

Open Alternatives

If you do not feel ready to move away from a proprietary Operating System consider installing some of the software commonly used on Open Source systems. If you start using Open Source applications now, it will be far easier to start using a completely Open Source system in the future.

The follow is a list of applications that are popular on Linux and are also available for Windows and Mac OS. Remember that these are only *some* of the options and that any change takes some time to adjust.

Replace	with	from.	More information at:
Microsoft Office	LibreOffice	www.documentfoundation.org	www.libreoffice.org/get-help/documentation
Internet Explorer	FireFox	www.mozilla.org	www.newbie.org/firefox
Outlook	ThunderBird	www.mozilla.org	support.mozillamessaging.com
Skype	Ekiga*	www.ekiga.org	wiki.ekiga.org
PhotoShop	The Gimp	www.gimp.org	docs.gimp.org
WinZip	7-Zip	www.7-zip.org	
VB.net	Mono	www.mono.org	

Unique Offerings

The following applications are extremely powerful but also extremely unusual and will take some time to learn.

Application	Purpose	From
Blender	Complete 3D art and animation package	www.blender.org
Lyx	Structure-orientated word processor	www.lyx.org

**Not available on Mac OS.*