

Review: Linux Mint 14 MATE Edition

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My first look at Mint 14 was to install it into a VirtualBox virtual machine. Booting up to the Live DVD iso image was fast and in a few seconds I was viewing the desktop. The desktop felt snappy working with 1024 MB of RAM. After a quick test drive I decided to go ahead with an installation to the virtual hard drive.

I chose the basic install option allowing Mint 14 to take up the entire 8 GB virtual disk that I'd created. Due to being based on Ubuntu, the installation is similar and familiar if you've installed Ubuntu previously. After selecting the language, keyboard layout, and timezone, the installation prompts you to create a new user ID and then moves forward with installing packages. After about 15 or 20 minutes I was prompted to restart the machine. I shutdown the VM and removed the virtual DVD from the drive and booted up to the fresh installation.

If you've used Linux Mint previously, you're probably familiar with the Mint Welcome Screen. This is where I ran into my first hiccup. Normally I've just dismissed the Welcome Screen and gone about my business. This time I decided to click on some of the links.

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