

Should Linux and Android Fuse?

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It's hard not to be ambivalent about Android if you're a fan of Linux. Android is free and open source (mostly, I think) and it's got a lot of momentum building behind it. Cool, right? On the other hand, it's not really a Linux distro in any traditional sense even though it uses a Linux kernel. It would be one thing if it were purely a smartphone OS, but it's increasingly looking like it will be a netbook and maybe, therefore, even a full desktop OS. A lot of people will probably find that a netbook and a smartphone are really all they need anyway, along with their TV and maybe a docking station at home with a large LCD. That's a very plausible scenario to me when people get used to netbooks and the things inevitably become more powerful. And having the same OS on all these devices may be a really slick thing. In this light, Android may prove to be an irresistible force.

It's just possible that your favorite distro might have to face the music: join or die. But what would Gnu/Linux and Android fused even look like?

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