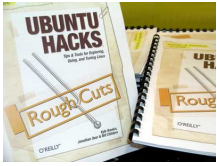


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Ubuntu Hacks
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[Optimize Ubuntu Feisty Fawn for Speed](#)

Tips for a faster Ubuntu machine!

If you use Ubuntu (Feisty Fawn) as your Linux distribution, which everyone knows it's a pretty fast Linux operating system, you can also do some tricks in order to get a boost. I will teach you today some quick hacks on how to improve the overall performance of your system. **WARNING:** Please follow the instructions below very carefully, in the order in which they are listed below and reboot your machine after each one. If not, your operating system will NOT work anymore.

1. Boot tweaking It is a very good idea to do this tweak when you first install Ubuntu, but you can also do it anytime after the installation. This will reorganize some files that are read when the computer boots and it makes the boot process a little faster. All you have to do is hit the ESC button to see the GRUB menu when the computer starts, then select the second line (the one that looks like this: `/vmlinuz-2.6.20-15-generic root=UUID=6162302f-3f32-4b73-bb56-c42f4f9fbc2 ro quiet splash`) and hit the "e" key to edit that line. Add the word *profile* at the end of this line (don't forget to put a space before you type *profile*). Hit enter when you're done and then push the "b" key on your keyboard in order to boot the system. It will take a little longer to boot, but only this one time, because after this process it will boot faster.

2. Filesystem tweaks The following tweaks are for EXT3 and ReiserFS filesystems. Open a console and type: `[CODE=0]sudo gedit /etc/fstab [CODE=1]` Add the following options marked in bold to the root (/) mount line. In other words, it should change from this: `# /dev/sdb2 UUID=f4d4d73d-4141-4701-a7e2-ec41664483a7 / ext3 defaults,errors=remount-ro 0 1` into this: `# /dev/sdb2 UUID=f4d4d73d-4141-4701-a7e2-ec41664483a7 / ext3 defaults,errors=remount-ro,noatime,data=writeback 0 1` Now type the following command in the console: `[CODE=0]sudo gedit /boot/grub/menu.lst [CODE=1]` And add this option: `rootflags=data=writeback` to the end of the following lines: `# defoptions=quiet splash rootflags=data=writeback # altoptions=(recovery mode) single rootflags=data=writeback` Now save and close, and type the following command in the console: `[CODE=0]sudo update-grub [CODE=1]` Type now the following command in order to manually change your filesystem "on-the-fly" into writeback. **NOTE:** Please note that `/dev/sdb2` is my root (/) partition. If you have the root (/) partition in another place, change it accordingly. Please look in `/etc/fstab` for this! **WARNING:** The next trick is only for EXT3 filesystems! For ReiserFS this will **NOT** work, so don't run the following command, just reboot your system for the changes to apply. `[CODE=0]sudo tune2fs -o journal_data_writeback /dev/sdb2 [CODE=1]` That's all, now reboot your system and when you get back, you should feel an increased speed in video, image or audio usage.

3. Tuning Swappiness If you have been running Linux systems for some time and you have used applications like 'top' to see what's going on in your machine, then you've probably wondered: Where has all my memory gone? You should know that the largest place is being used in the disk cache, as the cached memory is free and it can be replaced anytime if a newly started application needs that memory. Linux systems are made like this to use so much memory for disk cache because the RAM is wasted if is not used and if something needs the same data again, then there is a very good chance to be in the cache memory. In a console type the following code: `[CODE=0]sudo gedit /etc/sysctl.conf [CODE=1]` Now add the following line at the end of this file: `[CODE=0]vm.swappiness=0 [CODE=1]` The number at the end of this line can be between 0 and 100. At 100 the Linux kernel will prefer to find inactive pages and swap them out, while value 0 gives something close to the old behavior where applications that wanted memory could shrink the cache to a tiny fraction of RAM.

4. Concurrent booting If you have a dual-core processor or one that supports hyperthreading then concurrent booting allows Ubuntu to take advantage of them.

Just open a console and type the following code:
`[CODE=0]sudo gedit /etc/init.d/rc`
`[CODE=1]`and find the line `CONCURRENCY=none` and change it to:
`[CODE=0]`
`CONCURRENCY=shell``[CODE=1]`Save and reboot your computer.
5. IPv6 tweaking
In Linux, most of the installed software uses the IPv4 Internet protocol in order to connect to the internet and because the IPv6 protocol is enabled by default in Ubuntu, you must create a file to block this protocol. Type the following code in a console:
`[CODE=0]sudo gedit /etc/modprobe.d/bad_list``[CODE=1]`and add the next line in that file:
`[CODE=0]alias net-pf-10 off``[CODE=1]`Remember to hit enter after you've added the above line, save and exit. That will be all for now, please report if you see any improvements to your system. If anyone has more improvements, you can post them here anytime, so others will know about them!