

Devuan Experience

Work in progress...

Installing Devuan

My Devuan installation notes.

Latest Devuan Installation

202204100749

Using Devuan Chimaera DVD ISO (dd onto USB) → UEFI boot!

Note: If using netinstall or CD1 some firmware may not be available - which is a problem if using WiFi module.

The must-haves for MY Devuan installation:

- install `build-essential` (development tools)
- install `linux-headers-amd64` (to compile kernel modules)
- install `geany`, `git`, `gitk` (coding stuffs)
- install `libnss-mdns` & `avahi-daemon` (system management) **INSTALLED BY DEFAULT**
- install `curl` (some of my scripts needs that...)

The stuffs I currently need:

- install `cryptsetup` (encrypted partitions)
- install `xfig` (i need `xfig2dev`)

Note: these are required to compile Linux kernel: `libncurses5-dev` `build-essential` `libssl-dev` `libelf-dev` `git` `bison` `flex` (need to check if these are already installed by the above selection, e.g. `build-essential` and `git` are covered)

work in progress...?

Last XFCE Installation

- using default xfce desktop
 - this is my primary choice, but I have installed cinnamon on other machines
- replace `wicd` with `network-manager`
 - `$ apt install network-manager network-manager-gnome`
 - `network-manager-gnome` provides `nm-applet` (not needed if using `nmcli`)
 - `$ apt purge wicd wicd-gtk`

- `$ apt autoremove`

Minimal Desktop Installation

I want a basic installation with dwm.

- install base (use netinstall iso... or, maybe use debootstrap?)
- install my usual stuffs

```
$ apt install build-essential linux-headers-amd64 vim git curl
```

- install xorg stuffs

```
$ apt install xorg libx11-dev libxft-dev libxinerama-dev
```

- install suckless stuffs

```
$ apt install stterm suckless-tools
```

- install dwm from source
 - use myl1ubuild script
- looks good, but i need acpi stuffs

```
$ apt install acpid
```

- for laptop, maybe add `acpi-support`
- if need command-line utility, add `acpi`

work in progress...

Install Using debootstrap

- boot using myl1live-devuan
- need to install gisk debootstrap
 - optionally, install lvm2
- run

```
$ apt install gisk debootstrap lvm2
```

- prepare disk (`/dev/sda`) layout
 - 1 uefi partition (ef00)
 - 1 root partition (8300)
 - 1 home partition (8e00/8300)
 - 1 swap partition (8200)
- run

```
$ gdisk /dev/sda
```

- format/mount root partition

```
$ mkfs.ext4 -L MY1B00T /dev/sda2
$ mount /dev/sda2 /mnt/disk
```

- run debootstrap

```
$ debootstrap chimaera /mnt/disk https://deb.devuan.org/merged/
```

- while debootstrap runs, format other partitions

```
$ mkdosfs -n MY1UEFI /dev/sda1
$ mkfs.ext4 -L MY1B00T /dev/sda2
$ mkswap -L MY1SWAP /dev/sda4
```

- will use lvm in this example

```
$ pvcreate /dev/sda3
$ vgcreate homevg /dev/sda3
$ lvcreate -l +100%FREE -n home0 homevg
$ mkfs.ext4 -L MY1HOME /dev/homevg/home0
```

- mount efi/home partitions

```
$ mkdir -p /mnt/disk/boot/efi
$ mount /dev/sda1 /mnt/disk/boot/efi
$ mount /dev/homevg/home0 /mnt/disk/home
```

- chroot and install/setup

```
$ chroot /mnt/disk
$ apt update
$ apt install linux-image-amd64 build-essential linux-headers-amd64 vim
git lvm2
$ apt install firmware-linux firmware-iwlwifi firmware-atheros
firmware-realtek
$ apt install cinnamon-desktop-environment
```

- update initramfs (add lvm support)

```
$ update-initramfs -u -k all
```

- i prefer all-lowercase path names

```
$ cd /etc ; vi xdg/user-dirs.defaults ; cd - >/dev/null
```

- setup locale

```
$ apt install locales
$ cd /etc ; echo "en_US.UTF-8 UTF-8 >>locale.gen" ; cd - >/dev/null
$ locale-gen
```

- setup grub

```
$ apt install grub-efi-amd64
```

```
$ grub-install /dev/sda
$ update-grub
```

- run efibootmgr to make sure

```
$ efibootmgr
```

- edit fstab

```
cd /etc ; vi fstab ; cd - >/dev/null
```

- setup root password

```
$ passwd
```

- change hostname

```
$ cd /etc ; vi hostname ; cd - >/dev/null
```

- reboot

Note: I got to Cinnamon Desktop and everything looks ok - BUT, I simply cannot run gnome-terminal! Well, I can if I run `dbus-update-activation-environment` first. So, I missed something coz when I reinstalled using the full dvd, everything works fine.

work in progress...

Devuan upgrade (chimaera to daedalus)

Personal note - basically from devuan.org.

[devuan_upgrade.txt](#)

```
upgrade chimaera to daedalus (from devuan.org)

- update/upgrade chimaera
$ apt update
$ apt upgrade

- update apt sources.list
$ cd /etc ; sed -i 's/chimaera/daedalus/g' apt/sources.list ; cd -
>/dev/null

- update pkg list from daedalus
$ apt update

- kill screensaver (if running)
$ killall xscreensaver

- upgrade/dist-upgrade
$ apt upgrade
```

```
$ apt dist-upgrade

- in case of failures, fix and rerun
$ apt -f install
$ apt dist-upgrade

- cleanup
$ apt autoremove --purge
$ apt autoclean

deb https://deb.devuan.org/merged daedalus main non-free-firmware non-free contrib
deb https://deb.devuan.org/merged daedalus-security main non-free-firmware non-free contrib
deb https://deb.devuan.org/merged daedalus-updates main non-free-firmware non-free contrib

#deb-src https://deb.devuan.org/merged daedalus main
#deb-src https://deb.devuan.org/merged daedalus-security main
#deb-src https://deb.devuan.org/merged daedalus-updates main
```

2026/01/07 09:08 · azman

From:

<http://azman.unimap.edu.my/dokuwiki/> - Azman @UniMAP

Permanent link:

<http://azman.unimap.edu.my/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=linux:devuan&rev=1767747818>

Last update: **2026/01/07 09:03**

