

## Re: UBUNTU Hoary Hedgehog on Acer TM2200 & Sony Vaio PCG-215B

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/alt.os.linux/2005-07/0597.html>

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Alison Mitchell enlightened us with:

- > 1. *Ubuntu will not play proprietary multimedia formats like*
- > *DVD/MPEG/DIVX. Yeh. I know there's some stuff you can download and*
- > *install to make this happen (Xine/Mplayer etc.). But for experts*
- > *only I fear.*

Not really. Anyone can copy & paste some text into a root terminal.  
That's all that is required to get what you want.

- > *And those on the Net who give advice all too often assume much prior*
- > *knowledge, which I and others similar just do not have. All this*
- > *'usr' 'dev' 'get' 'rpm' stuff might as well be double-Dutch to me*
- > *and mine.*

Here you go. Open a root terminal (Applications -> System tools -> Root terminal), and copy & paste the following, excluding the lines

```
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cat >> /etc/apt/sources.list <<EOT  
## Major bug fix updates produced after the final release of the  
## distribution.  
deb http://nl.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu hoary-updates main restricted  
deb-src http://nl.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu hoary-updates main restricted  
  
## Uncomment the following two lines to add software from the 'universe'  
## repository.  
## N.B. software from this repository is ENTIRELY UNSUPPORTED by the Ubuntu  
## team, and may not be under a free licence. Please satisfy yourself as to  
## your rights to use the software. Also, please note that software in  
## universe WILL NOT receive any review or updates from the Ubuntu security  
## team.  
deb http://nl.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ hoary universe main restricted  
deb-src http://nl.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu hoary universe main restricted  
  
deb http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu hoary-security main restricted  
deb-src http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu hoary-security main restricted
```

```
deb http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu hoary-security universe
deb-src http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu hoary-security universe

# mkvtoolnix is here:
deb http://www.bunkus.org/ubuntu/hoary/ ./
deb-src http://www.bunkus.org/ubuntu/hoary/ ./

# Multiverse
deb http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu hoary multiverse
deb-src http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu hoary multiverse

deb ftp://ftp2.caliu.info/backports hoary-backports main universe multiverse restricted
deb ftp://ftp2.caliu.info/backports hoary-extras main universe multiverse restricted
EOT
apt-get update
```

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Now go into Synaptic and install Xine, w32codecs and other things you need. The terminal isn't there just for the power users and geeks. It's also there for people who just want to copy & paste (one drag to copy, one mouse click to paste, doesn't get easier than that). A friend of mine is a complete computer illiterate, but he's happy about the terminal because he can copy & paste my instructions and then things work. A lot easier than "click here, then there, then you see two windows, go to the second menu item on the left window", etc.

> *For us installations mean only two clicks and a restart.*

Why a restart?

> *2. Thus my second point – installing plugins and new programs is a bitch*

Wrong. It's easy. Just go to Synaptic and install what you want. If you're downloading separate RPM files, transforming them into DEBs using "alien", and installing them by hand using apt-get or dpkg, you're using the hard way for no reason.

> *(not like Windows at all)*

Indeed. Windows doesn't handle dependencies at all.

> *3. Ordinary AVI files don't play as smoothly as on Windows. They're jerky.*

I found that it's Totem that is screwy. I never had any trouble playing video with Xine. As a matter of fact, it plays files that Windows Media Player can't.

> *Also – the sound on some audio CDs is distorted.*

Never noticed. I must say that I don't play audio CDs that often – I usually rip them to Ogg Vorbis and play from my harddisk.

> *So c'mon peeple. Let's be having:*

>

> *1. Automatic installers for programs and plugins.*

Why? Why must every program have another installer? Every time you want to install something in Windows, you see another installer. In Ubuntu, you only need Synaptic. No need to search the web to find a banner- and popup-loaded website to find that program you're looking for. You only have to learn how to use a single program.

> *2. Wide multimedia support. No jerky movies and crappy sound.*

There is such support. See above. (this version of) Totem is just crap. That doesn't mean there isn't proper multimedia support.

> *This on the premise (of course) that that is what people want,*

> *namely a fine alternative to MS Windows.*

Wrong premise. Linux has \*NOTHING\* to do with MS Windows nor with being an "alternative". It has everything to do with having Free software (both as in Speech and Beer), with all the freedoms that come with it.

> *P.S. Giving OSes daft names like 'Hoary Hedgehog' doesn't exactly*

> *inspire confidence either.*

Oh, and "XP" is a confidence giving name? "Longhorn"? Pfff..

Sybren

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The problem with the world is stupidity. Not saying there should be a capital punishment for stupidity, but why don't we just take the safety labels off of everything and let the problem solve itself?

Frank Zappa