(Approx. 656 words)

Open Source Software of the Month

By Geof Goodrum, Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society

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[www.patacs.org](http://www.patacs.org)

linux (at) patacs.org

**7-Zip** – v16.04. <http://www.7-zip.org/>. Free GNU Lesser General Public License + unRAR restrictions source code and executable for Microsoft® Windows® by Igor Pavlov with command line ports for Apple® macOS™ and GNU/Linux®. 7-Zip is a file archiver with a high compression ratio. For ZIP and GZIP formats, 7-Zip provides a compression ratio that is 2-10% better than the ratio provided by PKZip and WinZip. 7-Zip works in Windows 10/8/7/Vista/XP/2012/2008/2003/2000/NT. There is a port of the command line version to Linux/Unix including macOS (<http://p7zip.sourceforge.net/>).

Features include:

* High compression ratio in 7z format with LZMA and LZMA2 compression
* Packing / unpacking of 7z, XZ, BZIP2, GZIP, TAR, ZIP and WIM formats
* Unpacking only of AR, ARJ, CAB, CHM, CPIO, CramFS, DMG, EXT, FAT, GPT, HFS, IHEX, ISO, LZH, LZMA, MBR, MSI, NSIS, NTFS, QCOW2, RAR, RPM, SquashFS, UDF, UEFI, VDI, VHD, VMDK, WIM, XAR and Z formats.
* Strong AES-256 encryption in 7z and ZIP formats
* Self-extracting capability for 7z format
* Integration with Windows Shell
* Powerful File Manager
* Powerful command line version
* Plugin for FAR Manager
* Localizations for 87 languages

[Screenshot at <https://a.fsdn.com/con/app/proj/sevenzip/screenshots/534500_3.png/1>]

**BZFlag** – v2.4.10. <https://www.bzflag.org/>. Free GNU Lesser General Public License source code and executables for Microsoft® Windows®, Apple® macOS™, FreeBSD and GNU/Linux® by Chris Schoeneman, Tim Riker, David Trowbidge, and Sean Morrison. BZFlag is a 3D networked multi-player multi-platform tank battle game reminiscent of the arcade game Atari Battlezone.

Features include:

* Customizable Game Modes: Capture the Flag (four teams), Free For All (team play), Open Free For All (no teams) and Rabbit Chase (1 randomly chosen rabbit player).
* Flags that provide enhanced or inhibited capabilities, such as guided missiles, cloaking, forward only, and reverse controls
* In-game chat
* Heads Up Display with Radar

[Screenshot at <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/9d/Bzflag_on_RadeonHD4870.png/800px-Bzflag_on_RadeonHD4870.png>]

**GIMP** – v2.8.20. <https://www.gimp.org/>. Free GNU General Public License source code and executables for Microsoft® Windows®, Apple® macOS™, FreeBSD and GNU/Linux® by Michael Natterer, Sven Neumann and The GIMP Team. The GNU Image Manipulation Program (GIMP) is a freely distributed program for such tasks as photo retouching, image composition and image authoring. Whether you are a graphic designer, photographer, illustrator, or scientist, GIMP provides you with sophisticated tools to get your job done. You can further enhance your productivity with GIMP thanks to many customization options and 3rd party plugins.

Features include:

* A full suite of painting tools including brushes, a pencil, an airbrush, cloning, etc.
* Tile-based memory management, so image size is limited only by available disk space
* Sub-pixel sampling for all paint tools for high-quality anti-aliasing
* Full Alpha channel support for working with transparency
* Layers and channels
* A procedural database for calling internal GIMP functions from external programs, such as Script-Fu
* Advanced scripting capabilities
* Multiple undo/redo (limited only by disk space)
* Transformation tools including rotate, scale, shear and flip
* Support for a wide range of file formats, including GIF, JPEG, PNG, XPM, TIFF, TGA, MPEG, PS, PDF, PCX, BMP and many others
* Selection tools, including rectangle, ellipse, free, fuzzy, bezier and intelligent scissors
* Plug-ins that allow for the easy addition of new file formats and new effect filters.

[Screenshot at <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fd/GIMP_2.8_in_Single_Window_Mode_running_on_Ubuntu.png>]

**TuxGuitar** – v1.4. <http://www.tuxguitar.pw/>. Free GNU Lesser General Public License source code and executables for Microsoft® Windows®, Apple® macOS™ and GNU/Linux® by Julián Gabriel Casadesús et al. TuxGuitar is a multitrack guitar tablature editor and player written in Java-SWT, It can open GuitarPro, PowerTab and TablEdit files.

Features include:

* Tablature editor
* Score Viewer
* Multitrack display
* Autoscroll while playing
* Note duration management
* Various effects (bend, slide, vibrato, hammer-on/pull-off)
* Support for triplets (5,6,7,9,10,11,12)
* Repeat open and close
* Time signature management
* Tempo management
* Imports and exports gp3,gp4 and gp5 files

[Screenshot at <http://www.tuxguitar.pw/rd.php/gallery/show_picture.do?galid=1&picid=47>]