

Life with Linux: Adding a Mac-like dock

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Created *10/02/2010 - 4:37pm*

Submitted by srlinuxx on Wednesday 10th of February 2010 04:37:41 PM Filed under [Software](#) [1]

One of the nice things about using a Mac is the dock, the area on the bottom of the screen that contains the Finder (file and directory lister) and other applications you use. It's very customizable and you can add and remove applications at will. In fact, I've now moved mine over to the right edge of my screen since I have a lot more horizontal real estate than vertical.

By default, Ubuntu, Fedora, and other Gnome-based user interfaces do not come with a dock, but it is easy to add. Like many things with open source and Linux, you have more than one choice. This is a good thing, because competition drives each to be better. After reading about and playing with several, I settled on Cairo Dock. Here are a few comments on my experience of setting it up on Ubuntu Karmic Koala 9.10.

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