



Common interface bloopers
and
how to avoid them

1

**Don't give your software
a silly name**

First impressions count

Inkscape **Internet Explorer**
CinePaint **Photoshop**
Rhythmbox **Illustrator** **Notepad**
Word **iPhoto** **Konversation** **PulseAudio**

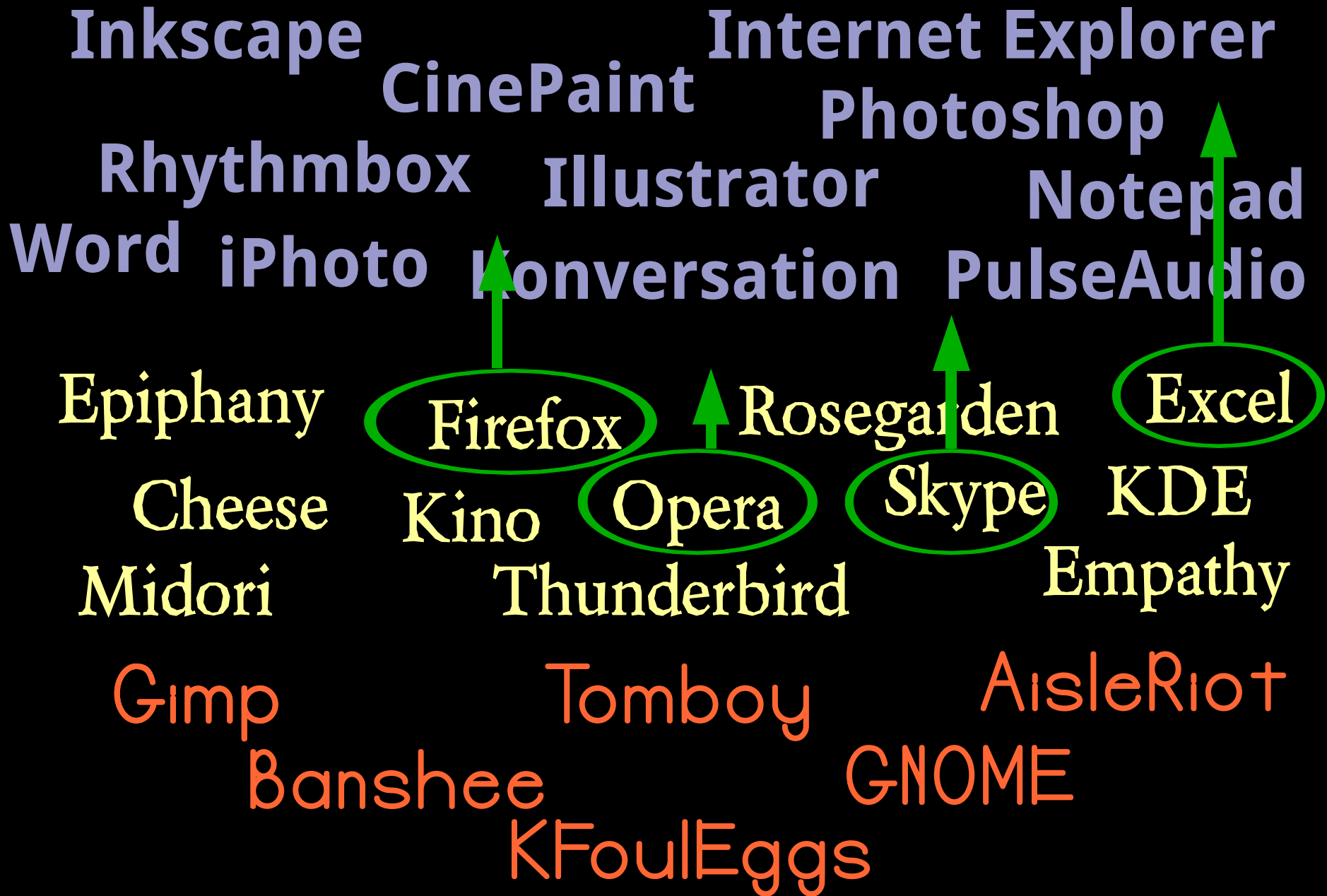
Inkscape Internet Explorer
CinePaint Photoshop
Rhythmbox Illustrator Notepad
Word iPhoto Konversation PulseAudio

Epiphany Firefox Rosegarden Excel
Cheese Kino Opera Skype KDE
Midori Thunderbird Empathy

Inkscape Internet Explorer
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Gimp Tomboy AisleRiot
Banshee GNOME
KFoulEggs



Arthur Godfrey says . . . "Listen, my fat friend—

Here's Proof you can Lose Weight with Ayds!"

**Doctors Prove Ayds Best and Safest in Tests
on 240 Overweight Women and Men!**

"Believe me, if you could read some of these people's actual reducing reports in this test, you'd see *why* I'm all for AYDS if you want to lose weight," Arthur says. "AYDS users lost almost *twice* as many pounds!" The facts Arthur Godfrey would like you to know are these: in a well-known New England clinic, doctors tested four different reducing methods—bulk wafers, lozenges, pills, and modern AYDS. The 240 men and women who participated were tested under carefully controlled clinical conditions. Those who took AYDS *averaged the greatest weight loss*—almost *twice* as many pounds as the next best product! Not only that—the people who took AYDS had no nervousness, sleeplessness, or unpleasant "side effects"! A reprint of this Medical Report will be sent to your physician at his request. He should write: CAMPANA, BOX MD, Batavia, Ill.

No Drugs or Diet—No "Hunger Pangs"!

It's easy! With AYDS, you lose weight the way Nature intended. Taken before meals as directed, this delicious low-calorie *candy*—enriched with health-giving vitamins and minerals—curbs your craving for fattening foods. Yet you eat all you want. "Hunger pangs" don't bother *you!* So without starving yourself, and without irritating self-denial, you *automatically* eat less and lose weight naturally, safely, quickly.

Guaranteed to Work for You!

Many AYDS users—with their very first box—happily report losing up to ten pounds or more. In fact, with the easy AYDS Reducing Plan, you must lose weight with your first box (\$2.98), or your money back. At all leading drug and department stores.

Take **Ayds** . . .
first aid
for overweight!



A Campana Product



Brainstorm possible names

**Choose a name related to
what the program does**

Inkscape Internet Explorer
CinePaint Photoshop
Rhythmbox Illustrator Notepad
Word iPhoto Konversation PulseAudio

Epiphany Firefox Rosegarden Excel
Cheese Kino Opera Skype KDE
Midori Thunderbird Empathy
Gimp Tomboy AisleRiot
Banshee GNOME
KFoulEggs

2

**Don't neglect
the initial experience**

Accounts


Enabled | Accounts


New Account

Type:  Jabber


I already have an account I want to use


 Create

 Add

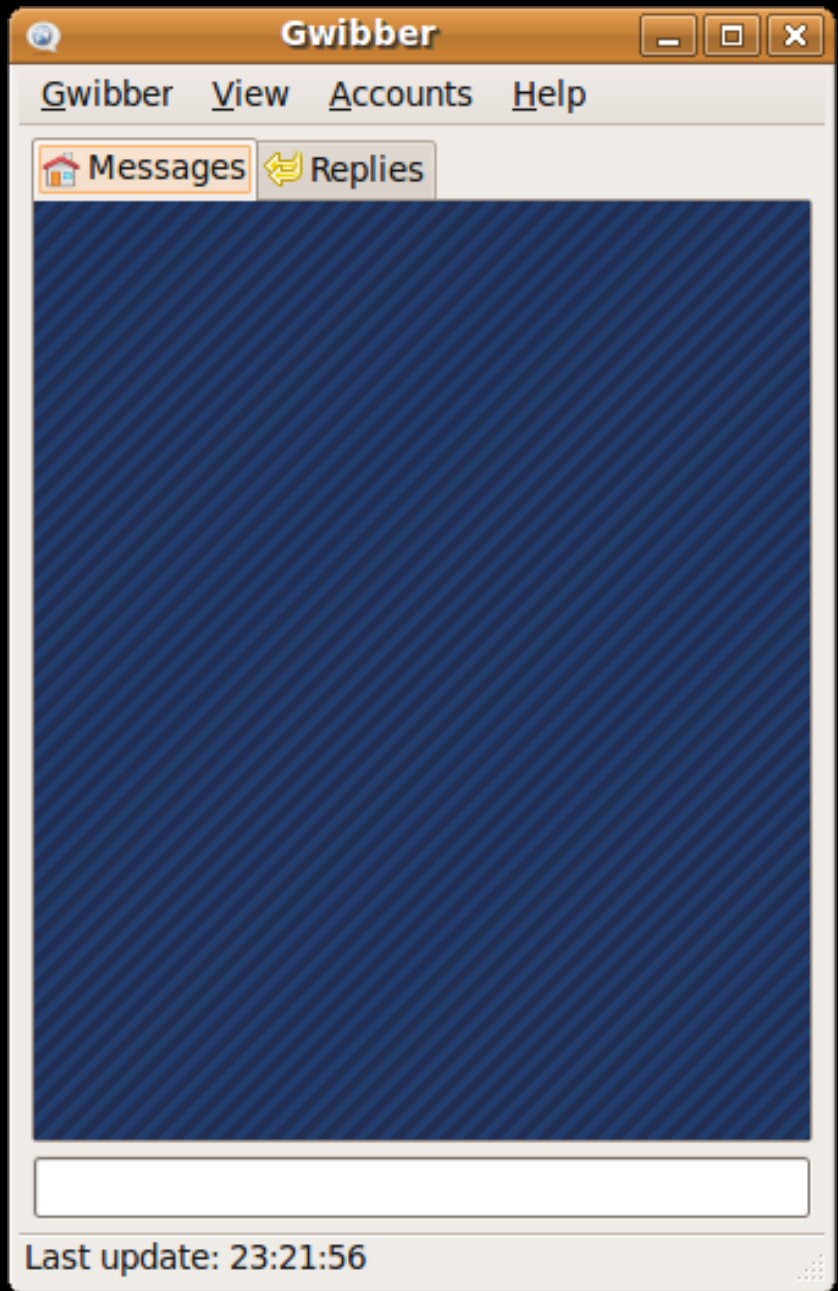
 Remove

Import Accounts...

 Help

 Close



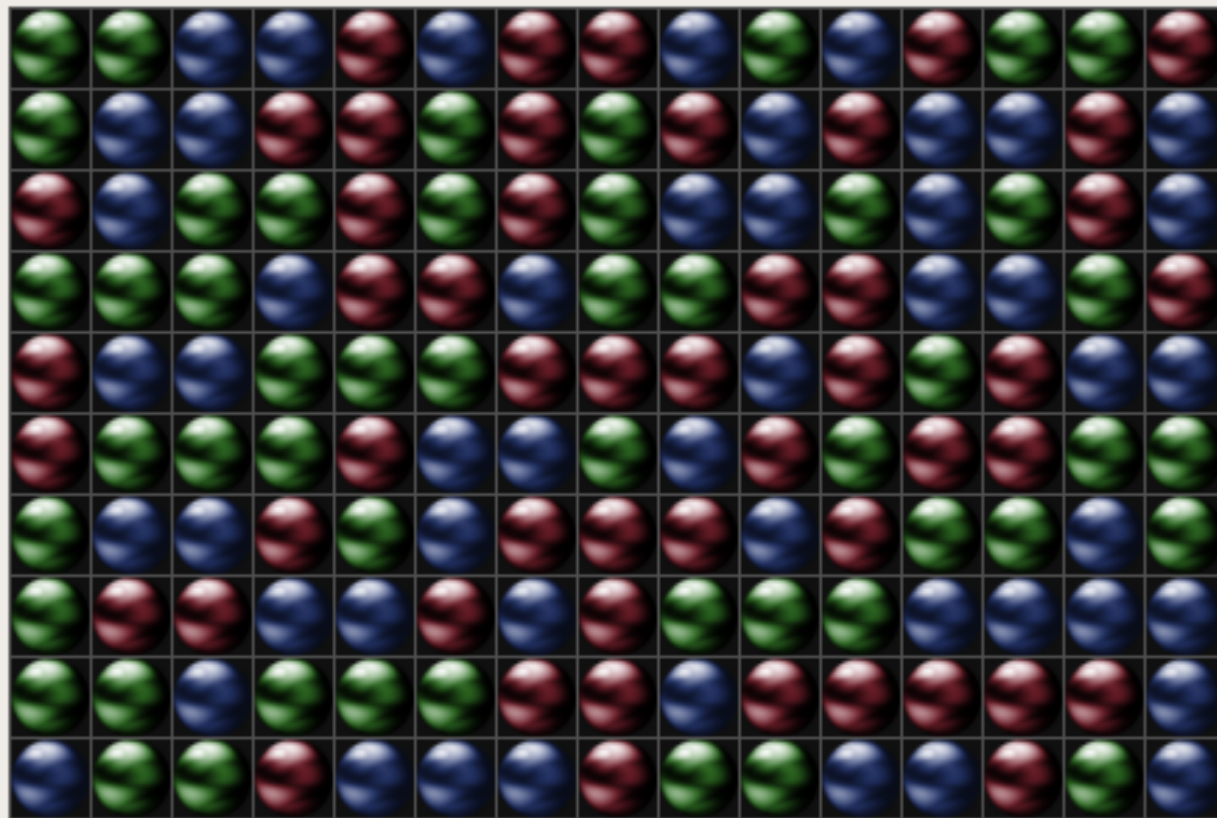




Same GNOME



Game View Size Help



Score: 0





Welcome to Anki!



[**Add material**](#)

Start adding your own material.



[**Open Local Deck**](#)



[**Open Online Deck**](#)



[**Open Sample Deck**](#)



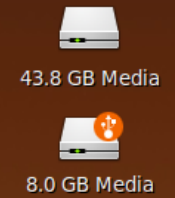
[**Get More Decks**](#)

**Use a guest session
to test the initial experience**

**Delight people who've never
used the program before**

3

**Don't size a window
to be unhelpful by default**



PiTiVi v0.11.3

File Edit View Help

New Open Save Save As Import clips... Render project Fullscreen

Clip Library

Import your clips by dragging them here or by using the buttons above.

00:00:00.000 / ---:---:---.---

00:00:00.000 00:00:10.000 00:00:20.000 00:00:30.000 00:00:40.000 00:00:50.000 00:01:00.000 00:01:10.000 00:01:20.000

Zoom Out Zoom In Split Delete Unlink Relink



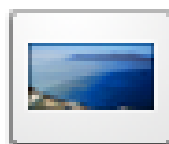
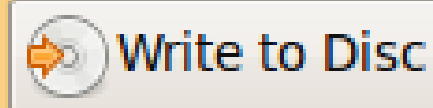


CD/DVD Creator



File Edit View Places Help

CD/DVD Creator Folder *Drag or copy files below t...*



215414844_
40e1b30672_o.jpg

CD/DVD Creator ▾

1 item



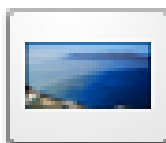
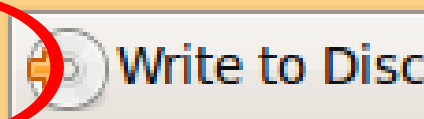


CD/DVD Creator



File Edit View Places Help

CD/DVD Creator Folder *Drag or copy files below t...*



215414844_
40e1b30672_o.jpg

CD/DVD Creator ▾

1 item



**Use a guest session
to test the initial experience**

**For every element, think:
“Does it work at this size?”**

4

**Don't make your software
netbook-hostile**



Evolution Setup Assistant 


Welcome






Welcome to Evolution. The next few screens will allow Evolution to connect to your email accounts, and to import files from other applications.

Please click the "Forward" button to continue.

Photo Edit View Find

 Import  Rotate Left

Tags 

-  Favorites
-  Hidden
-  People
-  Places
-  Events

Preferences

Metadata

Write metadata to file

Enable this option to store tags and descriptions inside supported image formats.

Screensaver

All Images

Images tagged with: Favorites

Make F-Spot your screensaver

While acting as a screensaver, F-Spot can display all of your images, or a small subset based on tags.

Import Settings

Folder guest-home.IQBPWa

Choose the folder where F-Spot should store newly imported photos

Color Management

Enable Try to use the system display profile

Display:

Output:

Theming

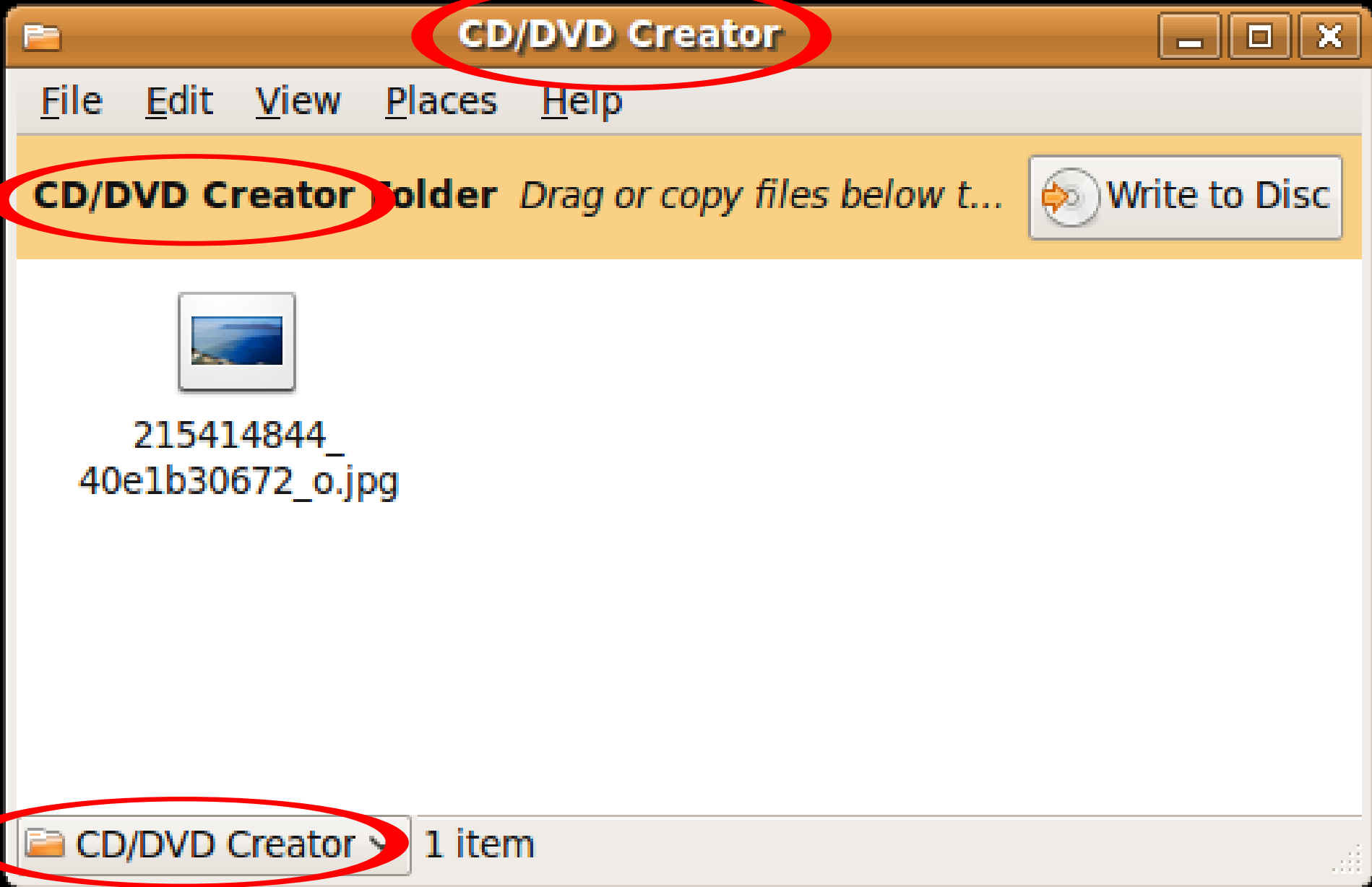
**Switch to 800 x 600
to test your software**

**If you need help shrinking
large windows, ask me**

5

Don't repeat a window's title

Don't repeat a window's title

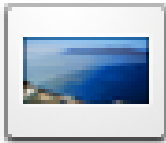


CD/DVD Creator

File Edit View Places Help

CD/DVD Creator Folder Drag or copy files below t...

Write to Disc



215414844_
40e1b30672_o.jpg

CD/DVD Creator 1 item



Downloading Package Information



Downloading Package Information

The repositories will be checked for new, removed or upgraded software packages.

Downloading file 43 of 53

Download rate: unknown

▷ Show for individual files



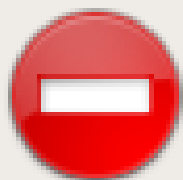
Cancel

Repeating words or phrases?

**...Probably you can
simplify the design**

6

**Don't show
useless error messages**



Unable to unmount 8.0 GB Media

DBus error org.freedesktop.DBus.Error.NoReply: Did not receive a reply. Possible causes include: the remote application did not send a reply, the message bus security policy blocked the reply, the reply timeout expired, or the network connection was broken.





Cannot mount volume.

Unable to mount the volume 'FreeAgent Drive'.

Details

\$LogFile indicates unclean shutdown (0, 0) Failed to mount '/dev/sdb1': Operation not supported Mount is denied because NTFS is marked to be in use. Choose one action: Choice 1: If you have Windows then disconnect the external devices by clicking on the 'Safely Remove Hardware' icon in the Windows taskbar then shutdown Windows cleanly. Choice 2: If you don't have Windows then you can use the 'force' option for your own responsibility. For example type on the command line: `mount -t ntfs-3g /dev/sdb1 /media/FreeAgent Drive -o force` Or add the option to the relevant row in the `/etc/fstab` file: `/dev/sdb1 /media/FreeAgent Drive ntfs-3g force 0 0`



Information - KFormula



Some
are p
that

Information - KFormula

Could not start process Unable to create io-slave:
klauncher said: Unknown protocol 'fonts'.

formulas
order so

Cancel

Skip

Auto Skip

A. What went wrong
(in non-geek language)


B. Why it went wrong
(in non-geek language)

C. How I can fix it
(preferably in one click)



No module named oss_sequencer2


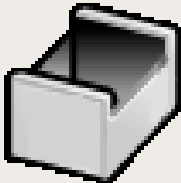

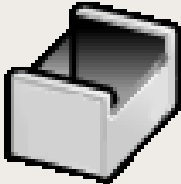

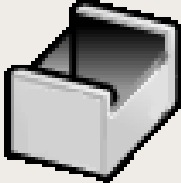

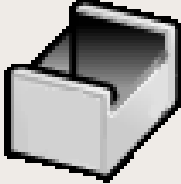

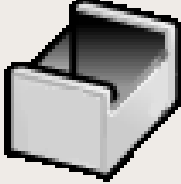
You should configure sound from the preferences window, and try to use an external midi player. Or try to recompile the program and check for error messages to see why the module is not built.

 Close

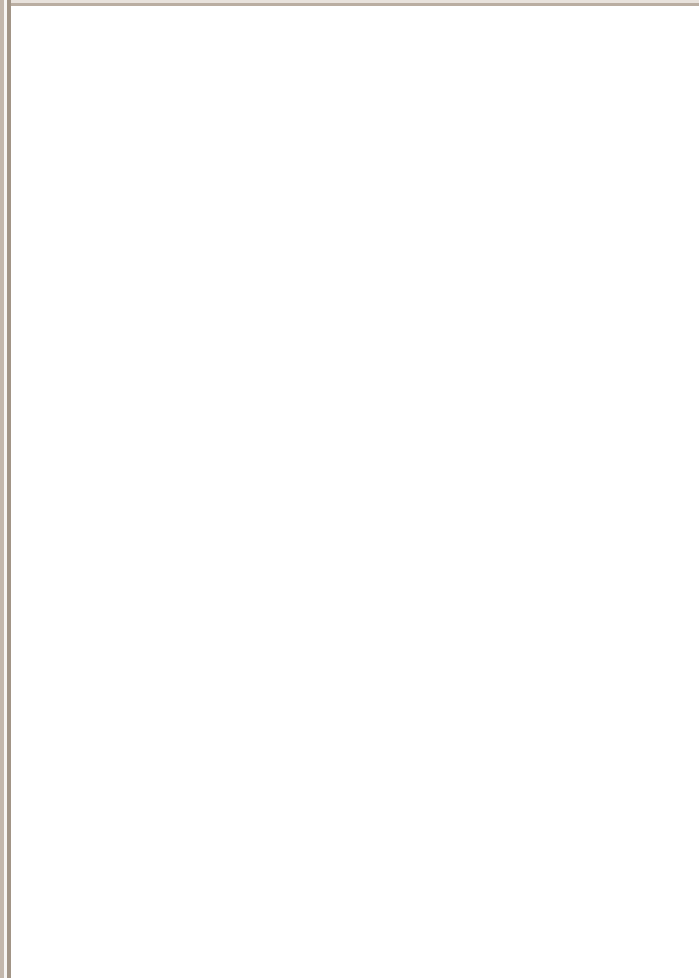
7

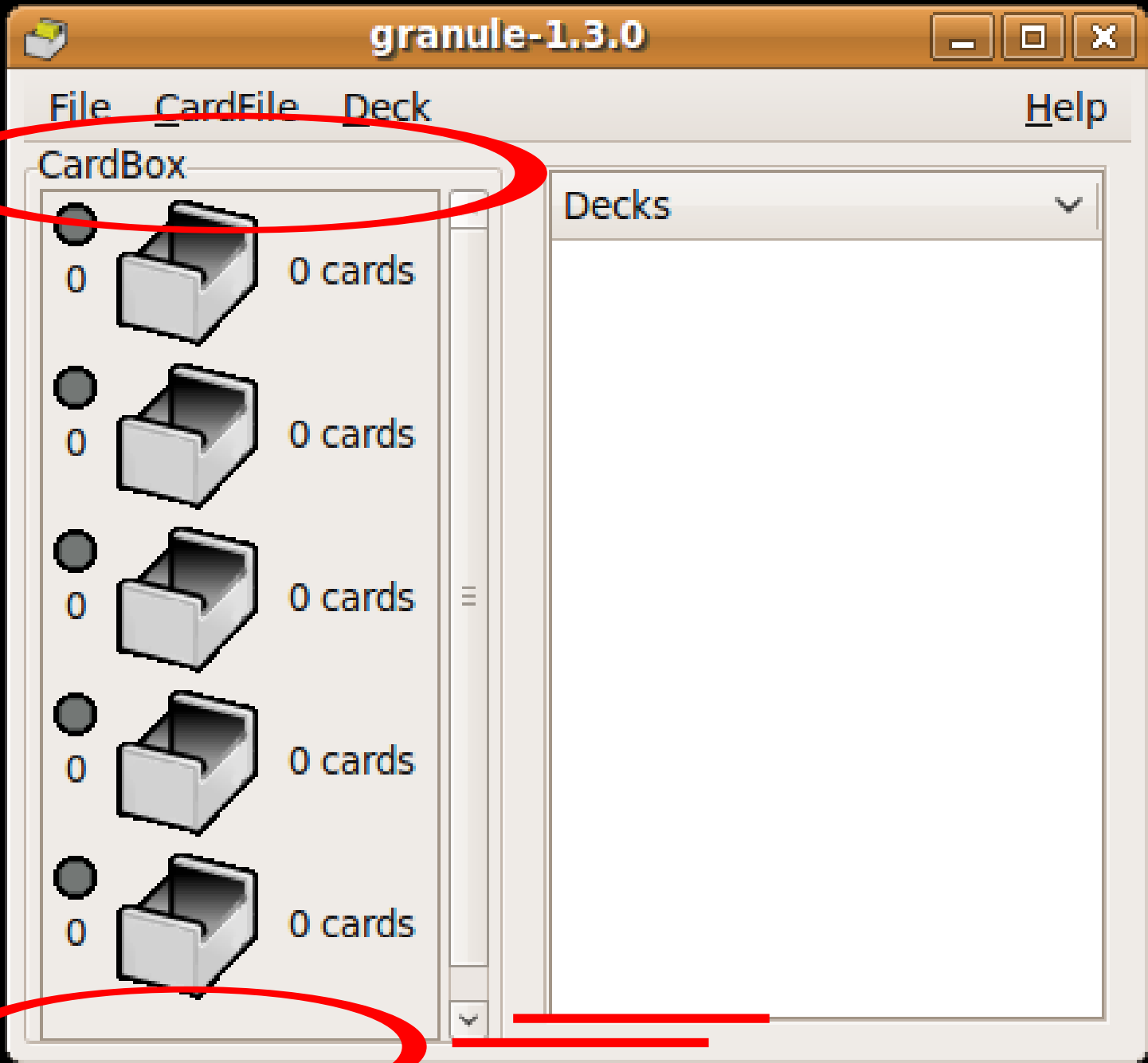
Get your spacing right

CardBox

		0 cards
		0 cards
		0 cards
		0 cards
		0 cards

Decks







Find - Untitled1



Find what:



Find

- Match case
- Whole word
- Reverse find



Help



Close



Find - Untitled1



Find what:



Find

- Match case
- Whole word
- Reverse find



Help



Close



Window Layout

GNOME Human Interface Guidelines 2.2 / Visual Design

[8.2.1. General](#)

[8.2.2. Dialogs](#)

[8.2.3. Spacing and Alignment](#)

8.2.1. General

Placement of visual components in an application is important because relationships between elements are indicated by their positions. This is called "layout" in interface design.

A clean layout is crucial to creating a smooth visual flow of information for the user. This section describes the proper component placement and spacing to use in GNOME applications. The major components discussed will be labels, icons, radio buttons and check boxes, text fields, command buttons, and drop-down menus.

8.2.2. Dialogs

When a user is scanning a complex preferences dialog

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[GNOME Human Interface Guidelines 2.2](#)

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[Usability Principles](#)

[Desktop Integration](#)

[Windows](#)

[Menus](#)

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[Window Layout](#)

[Text Labels](#)

[Fonts](#)

[Icons](#)

[User Input](#)

[Language](#)

[Checklists](#)

[Credit](#)

**Follow the HIG
spacing guidelines**

8

Get your punctuation right

"Quote marks"

"Quote marks"

'Quote marks'

“Quote marks”

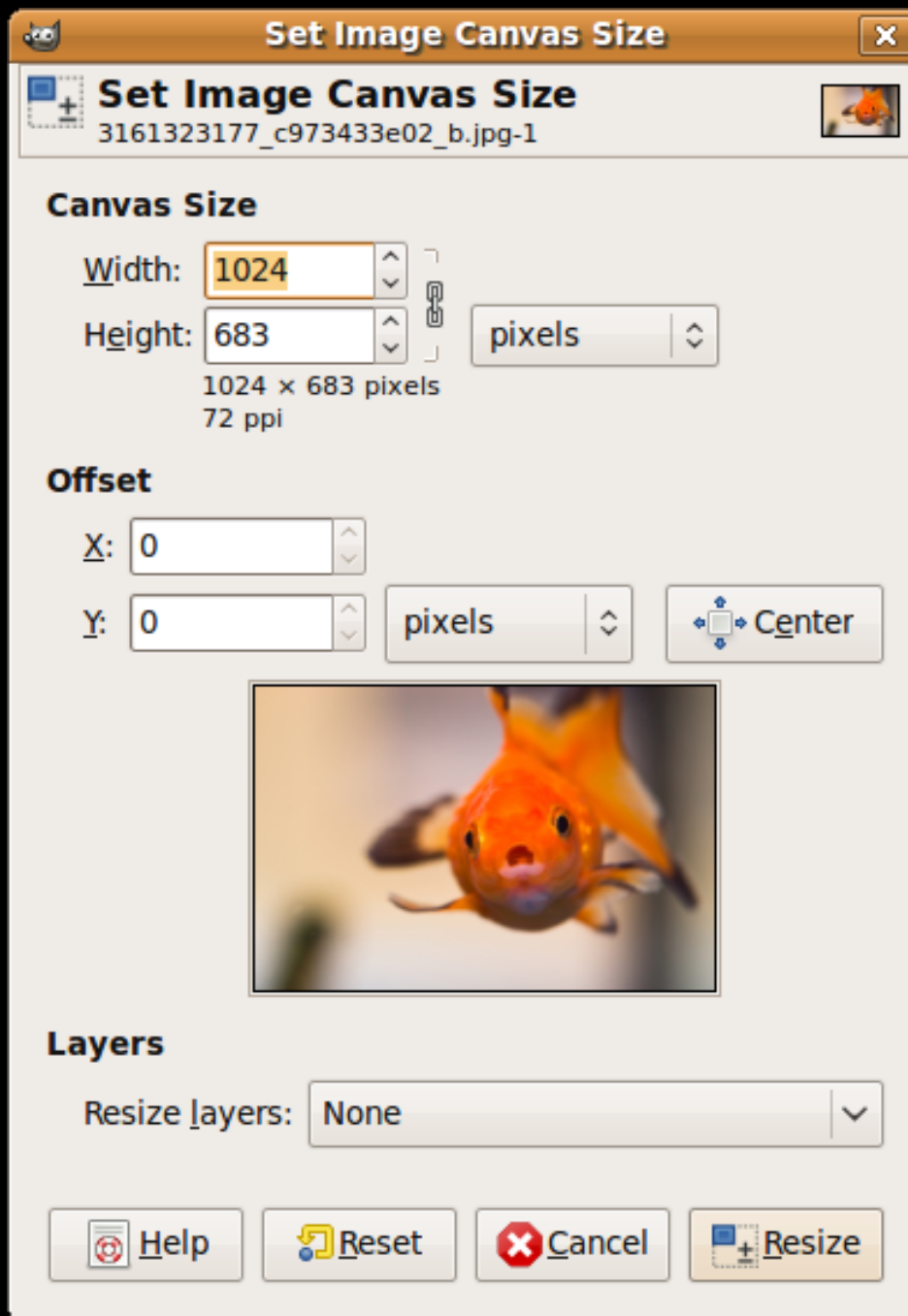
You're great

You're great

No,
you're great

9

Don't ignore Enter and Escape



Escape = Cancel

Enter = main action
(unless it's hugely dangerous)

10

The image features the number '10' in a large, white, sans-serif font centered on a dark background. The background is composed of abstract, wavy, glowing lines in shades of orange, red, and yellow, resembling a liquid or smoke effect. The lines are most prominent in the center and right side of the image, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Don't lie



Import Wizard



Import Settings and Mail Folders From



Import Preferences, Account Settings, Addressbook and other data from:

Don't import anything

 Cancel

Next



Import Wizard



Import Settings and Mail Folders From



Import Preferences, Account Settings, Addressbook and other data from:

Don't import anything

 Cancel

Next



Authenticate



System policy prevents mounting internal media

An application is attempting to perform an action that requires privileges. Authentication as one of the users below is required to perform this action.

Select user...



Password:

Remember authorization

For this session only

▶ **Details**



Cancel

Authenticate



Authenticate



System policy prevents mounting internal media

An application is attempting to perform an action that requires privileges. Authentication as one of the users below is required to perform this action.

Select user...



Password:

Remember authorization

For this session only

▷ **Details**



Cancel

Authenticate

Get help from a copy editor

Get help from a designer

Do some user testing

live.gnome.org/bloopers2009

Photos from:

flickr.com/photos/danielleblue

flickr.com/photos/bensonkua