How to use BleachBit on Linux

If you want to delete unnecessary files on Linux operating system safely, do not affect the hard drive but still ensure the security, BleachBit will help you.

Why not use rm?

Of course, you can use `rm`to delete all unnecessary files from the system. However, the benefit of BleachBit is that it can scan your hard drive to find and delete only special files. This means you don't have to search for them, nor do you have to check all the directories as you have to `rm`.

However, BleachBit has the limitation of deleting only the safe file because it knows where the file is located on the system. BleachBit will search for folders containing files for you and will ask you before deleting them.

This tool sorts files by category into categories, you can select or deselect each category. You will see a lot of categories divided by the applications installed on your device.

Install BleachBit

To install BleachBit on Ubuntu, use the following command:

```
sudo apt-get install bleachbit
```

To install BleachBit on Manjaro, type:

```
sudo pacman -Syu bleachbit
```

To install BleachBit on Fedora, type the following command:

```
sudo dnf install bleachbit
```

Double click the last file in the ' **Download** ' folder . Then press ' **Install** '.

Start BleachBit

If you use the sudo command to run BleachBit, it can access the temporary system and file logs, as well as files belonging to the root account.

If opening BleachBit without using the sudo command, it will only open your files and the account you are logged in to. BleachBit displays more file categories when logged in with a normal user account. Because it will

include separate files of people from the applications they have installed, such as Firefox and Thunderbird.

Open BleachBit with sudo, use the following command:

```
sudo bleachbit
```

If not using sudo, use the following command to run BleachBit:

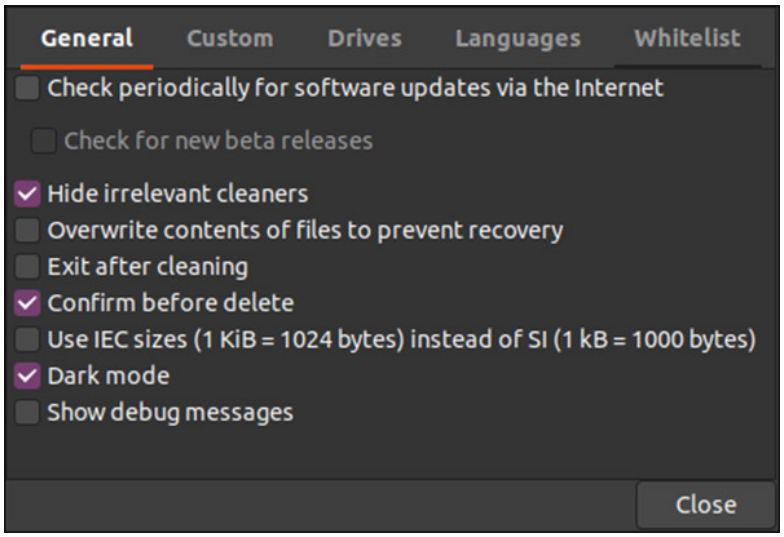
```
bleachbit
```

Settings Preferences

When opened for the first time, you will see the 'Preferences' dialog box pop out, where this tool will be installed. You can access this setting at any time from the menu on the main screen.

You will see the following options:

1. **General** : Here, users can install BleachBit to do the following actions.
    1. Check for updates (including beta versions).
    2. Hide or show the list of all supported applications.
    3. Exit after deleting the file.
    4. Request confirmation before deleting the file.
    5. Use ISO / IEC or SI as units for file size.
    6. Use Dark mode.
    7. Display information throughout the action.



General tab

2. **Custom** : Choose where you can add files or folders, which items can be selected, which items are included in or excluded from scanning and deleting files. You can add things beyond the default of BleachBit.
3. **Drives** : BleachBit can overwrite free space and make data there undetectable. For each partition in the file system, you must create a writable directory and add its path to this tab. If your file system only has a single partition, the default values ??will be no problem.

4. **Languages** : All languages ??available in your operating system will be listed on this tab, select a language you want to use.
5. **Whitelist** : In this tab, you can specify a place where BleachBit will not touch.

Use BleachBit

BleachBit's main window will have two parts: the list of file categories on the left and the choices will be on the right. You can check or uncheck all options, or click the category name to select all of the content in it.

If an action takes a long time to complete or affects previously saved passwords, you will receive a notification.

When choosing a category, BleachBit displays a selection description on the right. You can scroll down and select the files you want to delete.

This tool will scan the file system thanks to the configuration you have installed. After that, a report including how many files will be deleted and how much disk space will be left to the user.

If you agree with the information and want to continue the process, press ' **Clean** '. If you previously selected ' **Confirm Before Delete** ', BleachBit will continue asking to confirm the process.

BleachBit window
Click ' **Delete** ' to delete files or press ' **Cancel** ' to return to the main BleachBit screen.

Refer to the differences between Linux distributions.

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