





COMPARISON OF MICROSOFT WINDOWS, LINSPIRE DESKTOP OS, REDHAT LINUX DESKTOP AND OTHERS

	Microsoft www.microsoft.com	 www.linspire.com and www.linspire.ph	 www.redhat.com	Other Linux OS	Remarks
1 User-base/Origin	Global/USA (Redmond, Washington - founded by Bill Gates)	Global/USA (San Diego, California - founded by Michael Robertson of MP3.com) - Linspire has over 1 million users worldwide since first introduced in 2004 (formerly known as Lindows prior to 2004)	Global/USA (Raleigh, North Carolina - created by Marc Ewing)	Varies from global distribution to country-level (including Philippine-based Bayanihan Linux), and even school-level or company-level	Skills acquired on OS with non-global releases limit the usefulness of such skills to the user when he/she moves to another school, company or country. Global reach also means the product appeals to users in general.
2 Ease of use/ Ease of Installation	Easy	Easy - Linspire has the look and feel of Windows XP and recognized as the World's Easiest Desktop	Moderate	Varies from Moderate to Difficult	Ease of use is top priority in any decision making
3 Ease of installing additional Programs	Easy	Easier - Linspire has a Click-And-Run (CNR) service that enables authorized users to easily install virus-free programs via the Internet with just 1 click	Difficult	Difficult	Installing additional software must be easy and can be done safely
4 Supported File Formats	Office, Audio, Video, Web, Graphics file formats	Office, Audio, Video, Web, Graphics file formats - Linspire is compatible with all the popular Internet, office and multimedia file types (See attachment)	Limited - Requires additional software installation for full multimedia support	Limited - Requires additional software installation for full multimedia support	Out-of-the-box support for wide range of file formats eliminates need to install software for them thereby reducing both installation time and support requests.
5 Office Suite	Not included. Microsoft Office must be purchased separately	Includes Microsoft Office file-format compatible Suite	Includes Microsoft Office file-format compatible Suite	Includes Microsoft Office file-format compatible Suite	Office Suite (Word Processor, Spreadsheet, Presentation) is essential.
6 Stability/ Security/ Virus Protection	Known to be prone to trojans, malware, spyware and viruses. Anti Virus needs to be purchased separately	Resistant. No antivirus required.	Resistant. No antivirus required.	Resistant. No antivirus required.	Computer systems that are infected quickly loses their useability.

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7) Technical Support	Local (through Microsoft Philippines) and Microsoft HQ. Support via phone and e-mail.	Local (through Linspire Philippines) and Linspire HQ. Support via phone, e-mail, fax and SMS/Text	Local (through Touch Solutions Inc.) and RedHat HQ. Support via phone and e-mail.	Varies from no local support, to local only, to only unstructured support via User Groups. Uncertain. No committed response time.	Problems are inevitable so systematic, structured, professional support through various channels is important.
8) Value	You get an Operating System.	You get an Operating System and Office Suite plus over 2,000 FREE programs via CNR services that comes free with Linspire. Legally download Programming Tools, Web Authoring Tools, Graphics Editors, Fonts, Games, Educational Software and more.	You get an Operating System and Office Suite and miscellaneous programs.	You get an Operating System and Office Suite and miscellaneous programs.	Evaluate what you are getting for what you are paying.
9) Supported Hardware Platform	Varies. Recommended System Requirements for Windows Vista is 1Ghz processor, 1Gb RAM, 128Mb Graphics memory.	Runs on PIII-800MHz with 128Mb RAM. Recommended P4 256Mb RAM, graphics can be on-board or add-on	Varies	Varies	PCs running on Linspire Five-O can co-exist with Windows XP machines in a computer network.
10) Price	WindowsXP Pro is P 8,300 OEM (non transferable) to P 20,000.00 Full (transferable). Prices vary from month to month. All licenses must be paid upfront.	Linspire Five-O for Schools is P 2,395.00. Succeeding licenses are only P 1,395.00 each. Prices guaranteed till March 2007. Linspire offers phased purchase option for Schools wherein only 25% of the software licenses need to be paid initially and the School will be granted rights to install on 100% of the machines, provided there is a commitment to purchase other licenses on fixed dates. Linspire licenses are transferable.	US\$2,500.00 for 10 licenses (translates to P 12,500 each).	Varies	Affordability is a prime consideration. Linspire understands the constraints of Schools and Businesses. Minimum initial purchase for Volume Discounting to apply is only 5 licenses (5 license packs start at P 7,975.00 for Linspire Five-O, or up to P 12,975.00 for Linspire XO, the Linspire package that allows installation of selected Windows Programs (such as Microsoft Office, Quicken, Adobe Pagemaker, Adobe Framemaker) on computers running Linspire.