

# WUBI - The Windows Ubuntu Installer (Linux)

UbuntuWUBI.lwp

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WUBI? What the heck is a WUBI?

The **Windows-based Ubuntu Installer (WUBI)** is a program that allows you to install and remove Ubuntu-Linux from within Microsoft Windows (98, 2000, XP, Vista, or Windows 7). WUBI automatically creates a dual-boot option that lets a Microsoft Windows user try Ubuntu without risking any data loss due to disk formatting or partitioning. Normally, installing Ubuntu or any version of Linux on a system that is also running Windows is intimidating and very risky. Total failure to boot Windows is a common result.

WUBI to the rescue: The WUBI installer is was included on every Ubuntu Live CD (*below version 12.04*), but is now a separate download from [www.ubuntu.com](http://www.ubuntu.com). WUBI easily installs Ubuntu INSIDE of windows (all versions), and in the same partition (drive letter) as Windows if you like. The install process is like any other program install in Windows. Installing this way is soooooo easy. Also, when you want to remove Ubuntu, you just go to Add/Remove Programs and remove it like any other program running under Windows.

Dual-boot: After the installation, a new (dual) boot option screen appears right after power up, allowing you to select whether you want to run either Windows standalone or Ubuntu standalone.

Wow, what a great way to play with Linux/Ubuntu without the hassle of partitioning the hard drive and dealing with those messy dual-boot managers like GRUB or GAG. Yuck (Yes, those are real acronyms. Not the Yuck. It just means yuck).

To start the process, you need an Ubuntu Live (Install) CD that you or a friend has downloaded and burned. You can also go to the Ubuntu website and have them mail you a free CD (10 weeks).

To install Ubuntu using WUBI:

- WUBI does not work with Ubuntu 13.10 and higher.
- For Ubuntu version 12, you need to download wubi.exe as a separate file from: <http://www.ubuntu.com/download/desktop/windows-installer>
- For Ubuntu versions below 12.04, just insert the "Ubuntu Install CD" while Windows is running. *Do not boot the CD*. The CD should start. If not, go to My Computer, open the CD and click on wubi.exe. When you see the opening window, simply select "Install Inside Windows". After that, you answer a few questions about what drive letter, and how much drive space you want to allow for Ubuntu. That's it!

I have tried WUBI under XP and Windows 7 and it works flawlessly in my experience.

NOTES:

- Hibernation is not supported when installing Ubuntu via WUBI (for either Windows or Ubuntu).
- Follow these links for detailed WUBI installing and operating instructions: <http://wiki.ubuntu.com/WubiGuide> and here: <http://help.ubuntu.com/community/Wubi>
- Ubuntu 32 bit can run under Windows 32 bit or Windows 64 bit.
- For a video showing how to install Ubuntu step-by-step using WUBI, see this from britec09: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LRQaL5-JMC4>
- I have not tried it but I hear that certain Live CD's of LINUX MINT include an installer similiar to WUBI called MINT4WIN. See this video for details: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m\\_7YVrGL4ME](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_7YVrGL4ME)