Getting Started with Your New Free Geek Computer Classes

These classes help volunteers setup and use their new Ubuntu-based computers. While oriented toward volunteers in the adoption program, hardware grant recipients and thrift store shoppers are also invited to sign up. The content is almost identical in all classes – only sign up for the one class that best fits you.

Beginner
Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30-1:30
Saturdays 3:00-5:30

If you do not feel comfortable with computers or have rarely used one before, this is the class for you.

Intermediate
Saturdays 12:30-2:30

If you have used a computer before, perhaps at the Library or the Free Geek computer lab, but are still a little unsure about how to save files and find them, then this class is for you. **Covers the same material as above**, and may also include some extra content.

Advanced
Wednesdays 11:00-1:00

If you are very comfortable with computers, this is the class for you. **Covers the same material as above**, and often includes some extra content.

Command Line Classes

Learn the basics of the Linux command line (the text-based Linux interface) in this class. Required for those Free Geek volunteers who want to move on to post-build positions. It is recommended that you have a good basic understanding of computers before taking these classes.

Basic Command Line for Builders
Saturdays 10:30-12:00

This class covers very basic information and tools in regards to the command line in Linux. Students will learn the parts of a command, listing, linking, tab completion, file system structure and more. If you have never used the command line before, or need a refresher, this is the class for you.

Because of a lack of volunteer teachers, we do not currently offer an advanced command line class or the basic command line class on weekdays.

If you are available to teach a command line class once every two weeks or weekly, please get in touch with Darren Heiber, Hardware Grants & Education Coordinator at: dheiber@freegeek.org or 503-232-9350 x111

Assorted Classes

Linux Open Questions
Friday 1/6, 1/20 10:30-12:30

Learn the basics of Ubuntu Linux in this class that changes based on the needs and questions of the class. Students need only take this class one time but may take it more.

What is open-source software? Programs that everyone is free to modify and distribute.

What is Linux? An open-source computer operating system similar to Windows or OS X, but totally free.

Ubuntu versus Linux? There are 100's of versions of Linux for many different needs/uses - Ubuntu is one of those versions and very popular with those using Linux for the first time.

GIMP Fundamentals
Wednesday 1/11 3:30-5:30

Learn the basics of GIMP, the GNU Image Manipulation Program. If you have never used GIMP or Photoshop before to modify and create images, this is the class for you.

GIMP Intermediate
Wednesday 1/25 3:30-5:30

Learn more advanced functions of GIMP like paths and layer masks. Perfect followup to the fundamentals class or for those already moderately familiar with Photoshop.

Many of the classes we offer are oriented to our amazing volunteers who receive a free computer after donating 24 hours of their time. These **Getting Started classes** are perfect for computer users of all levels who have never used Ubuntu Linux before. Setup and learn the basics of your new Free Geek computer. Volunteers who take these classes receive one year of free tech support from Free Geek!*

We also offer **Command Line classes** for both volunteers and the general public. These are an excellent way to learn the basics of the Linux command line. Build volunteers who would like to move onto post-build positions, like Advanced Testing, Mac and laptop repair, are required to take our **Basic Command Line for Beginners class**.

Free Geek provides monthly or bi-weekly classes on specific topics. Current offerings include **GIMP classes** - to work on image manipulation, **Using Windows Programs in Ubuntu** - to extend the versatility of your computers and **general Ubuntu Linux classes** for those who have played around with Ubuntu Linux and want to learn how to use their computers in specific ways.

*Free tech support void if you make major modifications to your computer.

Almost all of our classes are taught by an awesome collection of fantastic volunteer teachers.

Don't forget to thank your teacher!

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer teacher at Free Geek?

Do you have an idea for a class you think we should offer?

Call or email our Education Coordinator to find out how you can get involved.

Questions?

Call or email Darren Heiber Hardware Grants & Education Coordinator:

dheiber@freegeek.org
503-232-9350 x111

January 2012 Free Geek Classes

Free Geek's mission is to recycle technology and provide access to computers, the Internet, education and job skills in exchange for community service. To help fulfill this mission, we currently offer **free classes** on computer-related topics to our volunteers and the general public in our facilities at 1731 SE 10th Avenue in Portland, OR.

Pre-registration is required for classes. You can do so at the volunteer desk or by calling us at 503-232-9350 x101.

If you have online access, you can always see our current class offerings at http://www.freegeek.org/about/classes/