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The ability to customize Linux to run on various types of hardware and to suit specific user needs means there are more flavors of Linux-based operating systems available than Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream. While administrators generally stick with the well-known ones, such as Canonical's Ubuntu, Attachmate's Novell SUSE and Red Hat Enterprise Linux for their servers and desktops, they are beginning to see other flavors sneaking into the enterprise.

In this slide show, eWEEK lists some of the Linux-based operating systems and distributions that every IT manager should be familiar with.

Android

Based on the Linux kernel, Google's mobile operating system is gaining market share against Apple's iOS. With market share nearing 50 percent, IT staff are probably already supporting Android phones and tablets within the enterprise.

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