Compiling Grisbi 2.0.5 from Source on Salix 15.0

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Contents

Grisbi is a personal finance manager / accounting program with a full feature set. The clean UI and functionality are reminiscent of late-1990s era Quicken. Since Grisbi uses single-entry bookkeeping, it is easier to understand than double-entry accounting programs (such as GnuCash).

1 Why Compile from Source?

The version of Grisbi in the official Salix repositories is outdated (1.2.2, released in April 2019). The SlackBuild also uses the old 1.2.2 version. The current stable version of the program is 2.0.5 (released in August 2021). There is not a Flatpak available, so if you want to run the most recent version, you must compile it yourself from source.

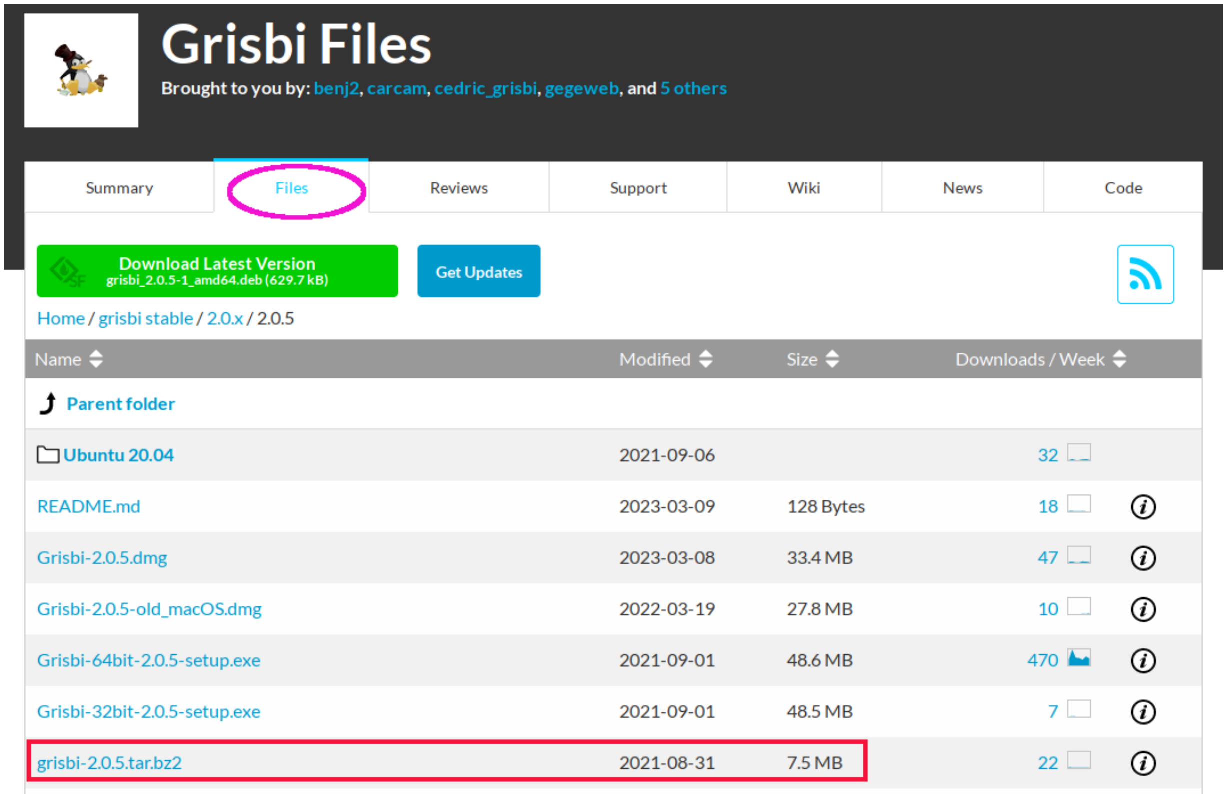
The process is not as intimidating as it sounds; I was pleasantly surprised that I was able to compile Grisbi 2.0.5 without much difficulty on Salix 15.0

(Xfce DE). If you are interested in trying, here is a summary of the steps that I followed.

2 Download the Source Files

First, download the `grisbi-2.0.5.tar.bz2` file [7.5 MB in size, modified on 2021-08-31] from Grisbi's SourceForge website:

`https://sourceforge.net/projects/grisbi/files/grisbi%20stable/2.0.x/2.0.5/`


Grisbi Files
Brought to you by: benj2, carcam, cedric_grisbi, gegeweb, and 5 others
Summary
Files
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Code
Download Latest Version
grisbi_2.0.5-1_amd64.deb (629.7 kB)
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Home / grisbi stable / 2.0.x / 2.0.5

Name	Modified	Size	Downloads / Week
Parent folder			
Ubuntu 20.04	2021-09-06		32
README.md	2023-03-09	128 Bytes	18
Grisbi-2.0.5.dmg	2023-03-08	33.4 MB	47
Grisbi-2.0.5-old_macOS.dmg	2022-03-19	27.8 MB	10
Grisbi-64bit-2.0.5-setup.exe	2021-09-01	48.6 MB	470
Grisbi-32bit-2.0.5-setup.exe	2021-09-01	48.5 MB	7
grisbi-2.0.5.tar.bz2	2021-08-31	7.5 MB	22

3 Move File to `/home` Directory and Extract It

Move the tarball (i.e., the Grisbi `.tar` file) that you just downloaded to your `/home` folder. Then, use Engrampa Archive Manager — or a similar utility — to extract the compressed files.

4 Install Required Packages and Dependencies

Unlike Debian-based distros with their `build-essential` tools package, Slackware and Salix come with many core development tools installed by default. Therefore you will not need to manually install packages such as `autoconf`, `automake`, `make` and `binutils`.

Install the following packages, if they are not already present on your system:

Package Name	**Version No.**	**Purpose**
libgsf	1.14.48	
glib2	2.70.3	
glibc	2.33	
goffice	0.10.51	
gtk+3	3.24.31	
libofx	0.9.11	([*optional*] for `ofx` support)
libxml2	2.9.14	
intltool	0.51.0	
imagemagick	7.1.0	(needed for the `make` utility)

> **Note:**
> The list above is not exhaustive, as some of these packages will pull in dependencies of their own.

The method below does not follow the "correct," Slackware-standard way of building a package, but it works as a quick-and-dirty solution.[1]

5 Compile the Source Code

Now you are ready to compile Grisbi's source code.

Open a Terminal and navigate to the extracted Grisbi folder in your `/home` directory:

```
$ cd grisbi-2.0.5
```

Type:

[1] For more information, see the Slackware Documentation Project's "Building A Package": http://docs.slackware.com/howtos:slackware_admin:building_a_package

```
$ sudo ./configure
```

(Remember to include the initial period and slash ("./") before the `configure` command.)

This step will perform checks / tasks that will allow your system to compile the software successfully. If the configure script detects a missing package, it will notify you of what to do at the end of the script. You will need to install any missing packages that the configure script has detected.

After this step completes, you will see this closing stanza:

```
Build with libxml2:        yes
Build with OpenSSL:        yes
Build with OFX plugin:     yes
Build with goffice:        yes
Build win32:               no
Build gtk_mac_integration: no
CUnit/unit tests support:  no
Install french user doc:   yes
Enable Debug:              no
Enable Early Debug:        no
Enable Config file:        yes
Enable fail on error:      no
Enable nooptim:            no
Compiler flags:            -g -O2
```

Then, issue the command:

```
$ sudo make
```

The `make` command will actually begin compiling Grisbi. This will take some time to complete, depending on your available system resources. In my case, the compilation finished in ca. six minutes on my old Dell Latitude E4300 laptop (Intel Core2 Duo P9400 CPU with 8 GB RAM and an SSD).

The final step is to install your now-compiled Grisbi package with the command:

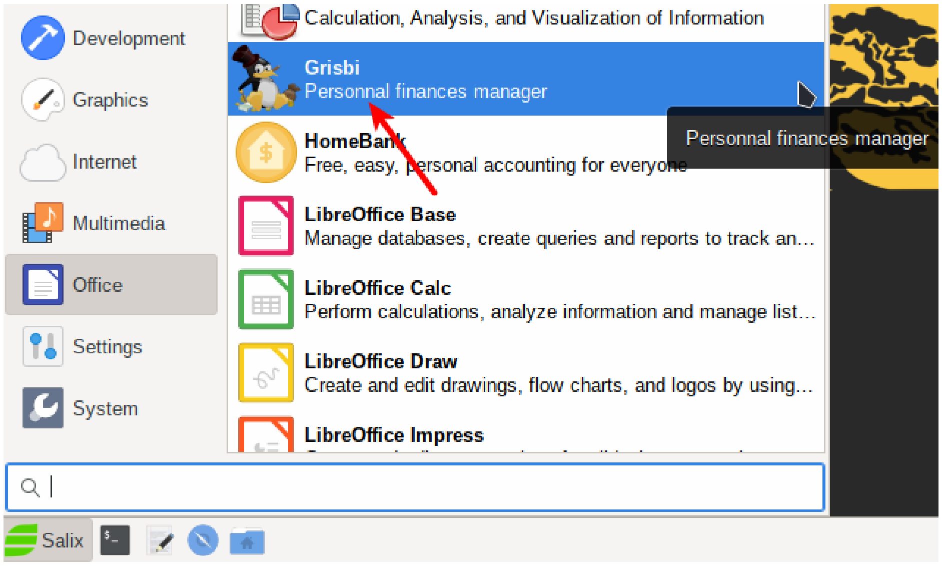
```
$ sudo make install
```

The finished package was installed to the `/usr/local/bin` directory.

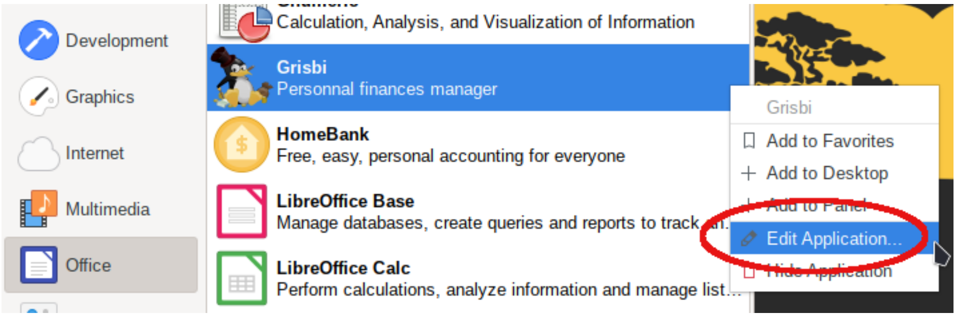
6 Edit the Menu Entry to Fix Typo

I noticed that there is a minor typo in Grisbi's package description in the Xfce Whisker menu: "Personnal [sic] finances manager." If that bothers you, it is easy to fix.

- Look under the `Salix` menu > `Office` category > `Grisbi`:


Development
Graphics
Internet
Multimedia
Office
Settings
System
Calculation, Analysis, and Visualization of Information
Grisbi
Personnal finances manager
Personnal finances manager
HomeBank
Free, easy, personal accounting for everyone
LibreOffice Base
Manage databases, create queries and reports to track an…
LibreOffice Calc
Perform calculations, analyze information and manage list…
LibreOffice Draw
Create and edit drawings, flow charts, and logos by using…
LibreOffice Impress
Salix

- Right-click on Grisbi's entry and choose `Edit Application`:


Development
Graphics
Internet
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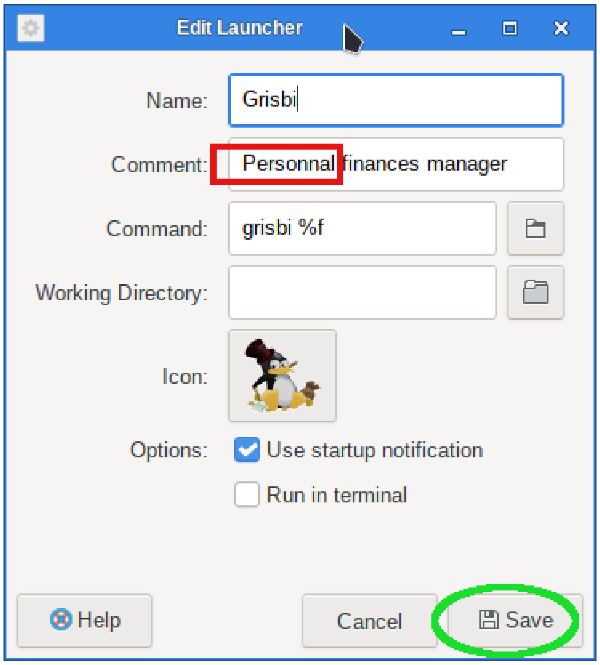
Grisbi
Personnal finances manager
HomeBank
Free, easy, personal accounting for everyone
LibreOffice Base
Manage databases, create queries and reports to track an…
LibreOffice Calc
Perform calculations, analyze information and manage list…
Grisbi
Add to Favorites
Add to Desktop
Add to Panel
Edit Application…
Hide Application

- In the "`Edit Launcher`" dialog's `Comment` box, delete the extra "n" in "Personnal":



Edit Launcher

Name: Grisbi

Comment: Personnal finances manager

Command: grisbi %f

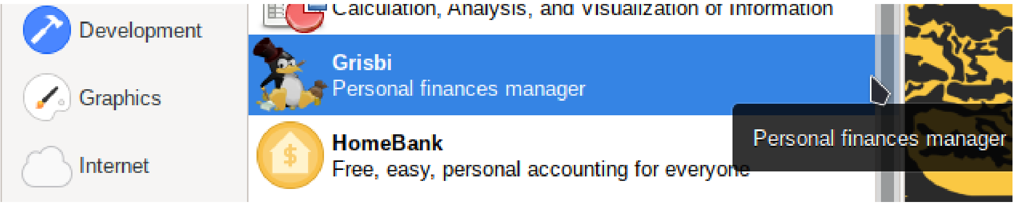
Working Directory:

Icon:

Options: ☑ Use startup notification

□ Run in terminal

- Click on the `Save` button.
- After making this edit, Grisbi's package description should now be correct:



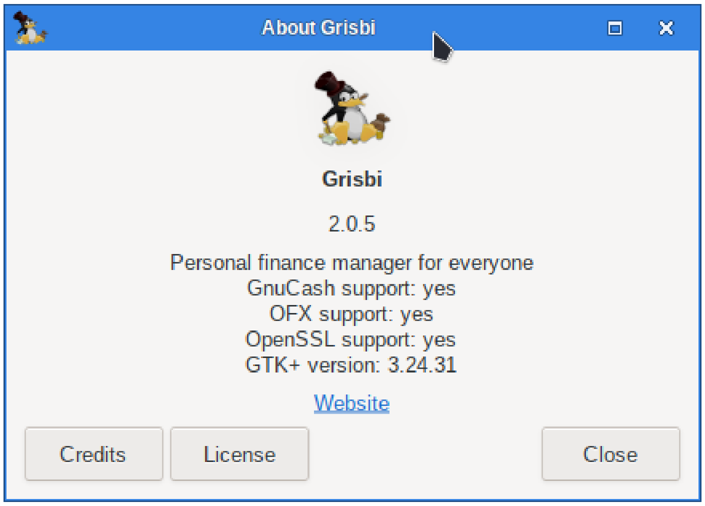
Calculation, Analysis, and Visualization of Information

Grisbi
Personal finances manager

HomeBank
Free, easy, personal accounting for everyone

Personal finances manager

Good luck compiling and Have fun with Grisbi!



Grisbi

2.0.5

Personal finance manager for everyone
GnuCash support: yes
OFX support: yes
OpenSSL support: yes
GTK+ version: 3.24.31

Website