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Administrator Skills Assumptions

Note: If you aren't already fairly well-skilled in Linux/Unix/Windows system administration, Apache webserver configuration, and so on, consider using TWiki:Codev.DownloadTWikiVM⧉ - this can be installed on Windows or Linux, and makes it possible to get a working TWiki system within 5 minutes (after a fairly big download), ready to use from your browser. For personal use on Windows see TWikiForWindowsPersonal.

If you need to install TWiki you'll need to either have or learn the following skills (even with DownloadTWikiVM, you'll need these for upgrades). For each of these, the requirement is either pre-existing knowledge/skill, or the willingness to spend significant time (i.e. from hours to days) learning them:

- **Operating system administration:** Ability to use Unix/Linux command line tools (or equivalent Windows tools), including ability to move/copy/delete files, change permissions, view web server log files, set environment variables, use a text editor, etc.
- **Web server administration:** Ability to do basic setup, e.g. ability to edit config files or use GUI configuration tools to enable CGI scripts on a directory.
- **Program compilation:** *Where Revision Control System (RCS) is not pre-installed* (that is most Unix systems), the ability to download and compile the RCS program from source, including use of `configure`, `make`, etc. This is often **not** necessary on Linux or Windows.
- **Troubleshooting**: Ability to perform tests, inspect error logs, talk to technical support (whether in an IT department or web hosting provider) and read documentation in order to help with diagnosing installation problems.

Installing TWiki is **not** recommended for people who only know HTML and web design, unless they are willing to learn the above, or team up with someone who can handle the installation.

Although the TWikiInstallationGuide is quite complete, there will on occasion be parts that don't work in your local environment (particularly with TWiki:Codev/TWikiOnWebHostingSites⧉, which are sometimes challenging even for those with good OS and web server skills).

There are many excellent resources for learning how to administer your OS and web server, including books, web sites, web forums, IM and e-mail lists.

To get started with Linux, visit HowtoForge.org⧉. HowtoForge offers Linux tutorials, forums to ask questions, and links to sites with information to install and use Linux.

Some resources if you need help, or want to get up and running quickly:

- TWiki:Support/WebHome⧉: Post a question in the TWiki.org support forum. This forum is mainly intended for *TWiki related* issues, there are other forums if you need help in operating system and web server administration.
- TWiki:Codev/TWikiIRC⧉: Get help from the TWiki community in the #twiki IRC channel.
- TWiki:Codev/TWikiConsultants⧉: Hire a consultant to get you up to speed, maintain or customize your TWiki installation.
- TWiki OnSite⧉: A VMware based TWiki distribution with support, adding Enterprise Social Networking and other Enterprise 2.0 applications.
- TWiki OnDemand⧉: A TWiki hosting solution with support, adding Enterprise Social Networking and other Enterprise 2.0 applications.

Related Topics: AdminDocumentationCategory

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or Ideas, requests, problems regarding TWiki? use Discourse or Send feedback
Note: Please contribute updates to this topic on TWiki.org at TWiki:TWiki.AdminSkillsAssumptions