

Testing the Xubuntu daily images

Jackson Doak and Pasi Lallinaho

Development of the Xubuntu operating system requires the skills and time of individuals of all kinds and testing is an excellent and easy way to get involved with this development process. Testing a vital part of the Xubuntu release cycle and anyone with a virtual machine, or even better, a spare computer, can help out. Plus, when you do testing you will work with most of the people involved in Xubuntu and Ubuntu as a whole so it's a great way to join the community.

How can I help?

There are several different ways of testing the ISOs for all of the Xubuntu releases. Here's a quick overview of the different tests which need to be run:

- *Installation testing* to make sure the Xubuntu ISO's are installable.
- *Live DVD testing* to make sure the live DVD environment works as expected (and to make sure persistency works on live USB).

- *Post-installation testing* to make sure all applications work as expected, this includes using development releases on a daily basis and reporting bugs as you find them.
- *Upgrade testing* to make sure upgrades from old releases work as expected.

All the results from different tests should be reported to the *Ubuntu ISO Tracker*. You will need a *Ubuntu Single Sign On* (see the Glossary for more information) account to log in and send results.

Running and reporting a test

Go to the Ubuntu ISO Tracker at <http://iso.qa.ubuntu.com/> and log in.

Click *<release name> Daily* and select your infrastructure from the *Xubuntu* product at the bottom of the page. Once you get to the product page for your infrastructure, click *Link to download information* to get a download link for the currently tested ISO.

Once you have downloaded the appropriate ISO, you will need to boot it on a physical system or a virtual machine. If you want to test on a physical system, you can create a bootable USB with either the *usb-creator-gtk* or *unetbootin* tools, either of which can be installed via the Ubuntu Software Center. Alternatively, you can run the test on a virtual machine. For more information and instructions, see the glossary for *virtual machine*.

Select and click on a test you want to run. We recommend starting with an *installation* test and then advancing to *post-installation* tests. This way both you and us will get the most out of your time.

When the page loads, you should see the testcase instructions (if you don't, click on the *Testcase* label) and follow the instructions step by step.

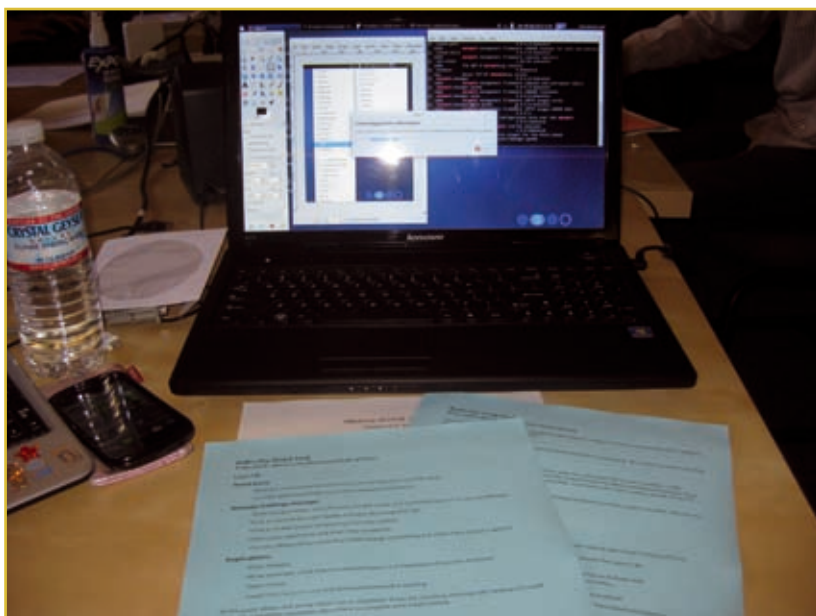


Figure 1. Testing in action!

If you find bugs while running the test, first see if they are already reported on *Launchpad*. The *Bugs to look for* section in the Ubuntu ISO Tracker will show bugs that people have been experiencing with the same test before – specifically look out for these. If the bug you are seeing hasn't been reported yet, file it to Launchpad. Finally, add the bug numbers to the appropriate fields; the bug is *critical* if it prevents you from finishing the test, otherwise it's a normal bug.

✓ **TIP:** To read about reporting bugs correctly and searching existing bugs for duplicates, refer to the community help section on reporting bugs at <https://help.ubuntu.com/community/ReportingBugs>

Once you've finished with the test-case, *submit your results*; select the overall *result* for the test and list any *bugs* you experienced during testing. You can also leave a link to your hardware profile or add comments for other people who are reviewing the tests at a later time. Remember to click *Submit result* when you're done – *only submitted tests count!*

Need more information or help?

All of the different testing areas for Xubuntu follow more or less the same pattern. To get detailed instructions with pictures on how to report test results refer to the ISO testing Walkthrough on the Ubuntu wiki at <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/Testing/ISO/Walkthrough>. You can also ask for help in the Xubuntu developer IRC channel `#xubuntu-dev` on the Freenode IRC network.

Glossary

- **ISO** – A term used to denote a file from which you can create a physical medium with pre-defined contents. Alternatively, you can use ISO files with *virtual machines* without having to use any physical mediums. The term *daily* (ISO) is used to denote ISO for any specific day.

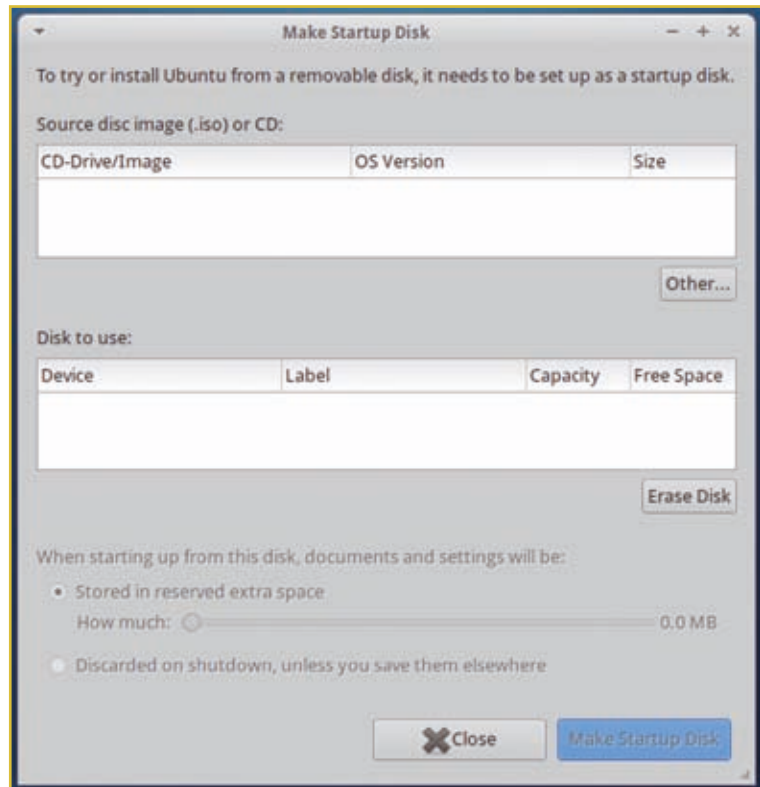


Figure 2. *usb-creator-gtk*

- **Ubuntu Single Sign On** – Ubuntu Single Sign On is a service that allows you to create an account you can use to login to several websites. You can obtain a Ubuntu Single Sign On account at <http://login.ubuntu.com/>
- **Virtual machine** – Virtual machine is used to run an operating system inside an isolated system. This allows testing Xubuntu

images even when you only have one computer and don't want or can't reinstall it. There are multiple applications which can create virtual machines, but we recommend using VirtualBox. For more information about VirtualBox and instructions on how to create a virtual machine, visit the VirtualBox website at virtual-box.org ■

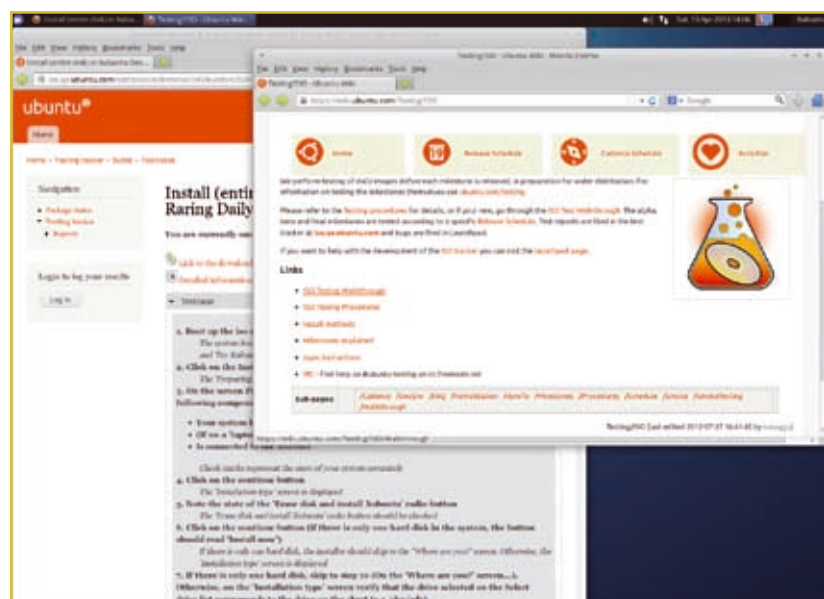


Figure 3. *Testing resources*