

Linux as a HTPC

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What is a HTPC?

- Music
- Video
- Pictures
- DVR

What isn't a HTPC

Computer

- Mouse
- Keyboard
- Multi-tasking
- Content creation
- Mobile

HTPC

- Remote
- Alternate controls
- Single task at a time
- Full Screen
- Content consumption

Why use Linux?

- Stability
- Hardware requirements
- Hardware support
- Cost

What's Missing?

- DRM
- Commercial support
- Hardware support

What is a Media Streamer?

- Streams existing content
- No tuner support
- Doesn't mean no live TV
NHL, MLB, ESPN,
YouTube

Streaming Software

- XBMC/Boxee/Plex
- Showtime
- Elisa/Moovida
- GeeXboX
- MythTV
- VLC/VideoLAN

Streamers Based on Linux

- Popbox
- Roku
- GoogleTV
- Boxee
- WD TV
- Popcorn Hour
- Dreambox
- Asus O!Play
- Patriot Box Office
- Xtreamer
- Micca MPLAY-HD

XBMC

- Local content
- DIY software
- Multi-platform
- Skinning
- Basic tuner support

Boxee

- Web content
- Appliance and Software
- No skinning
- No tuner support
- Commercial backing (Windows, OS X, embedded)

DVR: Why bother?

- Save Money
- Flexibility
- Freedom of using content
 - Transcoding
 - Copying
 - Archiving
- Commercial skipping
- Advanced features

Tuner cards

- ATSC (OTA)
- QAM
- CableCard

Tuner card connections

- PCI/PCI-E
- USB
- Firewire
- PCMCIA
- Ethernet

Video Connections






- Coaxial
- Component
- HDMI
- CableCard
- Ethernet (IPTV)

MythTV

- Unique architecture
- Easy expansion
- 100% free
- Limitless possibilities
- "Easy" to set up distros
 - Mythdora
 - Mythbuntu
 - MiniMyth
 - LinHES

MythTV Controls

- IR/RF/BT Remote
- KB/M
- Apps
- MythWeb

mythTV      MythWeb: Mon Mar 17, 2008, 01:00 PM

search (Advanced)

MythTV: [Listings](#) | [Searches](#) | [Recording Schedules \(Manual, Custom\)](#) | [Upcoming Recordings](#) | [Recorded Programs](#) | [Backend Status](#) | [Backend Logs](#)

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	08:00 PM	08:15 PM	08:30 PM	08:45 PM	09:00 PM	09:15 PM	09:30 PM	09:45 PM	10:00 PM	10:15 PM	10:30 PM	10:45 PM
FOX 2 KTVU	Til Death: Vintage Eddie (Rerun)		The Return of Jezebel James: Needle and Schlag		House: Informed Consent (Rerun)				Ten O'Clock News (Rerun)			
2.1 KTVU-DT	Til Death: Vintage Eddie (Rerun) HD		The Return of Jezebel James: Needle and Schlag HD		House: Informed Consent (Rerun) HD				Ten O'Clock News (Rerun) HD			
4 KRON	Dr. Phil (Rerun)	Bubble Boy (2001, PG-13, ⬆️¼)										
4.1 KRON-SD	Dr. Phil (Rerun)	Bubble Boy (2001, PG-13, ⬆️¼)										
4.2 KRON-HD	Dr. Phil (Rerun)	Bubble Boy (2001, PG-13, ⬆️¼)										
5 KPIX	College Basketball: NCAA Tournament, First Round: Teams TBA				Game Day (Rerun)				Eye on the Bay: Half Moon Bay (Rerun)		Judge Judy (Rerun)	
5.1 KPIX-HD	College Basketball: NCAA Tournament, First Round: Teams TBA				Game Day (Rerun)				Eye on the Bay: Half Moon Bay (Rerun)		Judge Judy (Rerun)	
7 KGO	Grey's Anatomy: Love/Addiction (Rerun)					20/20 (Rerun)			20/20 (Rerun)			
7.1 KGO	Grey's Anatomy: Love/Addiction (Rerun) HD					20/20 (Rerun)			20/20 (Rerun)			

MythTV External Controls

- IR blasters
- Firewire
- RS-232
- TCP/IP
- USB
- HDMI CEC

Other DVR Options

- Freevo
- LinuxMCE
- TVheadend
- SageTV
- TiVo
- Moxi

The Downsides

- Time investment
- Money investment
- No CableCard Support
 - Depending on your provider
- No commercial 3rd party software support
- No Satellite TV support without expensive hardware

Future of Linux HTPCs

Embedded platforms

- XBMC
- Boxee
- OpenELEC
- OpenBricks
- Other commercial boxes

IPTV

AllVid

RVU

DRM: UltraViolet, Keychest, and Google One Pass

References and Contact

<http://j.mp/LinuxHTPC> - Full presentation

<http://j.mp/rothgar> - My How-to Geek articles

<http://1n73r.net> - Personal Blog

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<http://mythtv.org>

<http://j.mp/mythtv-users>

<http://mythtv.org/support>

<http://xbmc.org>

<http://boxee.tv>