

# putting linux in another hard drive in PC with XP box

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I have Pnetium 4, Dell PC (came with windows 2000) with XP installed. 256 RAM; 1.3 GHZ. Hard drive (C) is 40GB. Currently I have SyGate firewall installed for XP. I use Norton AV. Other tools used include CWShreeder, AdAware, Spybot, SpywareBlaster, taken from a suggestion given in comp.security.

I have an extra slot where I can put a DVD or another hard drive. I am thinking to get another hard drive and put Linux. I would like to use linux forInterent as well. I called and learned that my ISP (COMCAST) doesn't support Linux and so I have to do configuartion to get interent connection to Linux. Would it be too complicated?

Q1:

I know that some people have a Linux box with firewall installed which is then networked to XP box. In that case, XP would not need firewall to use Interent, right?

Q2:

Since I will have Linux and XP in different hardrives of the same PC, I believe that I would need firewall installed for both operating systems, right?

I am not in urgent need to use Interent through Linux (especially since I would have to learn to configure to get Interent connection myself since my ISP doesn't support) but I heard that it would be safer to do so. The main thing is that I need to be able to continue to learn Linux once my current Linux account from school expires by March 21. Also, I want to learn using Oracle with Linux aside from learning with XP.

To download Oracle, I would need Internet connect in Linux too.

Q3:

As the frist step, my plan is to have Linux operating system available at home.

If I were to get another hard drive, what size should I buy (I knwo

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the required size depend on the distros; I am asking what size SHOULD i get so that it won't become small soon for me as I plan to use Oracle with it and also more stuff later...

Q4:

Would ideal situation be getting a used PC from Ebay and get Linux installed. That way, later I can get Internet connected to it (put firewall on Linux box) and then network to XP box.

At some point in the future, I plan to use a router before connect any pc (XP or Linux) directly. to Internet.