

Moderators: Flash, JohnMurga
[locked] [locked]

Author Message

greenek
D Posted: Fri 20 Mar 2015, 12:55 Post subject: What changes are required to allow the usb stick to be removed once booting is finished? I haven't used puli yet but this sounds like a cool feature to have.

Joined: 20 Jul 2010
Posts: 5834
Location: Republic of New Zealand

gluhaz
D Posted: Fri 20 Mar 2015, 13:28 Post subject: Pull boot procedure

greenek wrote:
What changes are required to allow the usb stick to be removed once booting is finished? I haven't used puli yet but this sounds like a cool feature to have.

The boot procedure in Puli differs from what is applied in the rest of puppies.

1. First, Puli boots its minimal setup
2. Then, the previously saved work files/patches are loaded from the /patch folder of the pendrive.
3. Then the user-selected set of pet/sfs files and optionally a deb package of a Chrome browser are loaded (the list of participants is in the smartload file). See details in /etc/rc.d/rc.local file. A bit tricky but ensures safe removing the pendrive at the end of the boot process.
4. Then some post-boot housekeeping can happen, by executing Puli-specific files in the /root/Startup folder and finally the /usr/bin/patch file.
5. At the end of the boot process, Puli safely unmounts the boot device then displays the pop-up message "Now you can safely unplug the USB Drive"

Loading other sfs/pet packages run-time, without requesting the pendrive kept mounted, is also available in Puli based on tailoring of many "standard" scripts (loadfs, petget, etc.)

Of course, appropriate actions are available also at shutdown time to ensure that user files are saved on (configurable) storage devices (e.g., on the same boot pendrive). Controlled by the files in the /smartsave folder - they will be executed (sh) before shutdowns. Beyond its default content, this folder can be populated either by the user or by the specific pet/sfs files.

The backside of the above is that some comfort features such as those in Quickpet are reduced in Puli; while others such as Default Applications Register are removed.

Have fun!
Regards,
gluhaz

Dnup
D Posted: Mon 13 Jul 2015, 07:38 Post subject: Puli 6.0.2
Subject description: MTP Connect, GoPro Hero4, and other Action Camera, Android Tablets etc...

Want to report outstanding capability of Puli 6.0.2 connection to my new GoPro Hero4 action camera, other cameras, and Android MTP devices. The MTP+, and MTP- works very well and devices are instantly recognized.

My grand kids are in many sports activities and create a lot of video clips and photos. We organize, edit, add titles sub titles, comments, special effects to the media using Blender and Inkcape you posted, along with Puppy Tahr versions of OpenShot, Avidemux, Gimp, Peasysack, Ffconvert, and Wine with portable Winff to batch transcoding for various Android e-readers, tablets, and smart phones.

Many thanks for another great Puppy release !!!

Additional Comment for gluhaz:
Noticed that Puli 6.0.2 MTP is different than the official Pup 6.0.2. Simply put the Puli version works with my Android devices while the Pup 6.0.2 does not recognize some devices. Curious what is different, and can the Pup 6.0.2, now 6.0.3 be modified to have same MTP as Puli 6.0.2.

Lobster
D Posted: Tue 14 Jul 2015, 08:17 Post subject: Very well done. I don't have a need for such a high degree of secure computing. A standard boot from a DVD, closed pen drive ISO of any Puppy would be more than required.

I would be interested in a version that recorded the pushing, probes, Javascript, cookies etc that ISPs, servers, crackers and those in the know use to protect and protect.

Again I have no interest other than a technical curiosity, it is not something I will be attempting.

Really like the Puli concept. Simple. Clever.

Puppy Raspup 8.2 Final
Puppy Links Page <http://www.smokeyo1.com/bruce/puppy.html>

Sylvander
D Posted: Wed 15 Jul 2015, 06:27 Post subject: I'm beginning to give Puli 6.0.2 a try.

1. I reformatted my 4GB Flash Drive as ext4.

2. Ran bootflash, and that re-formatted the Flash Drive as FAT32.

Must it be FAT32?
Might I be able to copy all of the necessary folder/files [including /linux.sys] to the partition formatted as ext3 or ext4?

3. I failed to understand the SFS folder thing.
If I click on your link, and then click on the SFS link, there are all kinds of things in there [mostly pet files].
Am I to copy ALL of the content of the linked SFS folder into the root of the Flash Drive, or make a folder named SFS in the root and copy into that SFS folder?

4. Your explanation in the 1st post is rather long and complex, but I'll read it bit-by-bit, and attempt to understand it.

gluhaz
D Posted: Wed 15 Jul 2015, 18:45 Post subject: Re: Puli 6.0.2
Subject description: MTP Connect, GoPro Hero4, and other Action Camera, Android Tablets etc...

Dnup wrote:
Curious what is different, and can the Pup 6.0.2, now 6.0.3 be modified to have same MTP as Puli 6.0.2.

Dear Dnup,

Thanks for your review. It is nice to hear that you and your grandchildren could utilize Puli and some of my related pets.

I merged the go-mtsp utility into one of my ancient Puli's a couple of years ago then wrote the simple mtp+ and mtp- scripts as my two cents.
See <http://murga-linux.com/puppy/viewtopic.php?p=751845#752416> for go-mtsp.

As far as I remember, the PupCamera feature (built in tahrup and others incl. Puli) auto-recognizes the MTP-capable devices based on a config file while mtp+ forces the connection even for newer devices (necessarily only if PupCamera keeps sleeping for any reason).

Have fun!
Regards,
gluhaz

gluhaz
D Posted: Wed 15 Jul 2015, 19:07 Post subject: Technical curiosity

Lobster wrote:
Really like the Puli concept. Simple. Clever.

Dear Lobster,

I really appreciate your kind words about my Puli.

Of course, nothing can be "technically complete" - I only wanted to demonstrate the capabilities of such a small size distro by showing a more-or-less wide slew of examples. Puli puts a little effort into tracking attacks. It only tries to prevent them become effective with some tricks - and without slowing the environment.

Thanks again.
Regards,
gluhaz

gluhaz
D Posted: Wed 15 Jul 2015, 19:43 Post subject: SFS folder thing

Dear Sylvander,

Sylvander wrote:
Must it be FAT32?
Might I be able to copy all of the necessary folder/files [including /linux.sys] to the partition formatted as ext3 or ext4?

I never tried to install Puli on an ext3 or ext4 fs pendrive simply because of the portability of my other data on it. FAT32 is usable practically everywhere. I am interested in your experience with ext3 or ext4, however.

Sylvander wrote:
I failed to understand the SFS folder thing.
If I click on your link, and then click on the SFS link, there are all kinds of things in there [mostly pet files]. Am I to copy ALL of the content of the linked SFS folder into the root of the Flash Drive, or make a folder named SFS in the root and copy into that SFS folder?

The name of the folder (sfs) where I store the tested packages origins from the ancient years of Puli (kudos to smokeyo1). You may put your collection of the Puli-compatible pet or sfs (or deb) packages to any folder on your pendrive along with other data files - Puli will auto-locate those packages selected for smart loading at boot time. I use "packages"

Sylvander wrote:
Your explanation in the 1st post is rather long and complex, but I'll read it bit-by-bit, and attempt to understand it.

FYI: The backwards-compatible Puli 6.0.3 is ready for production. It arrives soon with many new and unique comfort features. So, since I need to amend the text on the first page anyway, I decided to make it be clearer and less sophisticated. However, I still don't know whether it should be shorter or longer

Have fun!
Regards,
gluhaz

Sylvander
D Posted: Wed 15 Jul 2015, 20:34 Post subject: Re: SFS folder thing

1. **gluhaz wrote:**
I never tried to install Puli on an ext3 or ext4 fs pendrive simply because of the portability of my other data on it. FAT32 is usable practically everywhere. I am interested in your experience with ext3 or ext4, however.

My list indication was to use a Linux journaling file system [superior], but now you have me wondering if ought to be FAT32 so that windows can access it. It's FAT32 at the moment, so I think I'll try that, and later change it to ext4.

2. **gluhaz wrote:**
You may put your collection of the Puli-compatible pet or sfs (or deb) packages to any folder on your pendrive along with other data files - Puli will auto-locate those packages selected for smart loading at boot time.

OK, so the packages can be PET files or SFS, doesn't matter much which is used huh?
So the fact that most of the packages in your SFS folder are PETs is OK, right?
I'm assuming that the total storage space used by these isn't beyond what a 4GB Flash Drive can hold, huh?
I'll try copying only the packages I need, and as needed, to the existing "packages" folder in the root of the Flash Drive.

3. **gluhaz wrote:**
I decided to make it be clearer and less sophisticated. However, I still don't know whether it should be shorter or longer

Personally, I like them to be adequate/enough essential detail, so it isn't necessary to ask questions, because everything needed for this reader to understand, is already there.

If that means it's long and complex, then so be it.
It's a difficult thing to get just right, and I'm glad it's you, not me, who is doing it.
I don't like having to read, and attempt to understand, all that stuff, but nevertheless I'm grateful that you provided all that information and detail.

gluhaz
D Posted: Wed 15 Jul 2015, 21:52 Post subject: Re: SFS folder thing
Subject description: OK, so the packages can be PET files or SFS, doesn't matter much which is used

OK, so the packages can be PET files or SFS, doesn't matter much which is used huh?
So the fact that most of the packages in your SFS folder are PETs is OK, right?
I'm assuming that the total storage space used by these isn't beyond what a 4GB Flash Drive can hold, huh?

Let me explain the sfs vs pet issue a bit more precisely.

Of course, in a "normal" puppet, there are differences between usage of pet and sfs packages - this origins in the layered filesystem. In contrast, the differences, at least from the aspect of memory consumption, are minimal in modes where everything is memory mapped - and this is the case in Puli.

So, I introduced a "smart load" feature that simply copies the content of any type of package into pup_rw with minimal administration. This is very quick but

a) cannot be undone during the given session
b) needs carefully tested packages
Bottom line: When selected for smart load, "the packages can be PET files or SFS, doesn't matter much which is used".

FYI: Although I did not upload Chrome in the sfs folder, Puli shines if you download an "official" Chrome package (32-bit .deb), e.g., from <https://www.chromium.org/getting-involved/dev-channel>. Then, for smart load, referrely it in /profiles/Common/smartsave folder of your boot device (pendrive) or install it later by simply click on the file (in Rox). You can compare more Chrome (stable/beta/dev) versions in any other this way, within the same Puli session.

I use 4 and 8GB pendrives for developing and archiving Puli. My kids, who run Minecraft with lots of archived worlds, have 2... 4 GB pendrives. No problems with storage space.

Have fun!
Regards,
gluhaz

Sylvander
D Posted: Thu 16 Jul 2015, 07:29 Post subject: 1. Right now I'm working in Puli loaded from a FAT32 partition on my 4GB Flash Drive.

2. It's looking good and generally working well, EXCEPT...

3. I seem to be unable to save session changes.
I'm yet to understand how that works, need to do more reading.

a. There's no "Save..." icon on the desktop. I guess it's intended to be that way.
b. I used the "Backup" icon and made a backup.
c. At 1st session->reboot I made a pulisave file, but it seemed to not have been used/loaded at load-up.
Once at the desktop, 2nd session, I had to configure the basics once again.

SO...
d. I (deleted the pulisave) installed pupsaveconfig, and used that to make a new pulisave.
This time, at 2nd reboot, the save method was different, seemed to work OK, BUT...

e. Once at the desktop of the 3rd session, I yet again had to configure the basics, and none of the changes I'd made had been saved.
f. In a "normal" Puppy, I'm able (to choose or not to choose) to save during the session...
AND...

At shutdown/reboot, I'm asked whether I want "to save or not to save".
This seems to me to be essential.
Can it be done in Puli?

4. It's my intention to play with Puli on the FAT32, until I get a feel for how it works, and then...

a. Copy ALL of the Puli folders/files from the Flash Drive [FD] to an external HDD, then...

b. Re-format the FD as ext4, then...

c. Copy all of the files back to the FD->partition.
d. Will that work?

Or is there now something within this particular Puli setup that make it will only function on a FAT32 partition?
Would I therefore need to begin again, right back at the start, to make a new Puli install?

gluhaz
D Posted: Thu 16 Jul 2015, 08:34 Post subject: Saving session in Puli vs other puplets

Sylvander wrote:
EXCEPT...

3. I seem to be unable to save session changes.
I'm yet to understand how that works, need to do more reading.

a. There's no "Save..." icon on the desktop. I guess it's intended to be that way.
b. I used the "Backup" icon and made a backup.
c. At 1st session->reboot I made a pulisave file, but it seemed to not have been used/loaded at load-up.

Dear Sylvander,

Concerning saving session, there are conceptual differences between PET, then, for smart load, referrely it in /profiles/Common/smartsave folder of your boot device (pendrive) or install it later by simply click on the file (in Rox). You can compare more Chrome (stable/beta/dev) versions in any other this way, within the same Puli session.

Please take a look at <http://murga-linux.com/puppy/viewtopic.php?p=827672#827672>

So, let me propose using the backup feature (by either clicking the backup icon during the session or by selecting Save: backup in the shutdown dialog. Then, next time, you may restore your session by dragging the selected backup file onto the Restore icon. This works any time providing that the extra packages selected for smart load are the same in both sessions (because they don't need to be included also in the backup file).

Another option is extending the smartsave file with your own configuration items based on which your data will be saved to your favorite places when you select Save:smart in the Shutdown dialog.

According to this concept, insecure/obsolete methods, e.g., saving the session into a king size 2fs file, e.g., pulisave.2fs, is not supported thus the related scripts are deleted / not accessible in Puli.

Have fun!
Regards,
gluhaz

Sylvander
D Posted: Fri 17 Jul 2015, 10:47 Post subject: I think I'm beginning to get the feel for using Puli's "Backup" and "Restore".

1. Just now...instead of removing the Flash Drive, I mounted its partition by clicking its sdb1 icon on the desktop, THEN...

2. In the ROX window that opened to display the content of /mnt/sdb1...
Clicked the "Backups" folder to open it and display its contents.
Then...

3. Dragged and dropped my Puli_backup_2015_07_16_03_15 file onto the "Restore" [is this a file?]
The two are sitting side-by-side in the "Backups" folder.
My personalizations that I made previously (then made a "Backup" to record them), were restored right there and then.
Will this stay restored between sessions, or must I restore the backup at each session?

b. I understand/see that this method is different to the "normal" Puppy method, but works very well.
I'm just wondering if it actually works better than the norm.

c. Is it possible to unload and reload this backup?
d. Can a series of consecutive backups [or alternative backups] be loaded, unloaded, re-loaded?
That would introduce interesting possibilities.

gluhaz
D Posted: Fri 17 Jul 2015, 19:35 Post subject: Backups

Dear Sylvander,

Thanks for spending your time with Puli.

Quote:
I'm just wondering if it actually works better than the norm.

Quote:
Is it possible to unload and reload this backup?...Can a series of consecutive backups [or alternative backups] be loaded, unloaded, re-loaded?

Theoretically, it's feasible with a backup2fs script. However, I see only disadvantages. For example, if you store versions of the same document in different backups, they could arbitrarily overwrite each other. Of course, if there are no concurrent files in those backups, you can merge two or more of them.

Quote:
Will this stay restored between sessions?

Intentionally not.
First, because of the above risk. It is better to not overwrite/kill important files.

Second, because the smartsave option is designed for this purpose. It works as follows:
There are files in the /smartsave folder that will be executed one by one if you select "Save:smart" in the shutdown dialog.

At boot time, this /smartsave folder becomes auto-populated, e.g., its files are auto-loaded from /mnt/sbootdev/patch/smartsave or from /mnt/sbootdev/profiles/Common/smartsave or from smartloaded packages. (Also, if you install a Puli specific pet/sfs file then the session). The goal is to save often-session files, and/or desktop background or even downloaded files that arrived into /root/spot/Downloads.
However, keep in mind that some config files, e.g., /etc/default.state are machine-specific thus it is better to save them into a machine-specific profile of Puli or a separate, well-commented backup file.

See more details and explanation in the /smartsave/Default.smartsave file:

Code:
This is a simple text file
The below lines will be executed during shutdown when you select "Save: smart" in the shutdown dialog.
The goal is to save often-session files, i.e., created documents, and/or downloaded files from /root/spot/Downloads, or even desktop settings to /mnt/sbootdev or to any other media.
If I then close that and reboot, my 3 web page tabs open in a single window/page.
The /mnt/sbootdev/smartsave.etc file may contain error messages such as "Failed to preserve ownership" or "No such file or directory" or "Some files/attrs were not transferred" or "failed to get attributes". This is normal.
bootdev=cat /etc/rc.d/PUPSTATE |grep PUPSTATE |cut -f1 -d " " |cut -f2 -d " " |#please do not edit this line

Here begins the default content that does the same as "Save: patch" did in the previous versions of Puli:

```
# prepare saving  
mkdir -p /mnt/sbootdev/patch  
mkdir -p /mnt/sbootdev/patch/etc  
mkdir -p /mnt/sbootdev/patch/etc/patch  
mkdir -p /mnt/sbootdev/patch/etc/slrp_network_setup  
sync
```

```
# save sound settings (Warning! This can be machine-specific!)  
alsactl -f /etc/sound.state store  
sleep 1  
cp -f /etc/sound.state /mnt/sbootdev/patch/etc  
sync
```

```
# save password  
cp -f /etc/passwd /mnt/sbootdev/patch/etc  
cp -f /etc/shadow /mnt/sbootdev/patch/etc  
cp -f /etc/crontab /mnt/sbootdev/patch/etc  
cp -f /etc/passwd /mnt/sbootdev/patch/etc/patch  
cp -f /etc/passwd /etc/patch  
sync
```

```
# save network settings  
for i in /etc/slrp_network_setup/*; do mv -f $(echo $i) | sed 's/\/\//g'; done  
cp -f /etc/slrp_network_setup/* /mnt/sbootdev/patch/etc/slrp_network_setup  
sync  
for i in /etc/slrp_network_setup/*; do mv -f $(echo $i) | sed 's/\/\//g'; done  
sync
```

```
# save some settings of the Chrome browser  
cp -f /root/.popt/cookie/popt-cookie/Default/Preferences /mnt/sbootdev/patch  
cp -f -parents /root/.popt/cookie/popt-cookie/Default/Bookmarks /mnt/sbootdev/patch  
cp -f /root/.popt/cookie/popt-cookie/Default/Bookmarks /mnt/sbootdev/patch  
sync
```

```
# save /root/my-documents  
sync  
cp -r /root/my-documents /mnt/sbootdev/profiles/Common/root  
sync  
# This is the end of the default content.
```

I hope I don't bore you with a user example. The default.smartsave file in the same folder, next to the previous one, looks like this:

Code:
This is a simple text file
The below lines will be executed during shutdown when you select "Save: smart" in the shutdown dialog.
The goal is to save often-session files, i.e., created documents, and/or downloaded files from /root/spot/Downloads, or even desktop settings to /mnt/sbootdev or to any other media.
If I then close that and reboot, my 3 web page tabs open in a single window/page.
The /mnt/sbootdev/smartsave.etc file may contain error messages such as "Failed to preserve ownership" or "No such file or directory" or "Some files/attrs were not transferred" or "failed to get attributes". This is normal.
bootdev=cat /etc/rc.d/PUPSTATE |grep PUPSTATE |cut -f1 -d " " |cut -f2 -d " " |#please do not edit this line

This is the smart save code for Minecraft

```
rsync -av --update /root/.popt/minecraft/logs /mnt/sbootdev/Minecraft/ logs  
cp -r /root/.popt/minecraft/logs/latest.log /mnt/sbootdev/Minecraft/ logs/  
cp -r /root/.popt/minecraft/lastLogin /mnt/sbootdev/Minecraft/ lastLogin  
cp -r /root/.popt/minecraft/lastTime /mnt/sbootdev/Minecraft/ lastTime  
cp -r /root/.popt/minecraft/lastSave /mnt/sbootdev/Minecraft/ lastSave  
cp -r /root/.popt/minecraft/lastSave.json /mnt/sbootdev/Minecraft/ lastSave.json  
cp -r /root/.popt/minecraft/lastSave.txt /mnt/sbootdev/Minecraft/ lastSave.txt  
sync
```

End of the smart save code for Minecraft

...and so on... The above settings ensure that the desired data will stay restored between sessions.

Have fun!
Regards,
gluhaz

Sylvander
D Posted: Sat 18 Jul 2015, 06:45 Post subject: PROBLEM!
important!

1. Although I've used the shutdown dialog to successfully make a pulisave file in the root of the Flash Drive partition [sdb1]...
2. Puli fails to find the pulisave.etc file during startup. I'd like to find and use the backup!

Hence...

3. Once at the desktop, none of my personalizations are applied.
4. If I drag->drop the backup onto the "Restore" icon [both in the "/mnt/sbootdev/patch" folder]...
That gives me my personalizations, but this would be a deb-breaker if I had to do this every time I boot.

5. I found the /mnt/sdb1/profiles/Common/smartsave/Default.smartsave file. Should that help me?

6. /mnt/sdb1/smartsave.err has the following content:

Code:
mv: cannot stat '/etc/slrp_network_setup/*': No such file or directory
cp: cannot stat '/etc/slrp_network_setup/*': No such file or directory
mv: cannot stat '/etc/slrp_network_setup/*': No such file or directory

7. Some other problems:
a. The sound is muted despite "Retrvoil/Main/Auto-mute being unlicked, and I see no way to fix it.
b. eH2O doesn't auto-connect, and although it is easy to manually connect, I need it to auto-connect.
c. When I 1st run "Menu->Internet->Web browser", only a single default Google Chrome window appears.
If I then close that and reboot, my 3 web page tabs open in a single window/page.
It is possible to have those open as 3 separate windows?
How?

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