

JC's REPORT ON FEDORA 7 – WARTS AND NON-WARTS

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Linux version and hardware information taken from dmesg:

Linux version 2.6.23.1-21.fc7
607MB ram available. (total is 512 + 128 – 32mb apx for video)
Detected 1212.023 MHz processor. (Amd Duron(tm) processor)
Console: color VGA+ 80x25
Booting paravirtualized kernel on bare hardware
Maxtor 4D040H2, DAH017K0, max UDMA/100
Note: limited to UDMA/33 due to 40-wire cable
SONY - DVD RW AW-Q170A, 1.73, max UDMA/66
Note: limited to UDMA/33 due to 40-wire cable
Floppy drive(s): fd0 is 1.44M
eth0: RealTek RTL8139 at 0xe6926000, 00:40:f4:ee:ae:53, IRQ 18
Identified 8139 chip type 'RTL-8100B/8139D'
USB mouse
VIA 82xx Audio: probe of 0000:00:11.5 failed with error -12 (sound card?)

Here is information on the hard drive after installation completed:

Filesystem	1K-blocks	Used	Available	Use%	Mounted on
VolGroup00-LogVol00	36502208	2996840	31621208	9%	/
/dev/sda1	101086	18512	77355	20%	/boot
tmpfs	306152	0	306152	0%	/dev/shm

Things aren't going as smoothly as I want them to on my Fedora 7 experiment. Not a fault of FC 7, mostly me forgetting what was on the pc that I am trying to use.

1. Both a nic card on mb and pci nic card. Wanted to use the pci card, so I had to go back to the bios and disable the nic on motherboard.
2. Then when I started to install FC 7, it tells me that it can't use the graphical install method because there isn't enough memory. I thought I had at least 256mb on this pc, but -- only 128mb and 32mb of that is being used for video.

Now to find some ram.

Found a 512mb stick and added that into the system, roughly 612mb of ram now available.

Decided to do the test dvd deal at the beginning of the install dvd (usually I just trust that it was a good burn). That takes a few minutes.

1. Install says disk is good to go.
2. Start install 5:35pm
3. dead mouse -- pulled another mouse from another system to continue
4. install calls hard drive /dev/sda? (it is an ide drive?)

5. I asked for office/productivity install only for this first test – no servers, etc
6. I didn't ask for any extra packages to be installed. Install says that there are 805 packages to be installed. (wow)
7. Install completed -- 6:15pm (total time for install = 40 minutes)

Note on IDE vs SDA for Hard Drives: Fedora 7 uses the new PATA/IDE subsystem, which (like the SATA subsystem) goes through the SCSI layer. All disk devices are now /dev/sdX. According to the release notes, all partitions must be labeled.

More report on FC 7 install:

1. Can't get to the internet even though I initialize permissions for web, etc in firewall
2. Sound card not found??
3. Flash plugin not installed on firefox
4. Rhythmbox first displayed numerous internet radio stations after resetting network to static ip no internet radio stations listed???

resolutions for warts above:

1. resolv.conf didn't list my name server even though I entered it during the install. Once listed in resolv.conf. Now firefox can get to the internet. further problem, after reboot same problem occurred. The network was set to dhcp even though during install, I had set it for static. I reset everything within administration - network - eth0 for static. Seems to work now.
2. On board sound card not enabled in bios. Still shows error during boot? Now resolved (see below).
3. First tried to do the flash player automatic install. It didn't work (no problem when I did it in Ubuntu). I had to manually install flash plugin which was almost as easy as the automatic was in ubuntu.

I decided to do the updater thing and it has taken over an hour! It must be updating everything!

When I last left F 7, I had rebooted and lost network connection again! I was not sure why, but it was time for sleep, so I left it powered up and I powered myself down.

I decided to check F 7 just minutes ago and found that the unit is connected to the network, but doesn't have a nameserver. I ssh'd into F7 from Ubuntu and checked resolv.conf. File was there but contained nothing!

Now what is happening? Not sure. I added a nameserver into the file and rebooted the system. Internet access is working now but don't know what happened. I remember adding a nameserver into the network gui and saving the settings. From what I am reading on the internet, it appears that the updater wiped the contents of resolv.conf. I should be good to go now. We shall see later.

ssh from ubuntu to F 7 works without a hitch.

Worse problem so far is the sound card problem. (now fixed – see below)

It appears that fedora 7 was implementing some sound driver not associated with my sound card (via soundcard on motherboard). I had to go into administration and select sound card detection and enable all parts there. Now sound works that is fed from wral.com's video links.

All in All, not a bad install.

