Haiku – Information for Reviewers

Thanks for choosing to review Haiku!

Before you start your review, please take the time to read through this short information sheet.

Get Haiku

Getting Haiku is as easy as downloading an image from
https://www.haiku-os.org/get-haiku/

These images can be burned to a USB or disc and can be used in virtualisation software such as Virtualbox.

> **Important: Haiku is beta-quality software! As such, you may experience bugs and other issues whilst using the software, a normal part of using any beta-quality software. Feel free to contact us about any issues you experience through the channels listed in the "Thank you" section.**

Installing Haiku

> **Important: Haiku already has support for a wide variety of hardware, however there is still a lot of hardware we do not support. For the best experience, please check if your hardware is listed on this compatibility list: https://discuss.haiku-os.org/t/computers-compatible-with-haiku-current-version/9659/36**

If you are using a USB or disc, simply burn the image to your desired installation medium using your software of choice. We recommend Balena Etcher or Rufus, as they work on major platforms and are easy to use. Haiku images will work with most USB drives and CD burners.

After burning the image, you can boot up the device using the following guide:

https://www.haiku-os.org/guides/booting

For detailed installation instructions, please visit the installation guide:
https://www.haiku-os.org/get-haiku/installation-guide/

> **Warning: The Haiku installer contains a disk partitioning tool. Please use this tool at your own risk and ensure you format the right partition. Haiku is not responsible for any data loss.**

After the installation is complete, the installer will ask you to reboot. Upon restarting, we recommend you launch the QuickTour (the lightbulb icon on your desktop). **Please take the time to read through the Tour and familiarise yourself with the system.**

Upon using your system for the first time, please ensure you check for software updates – many of the components of the system will have been updated since the image was created. Simply click on the blue leaf on the Deskbar (i.e. the launcher at the top right corner of your screen), click on the "Applications" folder and open "SoftwareUpdater". The SoftwareUpdater will automatically check for updates and prompt you if there are updates needing to be installed. Click "install" to download and install all available updates.

Virtualisation

Haiku works with all major virtualisation platforms. This includes:

- Virtualbox (Works well on Windows, but suffers from performance issues and lag)
- QEMU (Stable and light, but GUI performance is not very ideal on Linux)
- VMWare (good performance on Linux)
- Hyper-V (Only on Windows 10 Pro)
- Parallels
- KVM

You can find detailed instructions for virtualisation at https://www.haiku-os.org/guides/virtualizing/ - **please note that these guides do contain settings you will have to change for Haiku to work properly as a virtual machine.**

Apps

Depending on your testing case, you may require more apps than the ones built into the operating system. To install more apps, simply click on the blue leaf on the Deskbar, click on the "Applications" folder and open "HaikuDepot". HaikuDepot is the Haiku software center, and provides a simple way to download additional applications, such as file viewers, games, and ports of popular open-source applications like LibreOffice, VLC Media Player and Python.

To find applications, you can either scroll through the list of featured packages on the left hand tab and the list of all packages on the right hand tab. You can also select a category of applications to view or search for an application using the search bar.

To install an application, click on the application you wish to install. Click "Install" and wait for the package to be downloaded. Sometimes applications may need to install

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other packages. HaikuDepot will prompt you if there are any other additional packages that need to be installed. Simply click "Install" to proceed with these additional packages.

Interviews

In some cases, you may wish to interview one of our contributors – to arrange an interview, please email contact@haiku-os.org

Contributors

We would appreciate it if you mentioned that Haiku needs new contributors/volunteers. **Anyone who is willing to volunteer can help the Project.** To help direct individuals who are interested, you may give them the following link to our website that covers the main areas of volunteering one may work in: https://www.haiku-os.org/community/getting-involved/

Thank you

Thank you for choosing to review Haiku – being a lesser-known open-source project, the community appreciates the effort to let the wider public know about the Project.

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact contact@haiku-os.org

If you have any issues or find any bugs, please contact contact@haiku-os.org and a bug report will be filed on your behalf. Alternatively, you can also file a bug report yourself by making an account at the Haiku Bug Tracker, which can be found at https://dev.haiku-os.org