

# Fedora 18 Features Updated User Interfaces and Desktop Environments

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*Community Collaboration Advances Free and Open Source Distribution with New Fedora Release*

RALEIGH, N.C.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- The Fedora Project, a Red Hat, Inc. (NYSE: RHT) sponsored and community-supported open source collaboration, today announced the availability of Fedora 18, the latest version of its free, open source operating system distribution. The Fedora Project community is dedicated to the development and advancement of open source technologies, which culminate in a new release of Fedora approximately twice each year. Fedora 18 combines cutting-edge open source features, a streamlined installation experience and innovative technological enhancements into a reliable, flexible operating system that can be used by anyone.

Notable Fedora 18 advancements include:

**User features:** The user interface for Fedora's installation procedure, part of Anaconda, has been completely re-written, and provides significant improvements to the installation experience. Designed to be simple and understandable for a traditional desktop user, yet with robust options available for more complex installations, the new installation experience shines with a clean, modern look. The GNOME desktop environment has been updated to the 3.6 release, introducing new enhancements to the message tray and notifications, revisions to the Activities Overview and accessibility support. KDE Plasma Workspaces has been updated as well, with the 4.9 version delivering improvements in stability and performance, and many new features. Additionally, the MATE and Cinnamon desktops are new desktop options in Fedora 18.

**Developer features:** Fedora 18 includes several language and programming environment updates, with fresh versions of Python, Rails, D and Perl. Clojure tooling packages and libraries have also been added in this release. Finally, SystemTap has been updated to the 2.0 release, extending its capabilities for instrumenting code and other diagnostic capabilities, and providing those abilities to a greater pool of user access levels.

**System administrator features:** The recently released Samba 4 introduces the first free and open source implementation of Active Directory protocols, further enhancing its long-standing use for file and print sharing in heterogeneous server environments. Fedora 18 also includes multiple enhancements to storage management with new tools and libraries for storage area network (SAN) and network-attached storage (NAS) management, and the addition of System Storage Manager, a unified command-line interface for managing multiple storage technologies. oVirt Engine, the management application for the oVirt virtualization platform, brings in new features with its 3.1 release, and Eucalyptus, a platform for on-premise Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) clouds, makes its debut in Fedora 18 with its 3.2 release. Finally, Fedora continues to offer fresh releases of OpenStack, bringing in the Folsom release; Heat, an incubated OpenStack project, is newly available in Fedora, enabling via API the orchestration of cloud applications using file- or web-based templates.

A complete list of Fedora 18 features is available on The Fedora Project community release announcement page: [https://fedoraproject.org/wiki/F18\\_release\\_announcement](https://fedoraproject.org/wiki/F18_release_announcement).

The Fedora Project aims to release a new version of its free operating system approximately every six months, as a rapid development cycle encourages collaboration and the inclusion of the latest, leading-edge open source features available. Fedora is built by community members from across the globe, and the Fedora Project's transparent and open collaboration process has attracted thousands of registered contributors, who collectively deliver releases of Fedora to an ever-expanding base of users worldwide. The total of unique IPs across Fedora releases since tracking was initiated at Fedora 7 is now approaching 45 million connections.

The Fedora Project has also held multiple Fedora User and Developer Conferences (FUDCon) around the world during the past year, including events in Blacksburg, Virginia, USA; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Paris, France; and Valencia, Venezuela. The [next upcoming FUDCon](#) is planned for January 18 – 20, 2013 in Lawrence, Kansas, USA.

## Availability

Fedora 18 is globally generally available today.

## Supporting Quote

*Robyn Bergeron, Fedora Project Leader*

"The advances in Fedora 18 are an achievement, and the Fedora Project community truly has a release to be proud of. Their hard work and dedication to delivering cutting-edge features, as well as their commitment to freedom and open source, have resulted in a release that is robust, yet flexible, and brimming with diverse enhancements. From multiple desktops and cloud platforms, to numerous new features simplifying administration, to our brand-new installation experience, Fedora 18 reflects our passion for delivering the future, first."

For more information

[Learn more](#) about The Fedora Project community.

[Read more](#) about Fedora 18 release highlights.

## About The Fedora Project

The Fedora Project is a global partnership of free software community members. It is sponsored by Red Hat, which invests in the Fedora infrastructure and resources to encourage collaboration and incubate innovative new technologies. Some of these technologies may later be integrated into Red Hat products. They are developed in Fedora and produced under a free and open source license from inception, so other free software communities and projects are free to study, adopt and modify them.

## About Red Hat, Inc.

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to reliable and high-performing cloud, Linux, middleware, storage and virtualization technologies. Red Hat also offers award-winning support, training, and consulting services. As the connective hub in a global network of enterprises, partners, and open source communities, Red Hat helps create relevant, innovative technologies that liberate resources for growth and prepare customers for the future of IT. Learn more at <http://www.redhat.com>.

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