

Linux from Scratch: I?ve had it up to here!

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As you may be able to tell from my recent, snooze-worthy technical posts about compilers and makefiles and other assorted garbage, my experience with Linux from Scratch has been equally educational and enraging. Like Dave, I?ve had the pleasure of trying to compile various desktop environments and software packages from scratch, into some god-awful contraption that will let me check my damn email and look at the Twitters.

To be clear, when anyone says I have nobody to blame but myself, that?s complete hokum. From the beginning, this entire process was flawed.

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No, the real problem comes in when, like I?ve mentioned before, the gracious developers behind whatever package you?re trying to install haven?t tried to build it on more than their crapbox with every outdated library and script that worked once years ago. More times than not, their configuration script works properly, and make only bombs out when you?re at 99% of the way through getting your anime comic strip viewer up and running.

Then it?s up to you to hunt down the library online somewhere, find the stupid .tar.xz on some German guy?s website ? because even though libfuckingawesome.so.9999 is used everywhere, nobody realized that the original developer died back in dickety-six, and wrote the thing in obfuscated C interspersed with assembly because it sped up long division with imaginary numbers by 0.35%.

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