



Join the 5-a-day project

Ubuntu and Launchpad

Ubuntu is a large and complex project. For it to work as efficiently as possible, every cog in the machine needs to work smoothly.

An important part of this is what software engineers call 'bug triage'. Ubuntu uses Launchpad as its bug tracker, which allows developers and users to post problems with the software, recommend enhancements, collaborate in finding solutions and track to see when the bug is fixed. Since a good portion of bugs reported are not always software defects or need more information of the bug submitter, bugs are triaged by the Ubuntu Bug Squad. This helps to get bugs prioritised, to eliminate duplicates of the bug, and makes the relevant teams aware of the bug.

What is the 5-a-day project?

It's very simple: we ask people who volunteer to contribute to 5 bugs a day, by triaging them. With a dedicated team we will cover a lot of ground. Triaging bugs is easy to learn and you can find out more by visiting <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/5-A-Day>

If you're a developer

You can:

- Review patches, test them, improve them and help to get them uploaded
- Follow the debugging procedures for certain components of Ubuntu at <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/DebuggingProcedures>
- Debug applications and add relevant information to the bug report
- Ask the bug reporter to attach a back trace or valgrind log of their problem
- Mark trivial bugs as 'bitesize'

If you're not a developer (yet)

You can:

- Confirm new bugs
- Mark bugs as duplicates of existing bugs
- Investigate bugs in more detail
- Search for old bugs that are still open and check with the reporter that they are still relevant to the current version of Ubuntu
- Determine whether the bug is something that the upstream author should fix. This is usually a feature request
- Forward relevant bugs upstream

How to get started

Take a look at the bug lists on <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/5-A-Day> and do 5 of them a day. You can also help to spread the word by adding 'your 5-a-day' to:

- Your blog posts (<http://planet.ubuntu.com> or <http://ubuntuweblogs.org>)
- or to mailing list posts (in your mail signature)

To find out how to join the bug squad visit <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/BugSquad/GettingInvolved>.

You can find the Bug triage checklist here <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/Bugs/Checklist>

