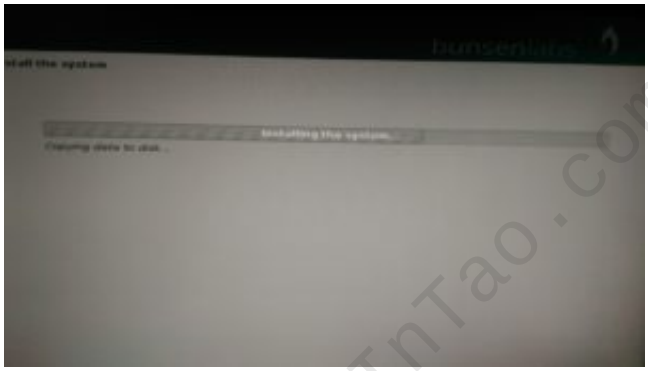
Latte Panda For Security Distros?

Hello reader,

One of the SBC's I'm tinkering with at the moment is the Latte Panda by DFRobot. A 64 bit Windows 10 capable maker board with an Intel Cherry Trail SOC that sports an integrated Intel HD. Out of the box the system does require a steady and strong power supply. And as many of the reviews are focused on it's Windows 10 performance...

Let's talk Linux.



Yes we tried Bunsen Labs - Grub 2 didn't cooperate but otherwise it worked fine.

For a variety of makers, the distributions of Linux that will work on the Latte Panda is increasing slowly with it's popularity. The original "It will only work with Ubuntu," is gone and replaced with, "It does Debian, and Debian based Distros to varying degrees of capability. This is largely in part due to the recent kernel upgrades that account for Cherry Trail. It can handle Android and with a bit of research possibly other operating systems provided they have reasonably well set uefi settings - and of course certain window managers aren't the default. (Examples like gnome loading only a blank screen etc are part of the fun of testing.)

Video courtesy of ExplainingComputers

Kali works, Parrot OS works provided you can work around the default mate panels not loading, and my experience with the speed of the system has been pleasant. There are programs that seem to be a challenge to the intel chip - but mostly that depends on what kind of system you are on.

So yes Latte Panda could be used for running a security distro, and as support increases for the Cherry Trail chip expect more window managers to cooperate as well. In the meanwhile to work around Mate not loading panels,

sudo apt-get update && sudo apt-get upgrade

- and if (when) that doesn't work switch window managers - (might take a few tries.)

Distributions that didn't work yet included most of the Ubuntu and Related (Mint) latest releases which all managed to install but failed to load. This might be a settings issue, as some would load in recovery modes. Arch and Manjaro failed but again - settings may be to blame as arch with a uefi bootstrap seemed to load but as usual when I try to build an Arch system past it's most basic settings I break something. I've heard rumors that respins are a way to go and will be looking into that during our SBC series.

Specs:

- Processor: Intel Cherry Trail Z8300 Quad Core 1.8GHz
- Operation System: Pre-installed full edition of Windows 10
- Ram: 4GB DDR3L
- Storage Capability: 64GB
- GPU: Intel HD Graphics, 12 EUs @200-500 Mhz, single-channel memory
- One USB3.0 port and two USB 2.0 ports
- WiFi and Bluetooth 4.0
- Built-in Arduino Co-processor: ATmega32u4
- Video output: HDMI and MIPI-DSI
- Onboard touch panel overlay connector
- Supports 100Mbps Ethernet
- GPIO:
    - 6 GPIOs from Cherry Trail processor
    - 20 GPIOs from Arduino Leonardo
    - 6 Plug and play Gravity sensor connectors
- Power: 5v/2A
- Dimension of board: 88 * 70 mm/ 3.46 * 2.76 inches
- Packing Size: 110 * 94 * 30 mm/4.33 * 3.70 * 1.18 inches
- N.W.: 55g
- G.W.: 100g

Note:
This product requires a power supply of 5V @ 2A to work properly using a quality USB cable. An iPad power supply is ideal.