

Re: Re: How to find right video card driver

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2006-05/msg03135.html>

- *From:* Christopher Nelson <chris@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 29 May 2006 13:22:02 -0700
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On Mon, May 29, 2006 at 07:17:34PM +0200, jbmorla wrote:

I had trouble configuring my Xconfig file, because I purchased an off the shelves Acer PC.

Obviously the video card was OEM and no search could detect no driver on the WWW.

You should have been able to find *_some_* info on the chipset reported by 'lspci' — do you still have computer? What does it say the 'Display controller' is?

So I just edited the config file with VI and enter « vesa » as generic graphic card,

Good choice when you don't know the hardware on which the install is occuring (or it's not supported)

And I never had any trouble with KDE or GNOME.

Shouldn't—just wouldn't have 'optimal' performance

If you have trouble detecting your hard drive, look for the Bonzai Debian distribution.

The 'etch' installer should detect most harddrives these days, especially 'standard' ones—most IDE and SCSI (I have no experience installing to SATA, might have trouble mixing SATA and SCSI). There are unofficial 'sarge' installers w/ more recent kernels that should recognize most harddrives, too.

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For NIC, pick an old 3COM 905 B TX (for \$10)

I've also had good luck with the realtek 8139 series 10/100 cards.

For mouse, there still are non usb PS2 plug in the shops, same for the keyboard.

I have USB both, and the biggest difference is that in case the USB system goes down, you have no recourse to fix it. I'd go with a PS2 keyboard, either on the mouse.

Finally the best mirror I could find for ftp debian is the dot.de one, to be entered manually in sources.list

That depends very largely on your locations. A german mirror would do me, for example, much less good than a USA mirror.

Make sure you backup at least these two files, xf86config and sources.list, personally I wrote

Them by hand, because sometimes you launch startx,

I'd personally back up the entire /etc directory, a lot of config gets changed in the initial setup, if I was going to do a selective backup.

then you open a character console,

Then you enter some apt-get command, which smartly turns off then on EVERY daemon,

Not on my box..it turns off daemons right before updating them, then turns them back on—and only the daemons it is immediately affecting. My ssh daemon doesn't get restarted when I upgrade sendmail, for example. Did you somewhere configure it to kill everything but the dpkg and bash processes?

And when it comes to killing KDE or Gnome, you find yourself blasted to outer space,

Because obviously you were inside the ship.

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I'm absolutely certain I've upgraded X and my WM while logged into X, with no ill effects. The only thing that dies on me when I upgrade is firefox--hardly a catastrophe. Maybe you could provide us with some output next time your WM is upgraded to figure out why it's blowing away your session?

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Christopher Nelson -- chris@xxxxxxxxxx

I'm not a level-headed person... -- Bruce Perens

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