Linux For Windows NT/2k Administrators: Secret Decoder Ring
With CDROM (Mark Minasi Windows 2000)
Synopsis
A presentation of Linux specifically aimed at Windows users. The text explains all Linux’s essentials, dispels its myths, shows how to use Linux in an enterprise, and provides guidelines and tips on setting up various Linux servers in a Windows environment.

Book Information
Series: Mark Minasi Windows 2000
Paperback: 560 pages
Publisher: Sybex Books (September 2000)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0782127304
Product Dimensions: 9 x 7.6 x 1.3 inches
Shipping Weight: 2.1 pounds
Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (38 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews
Overall, this book is well worth purchasing. Mark does a good job of keeping the practical information and weeding out the useless .... There’s a good, detailed discussion about how to get linux installed and running on your machine, including setting up basic services like www, dns, samba, etc. (I found the samba section especially good)The chapters are well organized and flow nicely together. Additionally, the index (which is what I use the most) is detailed and easy to navigate -- you can generally find the right page the first time.However, you'll find it won't suffice as your only linux book. There are too many basic topics that aren't covered, such as:* How to do basic troubleshooting? What's the linux equivalent of the NT event viewer? What are some basic steps to take if you're having networking problems?* How do you update drivers? (especially NIC drivers) It talks about configuring NIC properties, but not updating the actual driver.* What's the linux equivalent of a service pack? Where do you go to get it and how do you install it?Again, overall, this book is well worth the money and does a good job of preparing you to use linux. It will get you about 70% of the way there. For the remaining 30%, you'll want to pick up a more comprehensive linux
This book is excellent. I am a long time Windows NT/2000 programmer / administrator. This book helps in you learn linux in windoze terms.He starts off with a very nice and informative history on Linux and unix. Then does a fairly decent job of describing open source and how linux can grow and flourish in this environment. I mean, as former M$ guy, I couldnt quite figure out how Linux could thrive and continue to make forward progress in the mehem that seemed to be open source, where any one ant anytime could modify the source and start their own distribution. He answers that question quite nicely.He then gives a detailed overview of all Linuxes and which one might be best for you.Bottom line--This is an excellent started book, that will give any NT admin the basics of learning Linux. The only flaw? The material is dated, Redhat 7.2 is out and he discusses Redhat 6.2, the same with all the other linux distros he talks about, they are all older versions. None of which has mattered so far, I just wish it was over the newer stuff, maybe he will come out with an updated version? Too, this is only a beginner Linux book, get this with the intention of getting a solid learning foundation in Linux, then you can look elsewhere for a comprehensive book on Linux. I suggest Wrox, they are the best learning books I have ever read.

Pros--
1) Concise
2) Covers all major versions
3) Does not overload you with Linux only speak
4) Explains linux in NT terms
5) Comes with Mandrake distro
6) Extremely converstional writing style very easy to read

Cons--
1) Covers dated material
2) A bit thin on setting up servers, could go into a bit more detail, and does not offer any trouble shooting tips when doing so
3) Ugly blue cover (heh, my opinion only :o))

I am so happy when someone wrote a book about Linux for NT/2000 Administrator, and couldn’t be more happier when this person is Mark Minasi-- DA MAN. I have been waiting this book to be out since July.. I got it on Oct 9 and I being reading since then. I read every words, front cover, back cover, Intro.. (I work 10 hrs+ everyday and in 3 days I already on page 87) I’d try to learn linux since beginning of this year, but all the books that I buy about Linux is too hard to understand, It doesn’t explain in a NT/2000 term that I understand, so, I finally gave up the ghost, gave up Linux... This book is so easy to understand... It explain everything in NT terms... The book come with a Linux Mandrake CD, and the book does not base on Mandrake, It also talk about other distributions... I know NT/2000 pretty darn well, but I am a newbie on Linux... With this book, I know it can get me up to speed with Linux... THIS is DA BOOK, if you know NT/2000 and TCP/IP and want to learn Linux FAST.
As an experienced NT/2000 developer and administrator, I was having lots of difficulty making the mental transition to Linux/Unix. Minasi manages not only to keep the reading interesting, which has to a challenge in this subject matter, but the book does a great job in spelling out all the steps needed to do things that are second nature in NT/2000. Something as mundane as setting up a FTP server in Linux required an explanation of how user rights are managed - Minasi came through. He even has useful tidbits on VI and other tools that come in handy with Linux. Also, I found it rather interesting that even thought he's known as the NT/2000 guru, he shows no reluctance to point out all the parts where Unix/Linux is superior to NT/2000. He even advises readers that it's a good career move to learn Linux! One of the very best tech books I've read in years. Great work!

I've been waiting for a book like this for a long time. Every other Linux book that I had tried was either for the newbie or the well experienced. No one has taken the perspective that there are people out there who are familiar with servers and networking and might have a clue or two. I've been an MCSE for over 5 years now so my mind and methods were assimilated by the Microsoft way. Learning Linux was an exercise in futility since I couldn't link the methods of the two operating systems together. This book has changed everything. I got the book about a week ago and have gone through half of it already. The author keeps me interested in the material and presents it in a way that any NT administrator can understand. I can safely say that I have learned more about Linux in the first 6 chapters than I have learned from the 4 other Linux books I have purchased in the past. If you know NT/2000 and want to learn Linux, get this book.

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