

Software Equivalents: Windows → Ubuntu

From “Ditch Windows – Embrace Linux”, Appendix B

What do I replace with what? A realistic overview for the everyday needs of Windows switchers.
Selection from “Ditch Windows – Embrace Linux”, Appendix B.

Browsers & Internet

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
Microsoft Edge	Firefox	★★★	pre-installed
Google Chrome	Google Chrome	★★★	.deb from google.com
Brave Browser	Brave Browser	★★★	official repo

Email & Calendar

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
Microsoft Outlook	Thunderbird	★★☆	apt install thunderbird
Windows Mail	GNOME Evolution	★★★	apt install evolution
Outlook Web	Outlook.com in browser	★★★	Browser

Office & Productivity

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
Microsoft Word	LibreOffice Writer	★★☆	pre-installed
Microsoft Excel	LibreOffice Calc	★★☆	pre-installed (no VBA)
Microsoft PowerPoint	LibreOffice Impress	★★☆	pre-installed
Microsoft 365 (all apps)	Microsoft 365 Web	★★★	Browser
Microsoft OneNote	Joplin / Obsidian	★★☆	flatpak / .deb
Notepad / Notepad++	Kate / gedit / Geany	★★★	apt install kate

Communication & Collaboration

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
Microsoft Teams	Teams (Web App)	★★★	Browser
Zoom	Zoom	★★★	.deb from zoom.us
Slack	Slack	★★★	snap install slack
Discord	Discord	★★★	.deb from discord.com
Signal	Signal	★★★	official apt repo
WhatsApp	WhatsApp Web	★★★	Browser

Software Equivalents: Windows → Ubuntu

From “Ditch Windows – Embrace Linux”, Appendix B

Graphics & Image Editing

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
Microsoft Paint	Pinta	★★★	apt install pinta
Adobe Photoshop	GIMP	★★☆	apt install gimp
Adobe Photoshop (painting)	Krita	★★☆	apt install krita
Adobe Illustrator	Inkscape	★★☆	apt install inkscape
Adobe Lightroom	Darktable	★★☆	apt install darktable
Adobe Premiere	Kdenlive	★★☆	apt install kdenlive
Premiere / DaVinci	DaVinci Resolve	★★★	.run from blackmagicdesign
Screenshot tool	Flameshot	★★★	apt install flameshot

Audio & Video

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
Windows Media Player	VLC	★★★	apt install vlc
Spotify	Spotify	★★★	snap install spotify
Audacity	Audacity	★★★	apt install audacity
OBS Studio	OBS Studio	★★★	apt install obs-studio
HandBrake	HandBrake	★★★	apt install handbrake

Development & Programming

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
Visual Studio Code	Visual Studio Code	★★★	snap install code --classic
JetBrains IDEs	JetBrains IDEs	★★★	Toolbox / Snap
Git Bash	Bash (terminal)	★★★	pre-installed
PuTTY	OpenSSH / ssh	★★★	pre-installed
WinSCP	FileZilla / Nautilus	★★★	apt install filezilla
Docker Desktop	Docker Engine	★★★	official Docker repo
Postman	Postman	★★★	snap install postman

Cloud & File Sync

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
OneDrive	rclone / Insync	★★☆	apt install rclone
Dropbox	Dropbox	★★★	.deb from dropbox.com
Google Drive (Web)	Google Drive Web	★★★	Browser
Nextcloud	Nextcloud Desktop	★★★	apt install nextcloud-desktop

Software Equivalents: Windows → Ubuntu

From “Ditch Windows – Embrace Linux”, Appendix B

Security & Passwords

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
KeePass	KeePassXC	★★★	apt install keepassxc
Windows Defender	UFW + AppArmor	★★★	pre-installed
BitLocker	LUKS	★★★	enable at installation
1Password	1Password	★★★	.deb from 1password.com
Bitwarden	Bitwarden	★★★	snap install bitwarden

System Tools & Utilities

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
Task Manager	System Monitor / htop	★★★	apt install htop
Services.msc	systemctl	★★★	pre-installed
Event Viewer	journalctl / GNOME Logs	★★★	pre-installed
7-Zip / WinRAR	File Roller / p7zip	★★★	apt install p7zip-full
TeamViewer	TeamViewer	★★★	.deb from teamviewer.com
Remote Desktop (RDP)	Remmina	★★★	apt install remmina
VirtualBox	VirtualBox	★★★	apt install virtualbox

Gaming

Windows software	Ubuntu equivalent	Rat.	Installation
Steam	Steam	★★☆	apt install steam (Proton)
Epic / GOG	Heroic Games Launcher	★★☆	flatpak install ...hgl
EA App / Battle.net	Lutris	★☆☆	apt install lutris

Rating Legend

Symbol	Meaning
★★★	Full replacement: same or nearly identical functionality for everyday use
★★☆	Functional replacement: core features present, some features missing or different
★☆☆	Partial replacement: significant limitations, workflow adjustments required