Getting Started with Your New Free Geek Computer Classes

These classes help volunteers setup and use their new Ubuntu-based computers. Volunteers who take these classes receive one year of free tech support from Free Geek!* While oriented toward volunteers in the adoption program, hardware grant recipients and thrift store shoppers are also invited to sign up. 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
Wednesday 3/14, 3/28 11:00-1:00

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.

*Free tech support void if you make major modifications to your computer or change the operating system.

Other Classes

Basic Command Line
Saturdays 10:30-12:00
Tuesday 3/20, 3/27 3:00-4:30

Students will learn the parts of a command, listing, linking, tab completion, file system structure and more. 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. If you have never used the command line before, or need a refresher, this is the class for you.

> 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 hundreds 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.

Using Windows Programs in Ubuntu
Friday 3/9 3:00-5:00

New to Ubuntu Linux and have a Windows program you just can't live without? Learn how to search for Linux equivalents or use programs like Wine to make your Windows programs compatible with your computer.

Linux Open Questions
Wednesday 3/7, 3/21 1:30-3:00

Learn the basics of Ubuntu Linux in this class that changes based on the needs and questions of the students. You may take this class as often as you would like. No sign-up necessary, but recommended.

GIMP Fundamentals
Wednesday 3/14 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 3/28 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.

Introduction to Internet Use & Security
Wednesday 3/21 3:30-5:30

Learn how to use the Internet safely. This class covers how to generate and use secure but easy-to-remember passwords. Students will also learn how to know if they can trust a website as well as tips and techniques to use websites like Craigslist and shopping sites safely.

New Classes

Introduction to Writing Resumes & Cover Letters
Friday 3/16 3:30-5:30

Learn how to use word processing programs like Open Office to format documents correctly by creating a resume and cover letter. Even if you are not actively searching for a job this is a great way to learn how to use programs similar to Microsoft Word.

Introduction to System Administration
Thursday 3/29 3:00-5:00

Want to get under the hood and take control of your Ubuntu computer? Learn key commands and concepts including users, groups, permissions, processes, and how to debug networking problems. Basic Command Line class or similar knowledge is a prerequisite.

Introduction to Networking
Friday 3/30 3:30-5:30

Curious about how the Internet works? Heard about networking and would like to know more? Come learn the basics of networking in a hands-on class that provides an introduction into how computers talk to one another.

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

http://www.freegeek.org/about/classes/

March 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, unless otherwise indicated. You can sign-up 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/