolution, and check which video card you are using.

Starting

You will get the following screen and following warning

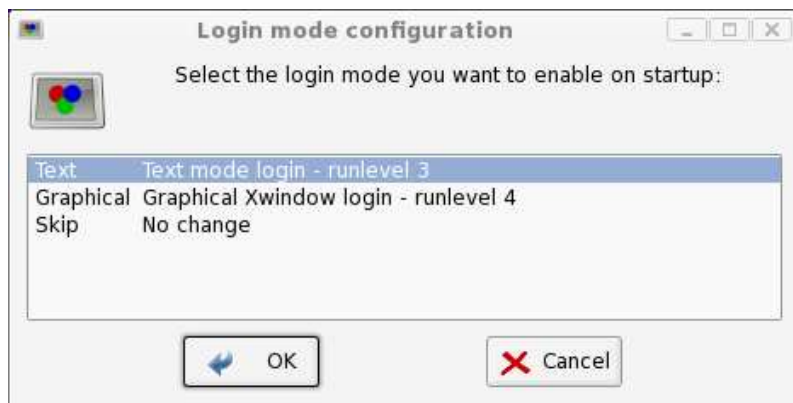


Use

Be smart – don't ignore this. If you don't aim to configure X (which shouldn't be needed at this point, since it has been done during the post-install routine), press [OK], then you'll get the following window :



Yes, from here, you can setup the Xfce compositor to allow transparency, shadow, ...



This last window will let you setup if you want a graphical or text login.

As the warning box told you – configuring X should be done in text mode. This is less difficult than it looks, provided you start out with the right tools. Log out as a regular user, press Ctrl+alt+f2 to switch to a terminal, login as root, and issue `init 3`. X will be shut down and you will be returned to another terminal. Log in as root again, and run `videoconfig`. Now you'll get a dialog box asking you if it detected the right card and refresh rates. If it's ok, press [yes]. If not, exit and configure manually with `xorgconfig`, or edit `/etc/X11/xorg.conf` by hand. This last option, however, is not recommended if you are not familiar with X' configuration file.

Videoconfig will set up X for you. If you still aren't satisfied with your X configuration, or the Zenwalk setup utility detects your card badly, you can do it all by yourself running `xorgconfig`. See the "xorgconfig" section for more info.

XKERNELCONF

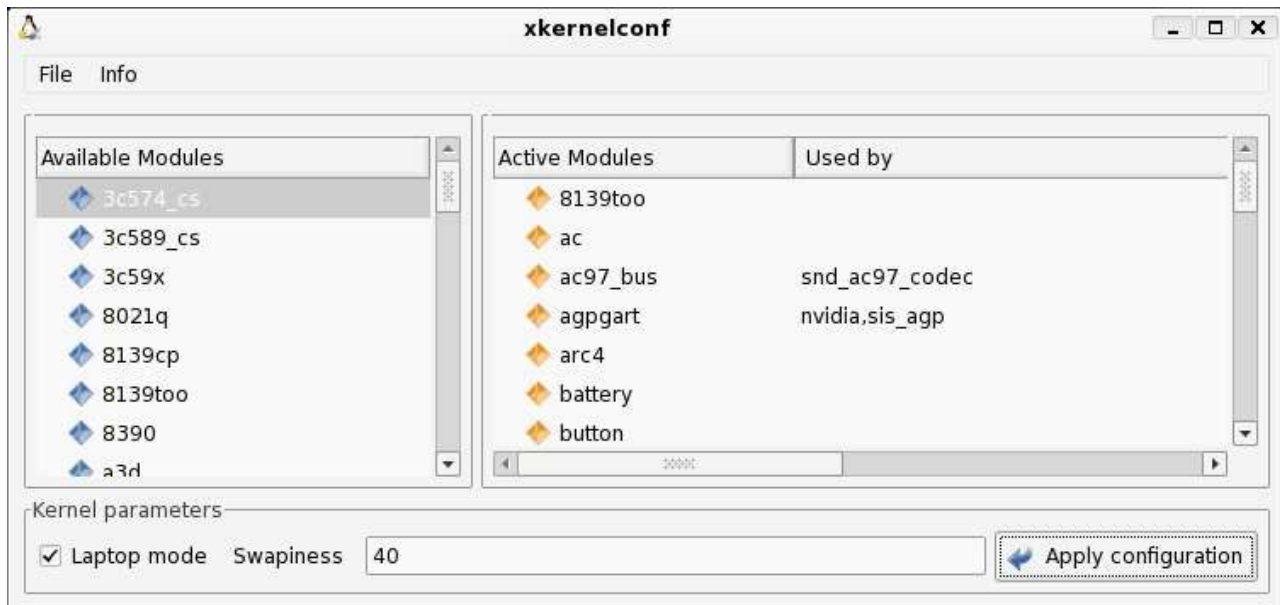
Presentation

A Zenwalk tool designed to load and/or unload kernel modules on the fly.

Furthermore, kernel modules loaded with this tool will also be loaded automatically by the system at boot time while the unloaded modules will be ignored.

Starting

From Zenpanel, click on the icon Kernel modules and You will get the following screen.



Use

Double clicking on a module in the Available modules list will load it in memory while double clicking on a module in the Active modules list will unload it.

Checking the box Laptop mode will automatically synchronize your data from cache to disk a couple seconds after I/O goes idle.

In Swapiness you can define the treshold when processes should be swapped.

Chapter 5. ADDITIONAL TOOLS

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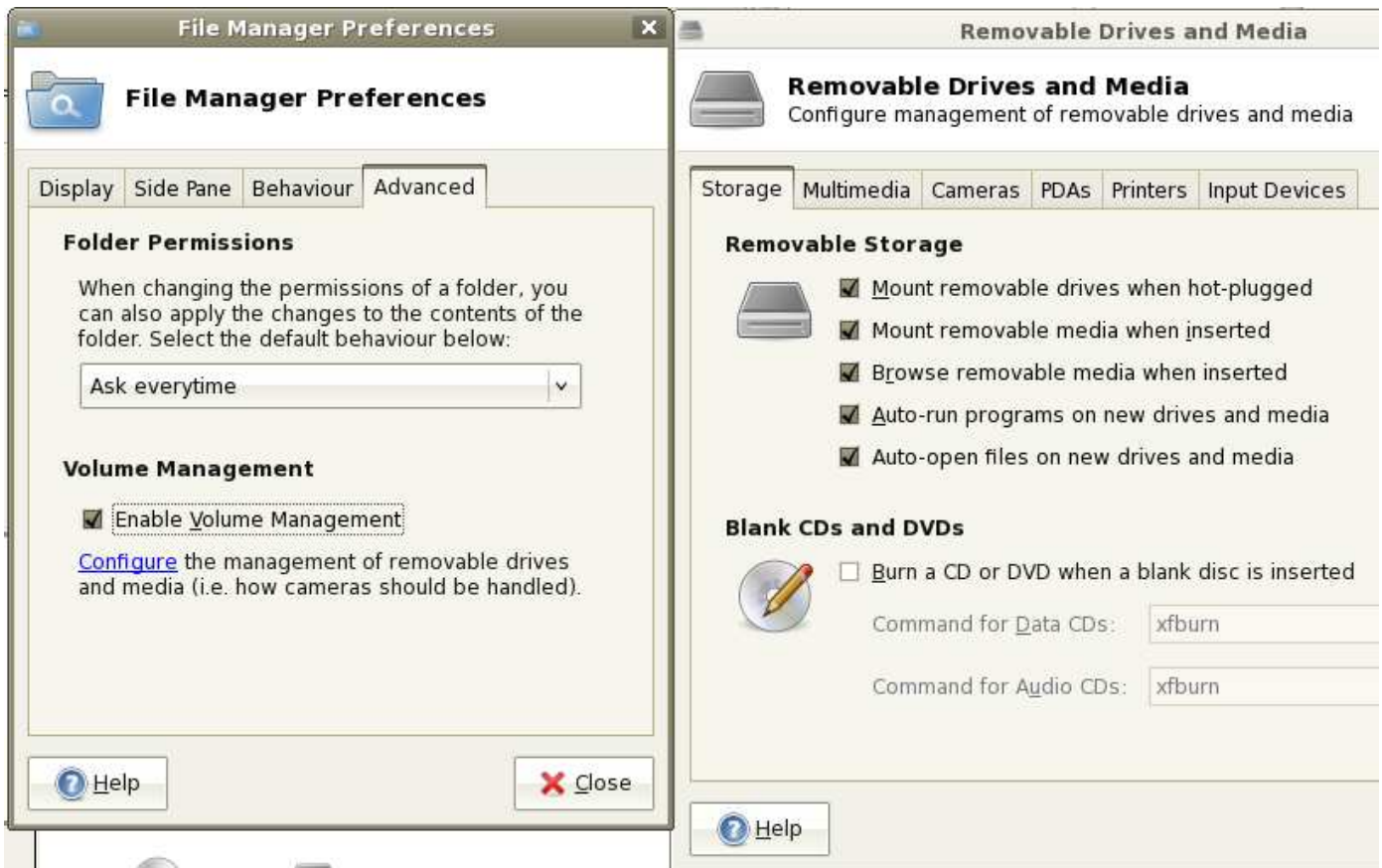
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MOUNTPPOINTS MANAGER

Mountpoint Volume Manager is a collection of scripts that work with HAL to manage USB removable devices by automatically mounting/unmounting these devices and dynamically creating their mountpoints.

If not activated by default, this feature can be activated by Zenwalk Menu bar (Accessories > Thunar File Manager > Edit > Preference > Advanced > tick Enable Volume Management). Click on Configure if you wish to customise/manage removable drives and media.



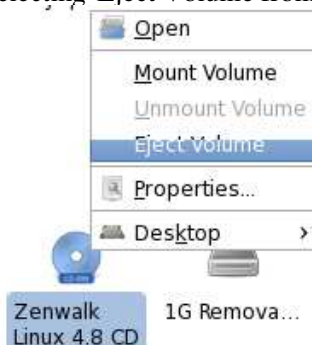
When you insert CD/DVD, USB, SD cards etc, a new mount point should be created automatically on your desktop.



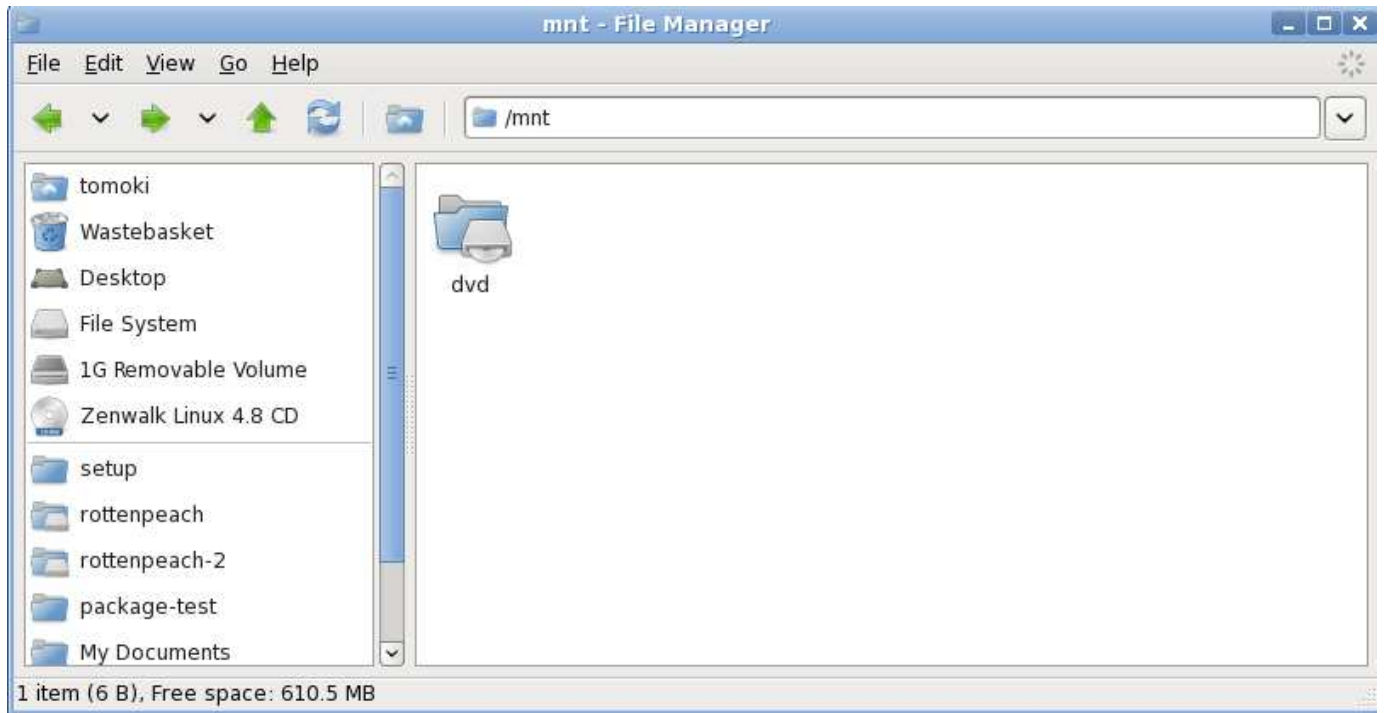
If you want to mount USB for example, you can just click on the icon. If you want to unmount for removing safely your USB, you can do so by right clicking and choosing 'Unmount Volume'. This is to make sure that all your data are saved properly on the device.



Similarly, you can mount CD/DVD by clicking on the icon, and if you wish to eject your CD/DVD, you can do so by selecting 'Eject Volume' from the right click menu.



Mount points for CD and DVD can be found under /mnt directory.



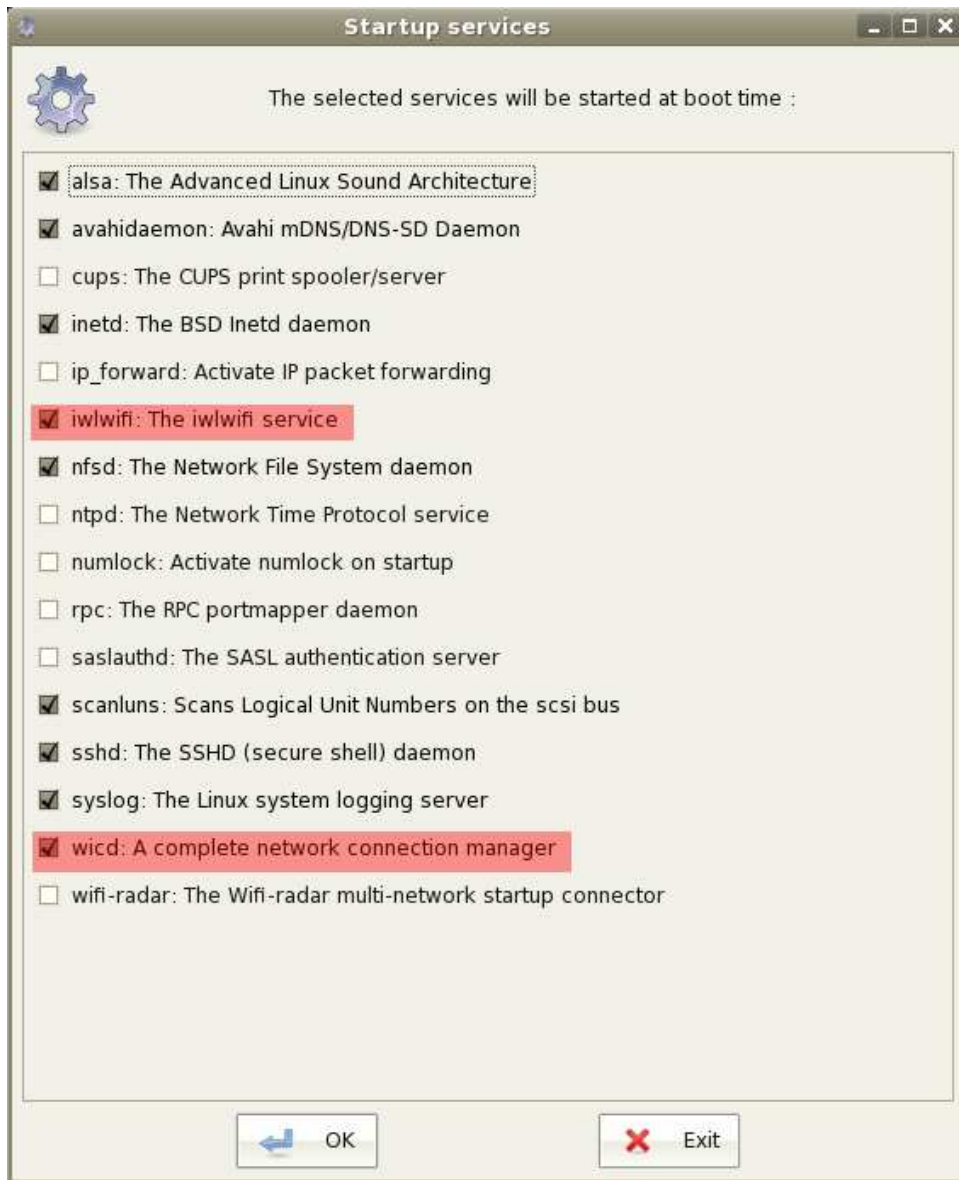
Mount points for other media format, such as USB, can be found under /media.



WICD FOR WIFI CONNECTION

Wicd is a tool intended to configure easily your wifi interface, and will allow you to connect to your wifi and wireless network

First, make sure that wicd is ticked in [Startup services](#) under Zenpanel, and necessary drivers are installed. In this example, iwlmwifi (which should come by default but also available by netpkg) was used. Other drivers may be available as Kernel modules (see [Kernel Modules](#)) or by [netpkg](#). Restarting the box may be required before these changes take effect.



Wicd Network Manager is available in the menu Xfce, under the Network submenu:



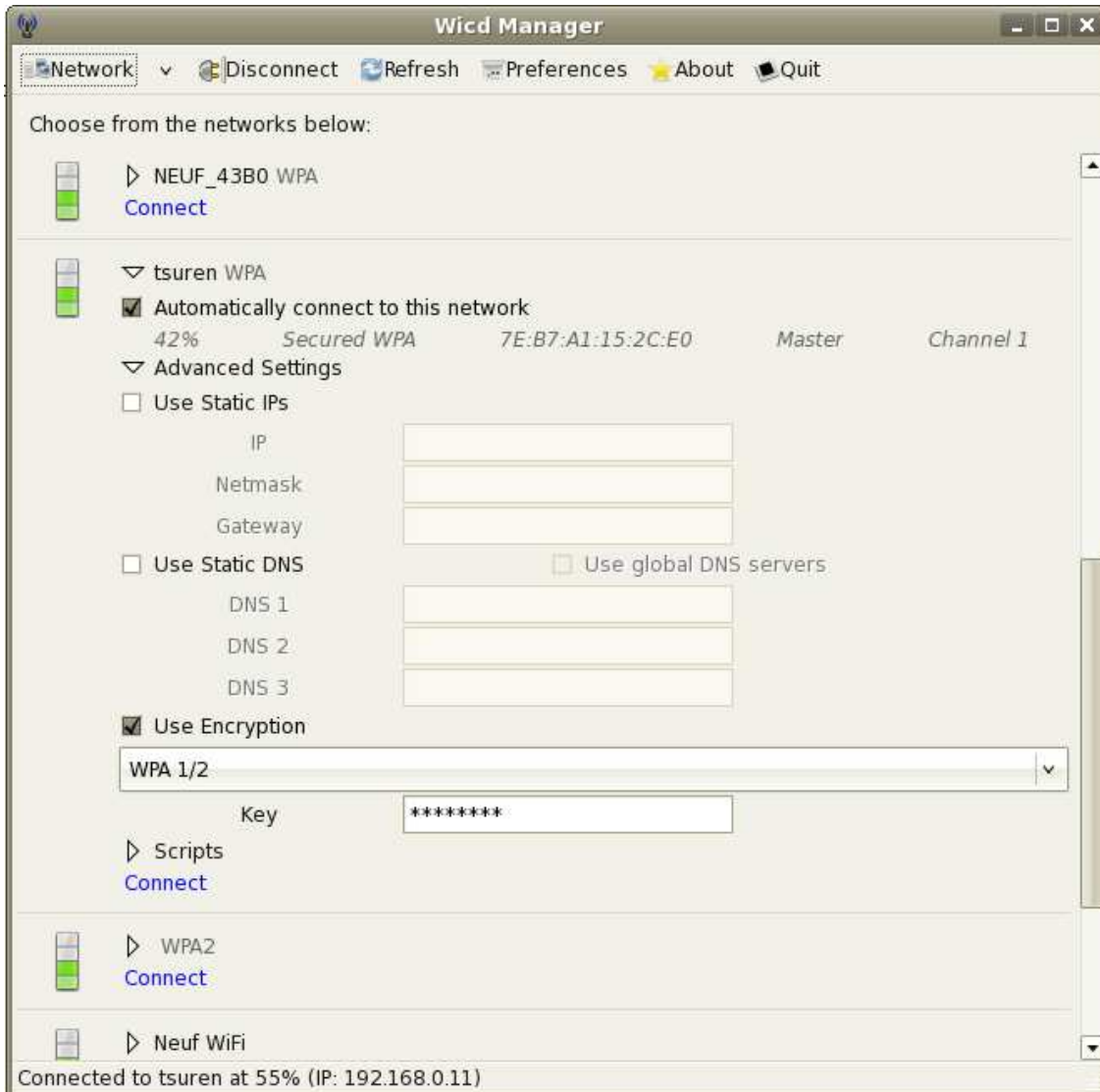
When you click on Wicd Network Manager, you will get the following screen.



If no signal is detected, you may need to configure settings. Click Preference on the menu bar. Under preference, you can change WPA supplicant driver, Wireless interface (here wlan0) is used, and other minor options such as setting up global DNS servers (by default, these fields are empty). Fill in the box for Wireless interface (you can find out which interface is being used by the box by typing 'iwconfig' in Terminal as Root).



Once signals are detected by your Wifi, you can select the Wifi signal you wish to use for connection. Expand to change 'Advanced Settings' and enter details such as your key for the connection and static IP address if required.



Now you can connect to the Wifi by just clicking Connect.

You can also set up connection procedures for Hidden Network and Ad-Hoc network.



XORGCNFIG

Xorgconfig is not a Zenwalk specific tool, just part of the xorg package.

Make a backup of your current `xorg.conf` (`/etc/X11/xorg.conf`). First collect the data of your computer hardware. Check your monitor documentation for refresh rates and possible resolutions. Check which video card you are using - brand, model, amount of onboard RAM. Check the protocol your mouse uses, if it has a scroll wheel, and how many buttons it has. Take into account that a scroll wheel counts as three buttons (click - forward scroll - backward scroll). Check the keyboard type you use (azerty or qwerty) and how many keys it has (probably an international 105-key one). Now that you have the right info, launch `xorgconfig` from text mode, as root. `Xorgconfig` is an interactive program - it will ask you questions. If you have gathered the information provided above, it will be a piece of cake to answer them. Once you have completed `xorgconfig`'s procedure, save it. Then reboot into graphical mode and behold the fruit of your work.

XWMCONFIG

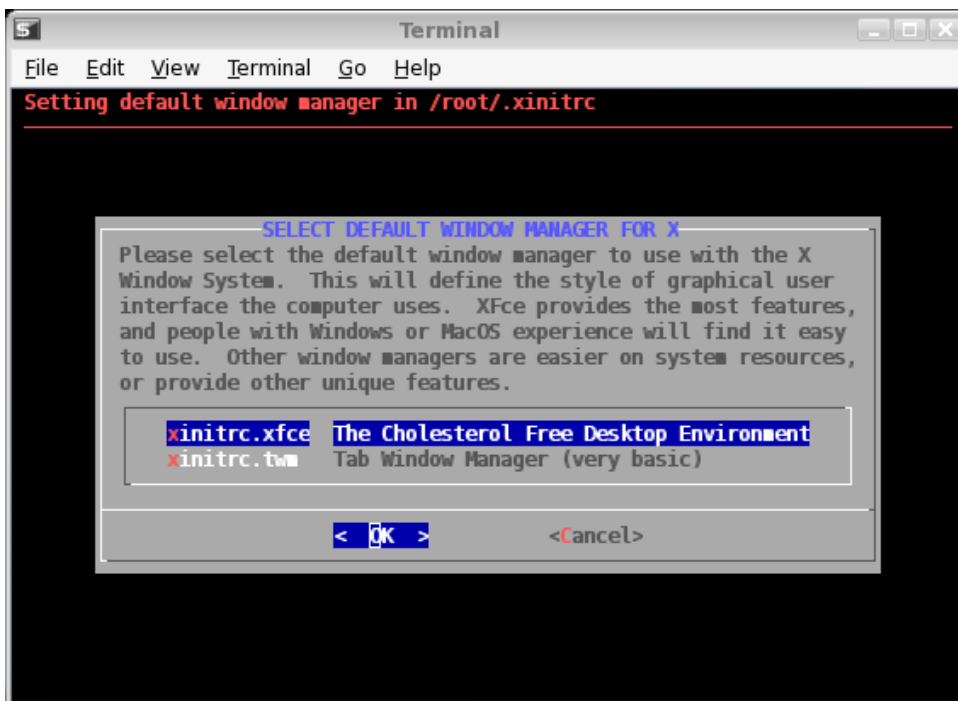
Presentation

xwmconfig is a Slackware utility adopted by Zenwalk. Xwmconfig is short for "X Window Manager CONFIGurator" and its purpose is to define the default desktop environment (DE) or window manager (WM). A window manager, is very basic and merely provides with the ability to manage windows, and not much more. A desktop environment not only comprehends a window manager but also provides various applications and plugins. When run, xwmconfig will check which window managers are available on the system and ask which one you want to use.

Xwmconfig is not the usual way to configure this because most Zenwalk users will take advantage of the GDM login manager. This manager allows the user to configure which Window Manager / Desktop Environment should be loaded when starting X-Window. It is only for the small group of users who prefer to start X-Window in a different way that Xwmconfig still comes in handy.

Starting

Xwmconfig is available if you open a terminal and, as normal user, execute xwmconfig. Do not run xwmconfig as root unless you want to change settings for root.



Use

Xwmconfig can be run as a regular user; if you run it as root, it will configure root's settings, and not yours... So don't be too hasty ;-). Simply select the graphical environment of your liking and click [OK].

DE/WM settings are stored in the `~/xinitrc` file. On a default Zenwalk install, you will find it's a script that launches XFCE. Changing your DE or WM can be done simply by replacing the `~/xinitrc` file with the one that calls your preferred graphical environment.