

To get the most from this class you will need to have your laptop and a Knoppix CD booted and running. Having a memory key or floppy will also allow you to set up the system save options we will cover.

Once you have Knoppix booted and at the main screen you can click the little penguin on the left of the panel at the bottom of the screen to find the main configuration options you will want to use if you planning on using Knoppix very often.

One of the first things you will find handy is saving your settings between times you run Knoppix. The following section shows how to save your basic setup and your home directory.

By default all settings that you have made and all changes to files are lost as soon as you shutdown Knoppix, as it runs from CD (a read-only device) and the changes you had made have actually been stored in the main memory (RAM) of your PC. This data is lost if you switch off or reboot your PC. To avoid going through all configuration steps again after each (re)boot of Knoppix from CD, you have the opportunity *before* shutting down Knoppix, to store all relevant configuration data onto a floppy disk or memory key.

That is done in the following way:

Put an empty floppy in the floppy drive or add a memory key before you boot.

Click at the Knoppix-Penguin at the bottom left.

Click in the menu that opened with the left mouse button at the entry "Configure".

Click in the sub menu that opened with the left mouse button at the entry "Save KNOPPIX configuration".

A window opens named "Create KNOPPIX configuration archive" in which you can indicate with check marks, which configuration files should be saved. Make your choices and close the window by clicking on <OK>. I suggest checking all but the second, "All files on the desktop."

In the next window you have to indicate where (on which device) you want to store the configuration files, in this case on: "/mnt/floppy [Floppy]" or the /mnt/sd?? for a memory key. Make your choice and close the window by clicking on <OK>

When you are asked to put an empty formatted floppy in the drive, then click on <yes>.

Finally, acknowledge that the data was successfully written on the floppy by clicking on <OK>. Your configuration files are now written on floppy! :-)

Note for floppy users that, after this successful writing of configuration data on the floppy, you have to take care that the configuration floppy is in the drive and that you type at the next (re)boot of Knoppix from CD in the Knoppix boot start screen: "knoppix floppyconf" (or alternatively "knoppix floppyconfig") provided that you wish to use them. (When booting from the Knoppix-CD the Knoppix boot start screen shows at the bottom left the word: "boot:". At that place you can insert data with your keyboard. Details for booting you can find in "Knoppix boot details".)

The boot parameters for memory key users: "knoppix myconfig=/mnt/auto/floppy" or "knoppix myconfig=scan" will not work for a floppy.

Configuring the printer

Be sure that your printer is attached to your PC, switched on, and on-line before you boot Knoppix from CD.

Click at the Knoppix-KDE-Desktop at the bottom left with the left mouse button on the symbol with character "K" in a gear (this is comparable with the <Start> Symbol in Windows 98/NT/XP...).

Click in the menu that opened with the left mouse button at the entry "KNOPPIX".

Click in the sub menu that opened at the entry "Configure".

Click in the sub menu that opened at the entry "Configure printer(s)".

Click in the window that opens "Printer - KDE-Controldtab" at top left with your left mouse button at the magic wand symbol (adding a printer/classe). With this the Printer Configuration Assistant is started.

The assistant will pose one by one the following questions::

1. How is the printer connected (is it a local one at the parallel port or at the USB port) or is it a network printer.
2. What is the name of the printer manufacturer and the model type.
3. Which driver should be used for this printer model. (When more then one driver shows up, you can test the drivers one by one and select the one that performs the best.)
4. In the "Printer Test" window you can with one click at the button settings set the paper size to "A4" , etc. and with another click at the button print a test page.
5. If banner pages should be printed.
6. If there should be usage restrictions.
7. What is the name of the printer.

After the configuration of the printer, the assistant is closed and you are back in the window "Printers - KDE Control Module". With a click, bottom right, on close this window is closed.

Configuring your wired network is usually almost all taken care of if you boot with the cable attached. You may need to obtain an IP address by clicking the Penguin, selecting Network/Internet, Network card configuration and selecting your device and enabling DHCP broadcasting.

Configuring your wireless network is usually almost all taken care of if you are attaching to an open network. You may need an IP as above. On a secure network you may need to set the SSID and key by clicking the Penguin and selecting Network/Internet, KWIFI Manager. Pick Settings and Configuration Manager, add your SSID and click the Use Encryption box, set your key using the Configure button. Select Config1 and click the Activate button. You should see the connection activate in the main window. You can have 4 of these set up if you use several networks.

You can open a Terminal Program window and use standard network programs to troubleshoot your system. For help enter man or info followed by the program you want help with. You can get quick help with a -h after the command name. If you need root privileges to run a command use the command sudo followed by the command you want.

Everything else is pretty much pick it off the main menu and it works.