Raspberry Pi 4: Chronicling the Desktop Experience? Viewing Photos? Week 23

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Created 01/04/2020 - 10:03am
Submitted by Rianne Schestowitz on Wednesday 1st of April 2020 10:03:55 AM Filed under Linux [1]

This is a weekly blog about the Raspberry Pi 4 (?RPI4?), the latest product in the popular Raspberry Pi range of computers.

This week, I?m examining photo viewer software on the RPI4. The first thing to point out is that there?s lots of open source photo viewer software available for Linux. I?m not going to attempt any sort of wholesale survey from an RPI4 perspective. And I?ve not looked at the many open source photo managers even if they double as a photo viewer; I?ll cover them in a future edition of the blog.

Most of the images I work with use PNG and JPEG formats, although I?m also heavily dependent on WebP. PNG offers lossless compression. It supports alpha transparency, palette-based images, grayscale images, and full-color non-palette-based RGB or RGBA images. JPEG is another extremely popular image compression standard in the world, and
the most widely used digital image format. Unlike PNG, JPEG uses lossy compression. WebP covers both bases, employing both lossy and lossless compression, and it's a relatively modern format compared to JPEG and PNG. In a large scale study of 900,000 web images, WebP images were 39.8% smaller than JPEG images of similar quality.

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