

Linux Terminal Server

There are several ways to create a Linux terminal server. This is only one, but it is fairly simple. It utilizes [Devuan](#), [xfce4](#) and the [TigerVNC](#) Server.

Pro's: Simple to set up for a few users. Each user has their own VNC port. With TigerVNC, VNC session automatically resizes.

Con's: Difficult to maintain for more than 5-10 users, as you must assign each user a separate VNC port.

Do a base install, with GUI

Do a standard Devuan install. When you are on the Software Selection screen, choose *Devuan desktop environment, Xfce, SSH server and standard system utilities*.

Set up

Install Packages

Install lightdm, xinetd and tigervnc server (may already be installed)

```
apt install lightdm xinetd tigervnc-standalone-server tigervnc-viewer
```

During install, it will ask which to use, slim or lightdm. Choose lightdm.

Also, tigervnc-viewer is not required, but I use it a lot on my terminal servers.

Configure lightdm and xinetd

Edit the file **/etc/lightdm/lightdm.conf**, setting the following values to enable the XDMCP Server. This entails just removing the leading pound signs from the existing conf and changing *false* to *true*

```
[XDMCPServer]
enabled=true
port=177
```

Create a file **/etc/xinetd.d/vnc** with the following contents.

```
service baseline
{
    disabled      = no
    socket_type   = stream
```

```
protocol    = tcp
wait        = yes
user        = nobody
server      = /usr/bin/Xvnc
server_args = -inetd -once -query localhost -geometry 1024x768 -depth 16
securitytypes=none -MaxIdleTime=14400
type        = UNLISTED
port        = 5950
}

service user1
{
    disabled    = no
    socket_type = stream
    protocol    = tcp
    wait        = yes
    user        = nobody
    server      = /usr/bin/Xvnc
    server_args = -inetd -once -query localhost -geometry 1920x1080 -depth 16
    securitytypes=none -MaxIdleTime=14400
    type        = UNLISTED
    port        = 5951
}
```

The main thing here is making sure each *service* name is unique, and the port associated is also. Feel free to change *server_args* to match your default, but if you are using the tightvnc viewer to make the connection, you can modify the connection at will.

Also, I start my ports at some weird number. VNC defaults to 5900, but I'm making the base 5950 in this example. That all but guarantees I will not conflict if I'm using port forwarding on the workstation to get someplace else.

Restart

I'm sure there is some set of steps I can go through to reset slim to lightdm, and I know you can tell xinetd to reset with

```
service xinetd reload
```

, but I'm lazy and just reboot the whole machine. Less time and you won't miss anything.

Test

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