

Re: 3. Re: Installing MS Word with Wine (sdavmor)

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- *From:* Scott Kitterman <ubuntu@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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On Thursday 19 October 2006 16:22, Derek Broughton wrote:

Eberhard Roloff wrote:

Trevor Wiseman wrote:

I have to ask WHY? OpenOffice Word Processing will do everything that Word can do and can read/write .doc files for free? Maybe I'm missing something. Good luck.

Yes it can do most of what MS word can do, but their still are compatibility issues. Ex. I tried to work with OOOrg 2.01 within a group of 6 writers, the other five were on word '03. We were tasked with making up a documentation of a very large IT project that took about 500 pages, done with very sophisticated word usage. I found it impossible to cleanly interfere with this group using my OOorg and had to switch back to

Frankly, it shouldn't be too difficult to "interfere" with them :-). It's hardly fair to blame it on OO. ime, it's impossible to use Word for collaborative projects, because it won't even let two Word users edit a file without overriding someone's preferred formatting along the way (e.g., today, my office-mate was writing minutes for a meeting, using the previous meeting's minutes as a template. The "attendee" list had been formatted in two columns – whenever he tried to change any name in the list, it reverted to a single column).

I use OO writer almost exclusively when I am developing a document, but unless the document has only very simple formatting I pull it up in Word before e-mailing it to the customer. I also sometimes get documents that won't open in OO writer.

Word is certainly not perfect, but it is a defacto standard many of us have to deal with. I have started, with some of my more clueful customers, to send

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documents in both .doc and .odt format.

If the deliverable is on paper or if you have a customer that is open source friendly, then I think OO writer is suitable for most subjects. As an example, this book:

<http://www.oreilly.com/catalog/buildpc2/>

was written with either OO writer or Star Office (I don't recall for sure).

Scott K

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