

What is an Operating System?

Linux is a free open-source operating system based on Unix. Linux was originally created by Linus Torvalds with the assistance of developers from around the globe. Linux is free to download, edit and distribute. Linux Operating System has primarily three components:

Kernel - Kernel is the core part of Linux. It is responsible for all major activities of this operating system. It consists of various modules and it interacts directly with the underlying hardware. Kernel provides the required abstraction to hide low level hardware details to system or application programs.

System Library - System libraries are special functions or programs using which application programs or system utilities access Kernel's features. These libraries implement most of the functionalities of the operating system and do not require kernel module's code access rights.

System Utility - System Utility programs are responsible to do specialized, individual level tasks.

