

Minor Contributions

Although Linus' greatest contribution to computer science was Linux, he also developed other software like Git (a command-line program to manage git repositories) as well as making programs for his Sinclair QL



Linus Torvalds

The creator of the Linux kernel
12/28/69 – Today (Age 55)

Creating Linux

In 1991 while he was a computer science student at the University of Helsinki, he bought his first PC. His PC used MS-DOS, but he already preferred the UNIX operating system that was on the university computers. In turn, he decided to make his own operating system, and Linux was born.

Academic Events

In 1988, Linus enrolled in the University of Helsinki to study computer science. He continued to graduate with a master's degree

Early Life

Linus grew up in a Swedish family on December 28, 1969. At age 10, he began dabbling in computers with his grandfather's Commodore VIC-20.



The picture to the left is the official mascot of the Linux kernel. His name is Tux

What is Linux?

Linux is the open-source kernel that Linus Torvalds made around 1991. Since then, Linux has grown to be an extremely stable and reliable operating system that, when combined with other (open-source) software, is what the majority of servers use today. Also, Linux is used in about 4% of users' personal computers, and both Google's Android and ChromeOS are both based on the Linux kernel!

Fun Fact

Just like Linux, the MacOS kernel is based on Unix! This is why some terminal commands and even small programs can be shared between the two operating systems (ex. ls, rm, etc.)

Open Source Software

Open source software is where the developer shares the raw source code of their program for anyone who has the knowledge to contribute and make it their own.

Sources

[Britannica](#)

[Biographies.org](#)

[Wikipedia](#)