

Re: fedora as a gateway / server

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- *From:* Les Mikesell <lesmikesell@xxxxxxxx>
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Michael.Coll-Barth@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

I need a little guidance, not just a set of 'do this' instructions.
Although, I won't toss those! :)

I have built a small network at home for the family using five windows boxes and one Linux box. Currently, everything plugs into a DSL Modem for Internet connectivity.

I would like to change this to have a Linux box (Pentium II) residential serve as a gateway to provide firewall and proxy services. I suppose that it will also need to behave as a DHCP server? Will it need a second NIC installed that will attach to a hub for the other boxes? Is Fedora too big an OS for this? Something smaller, Ubuntu?

You can build a special purpose box out of a general purpose distribution but its a lot of unnecessary work, and fedora's short support life cycle makes it a questionable starting point. Look at the smeserver (<http://www.contribs.org>), clarkconnect (<http://www.clarkconnect.com/>), and ipcop (<http://www.ipcop.org>) distributions before deciding you can do better.

In addition, it would be nice to have another Linux box (Pentium III) acting as a web/db/file server. I plan to use Apache and Oracle for this. Is Samba still what I should use to store Windows files? Is there a mature IIS 6 'clone' or drop in replacement out there? I haven't looked for this yet, so, don't yell.

The SMEserver disro can do this too, all configured with a simple web interface, and on the same or a different box than the internet gateway although the canned appliance-like configs can make it difficult to add things it doesn't include.

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