

Distro : **EndeavourOS**
Wikipedia : <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/EndeavourOS>
Website : <https://endeavouros.com/>
Twitter : <https://twitter.com/OsEndeavour>
Status : May 2021
Author : [summertime tech](#)
CPU : Tested on x86 – 64bits

One Installable .iso for all desktops:

- [endeavouros-2021.02.03-x86_64.iso](#)
- Xfce is default desktop install via offline
- Other desktops install via Online netinstall
- Including Update

Conclusion:

- Because of the built-in(*) telemetry this distro is only suitable for use in DEV- & TEST environments. At this moment there is no .iso without telemetry, so distro is not useable in ACC- & PROD environments.
- (*) if it was not built-in but "only" in Repo there are methods to block specific packages: [<read article>](#) ; for long-term solution ask/tweet distro to remove telemetry package from Repo
- Distro is not "Privacy by Design" ; Overview & Suggestions for improvements: [<read here>](#)

Cat.0 Telemetry

- Xfce
See Cat.3 & 4
- MATE
See Cat.3 & 4
- KDE
See Cat.3 & 4
- GNOME
See Cat.3 & 4
- Cinnamon
See Cat.3 & 4
- Budgie
See Cat.3 & 4
- Deepin
See Cat.3 & 4
- i3-wm
See Cat.3 & 4
- LXQt
See Cat.3 & 4

Cat.1 Telemetry

- N/A

Cat.2 Telemetry

- N/A

Cat.3 Telemetry

- Xfce
 - Log Tools; via Menu; App System; App EndeavourOS Log Tools with range of options including "Remove personal data from logs" default <off>; User set to <on>; option "Send logs to internet" default <off>; User don't change. See screenshots below and Annex-1 Img6 & Img7
 - Log Tools can't be deleted.
- MATE
 - Idem Xfce
- KDE
 - Idem Xfce
- GNOME
 - Idem Xfce
- Cinnamon
 - Idem Xfce
- Budgie
 - Idem Xfce
- Deepin
 - Idem Xfce
- I3-wm
 - Idem Xfce
- LXQt
 - Idem Xfce

Cat.4 Telemetry

- Xfcx
 - KUserFeedback telemetry in Repo; not installed; See Annex-1 Img2.
 - If users install an KDE App like Kate or Dolphin then forced dependencies resulting KUserFeedback telemetry to be installed & active; due to forced dependencies this telemetry can't be separately deleted; see screenshots below and Annex-1 Img4 & Img5
- MATE
 - Idem Xfce
- KDE
 - KUserFeedback telemetry engine built-in & can't be deleted, uninstalled or removed or installation freezes beyond repair.
 - Via Menu; in App System; option User Feedback; parameter Plasma default <off> ; Although "off" engine will function in background gathering information and stored in /home/user/.config/kde.org/files* for future use; see screenshots below.

- GNOME
→ Idem Xfce
- Cinnamon
→ Idem Xfce
- Budgie
→ Idem Xfce
- Deepin
→ Idem Xfce
- i3-wm
→ Idem Xfce
- LXQt
→ Idem Xfce

Remarks:

- ➔ Instructed by KDE-org all distros desktops have to create forced dependencies with cat.4 KUserFeedback telemetry if user is to install KDE software like Kate or Dolphin. And EndeavourOS complied and made this forced dependency. See screenshots & annex-1 below.
- ➔ EndeavourOS all desktops have cat.4 KuserFeedback telemetry in Repo and can be installed (not advised) and afterwards be removed without freezing the system. But in KDE desktop cat.4 KuserFeedback telemetry is mandatory and if removed the system freezes beyond repair!
- ➔ Installing OS on multi boot bare metal on one disc will cause GRUB o fail and after that none of the distros can boot.

Linux distros categorized:

– [Cat.0 is having no telemetry](#)



Zero telemetry is the reason for companies, governments, organisations and users all over the world to adopt & migrate to "Privacy by Design" Linux.

– [Cat.1 software for location telemetry built-in](#)



As is downloadable .iso has Usage statistics telemetry and is not suitable for Production Environments & Personal use. Installation need change of settings or Command Line Interface CLI & privacy health check after Updates.

– [Cat.2 is Cat.1 & user survey telemetry built-in](#)



As is downloadable .iso has Survey telemetry and is not suitable for Production Environments & Personal use. Installation need change of settings or Command Line Interface CLI & privacy health check after Updates.

– [Cat.3 is Cat.2 & QI collect & analyze user data telemetry built-in](#)



Quality Improvement (QI) via collect & analyze user data built-in downloadable .iso is not suitable for Production environment & Personal use. Installation need change of settings or Command Line Interface CLI & privacy health check after Updates.

– [Cat.4 above & track/trace user activity & content telemetry built-in](#)



Distro downloadable .iso not suitable for Production Environments & Personal use. Installation has sophisticated non deleteable non stoppable "spy on user" engine. Either built-in (KDE) or in repo's.

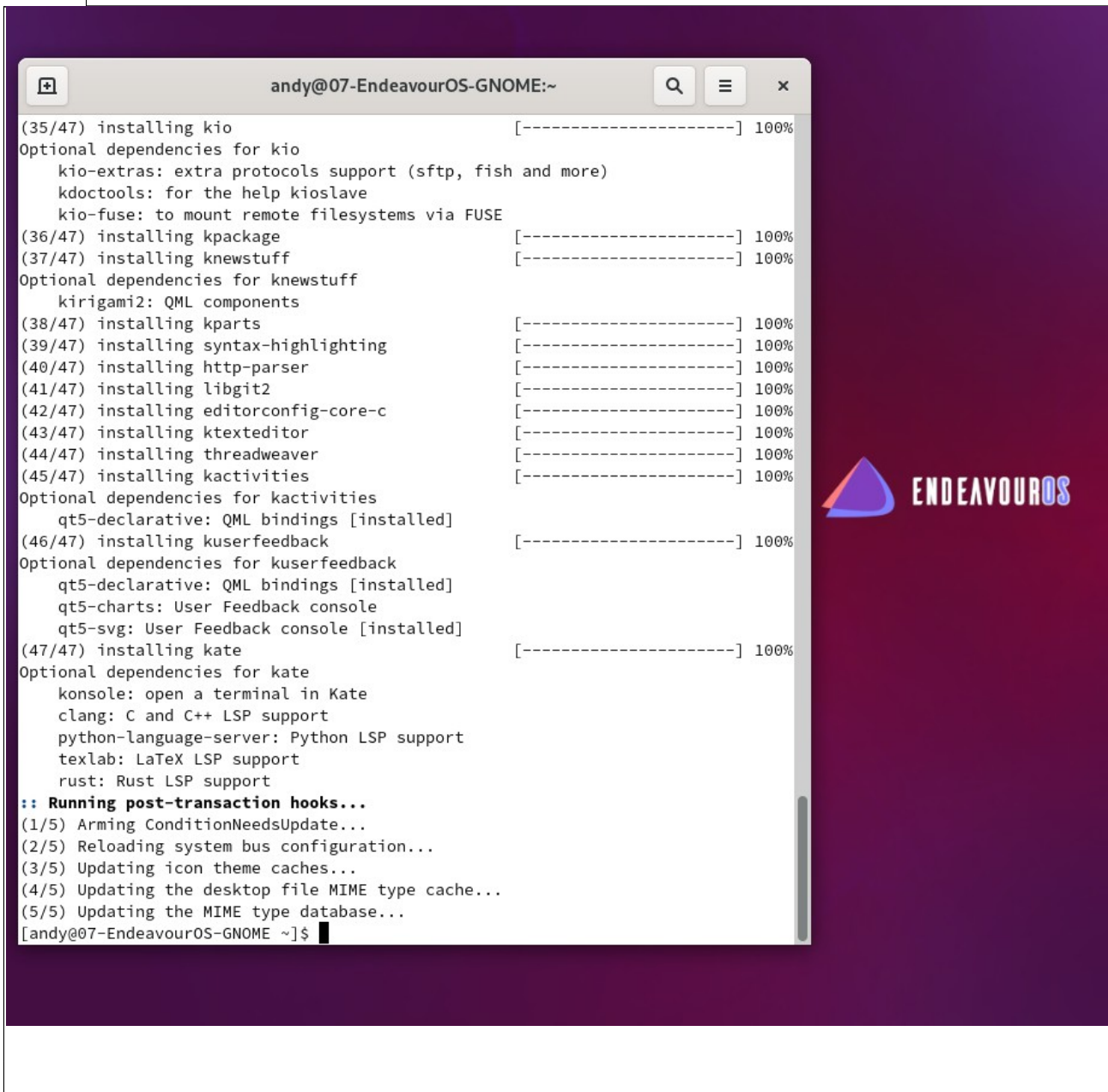
EndeavourOS App Log Tools range of options including "Remove personal data from logs" default <off>; User set to <on>; option "Send logs to internet" default <off>; User don't change. See screenshot below in this document.

Selecting any of the boxes below (except the last two) will add that particular log to a common log file (**\$HOME/eos-log-tool.logs**). Once you have selected the desired boxes, including 'Send logs to internet', click the OK button and you will receive a URL that tells the internet address of the logs.


Note1: personal data is automatically removed from logs before sending to internet.
 Note2: remove personal data can be removed from the log file by selecting '**Remove personal data from logs**'.
 Note3: a list of URLs is stored into folder **\$HOME/.config/eos-log-tool**.

Select	Log contents	Description of action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	journalctl -b -0	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	journalctl -b -1	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	journalctl -b -2	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	systemd-analyze blame	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	lspci -vnn	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	lsusb	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	hwinfo --short	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	EndeavourOS install log	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	~/.xsession-errors	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	/var/log/Xorg.0.log	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	/var/log/lightdm/lightdm.log	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	/var/log/lightdm/x-0.log	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	/etc/fstab	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	/boot/grub/grub.cfg	Save this log
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remove personal data from logs	Rename personal names to generic names
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Send logs to internet	Send gathered logs to the internet (personal info always removed)

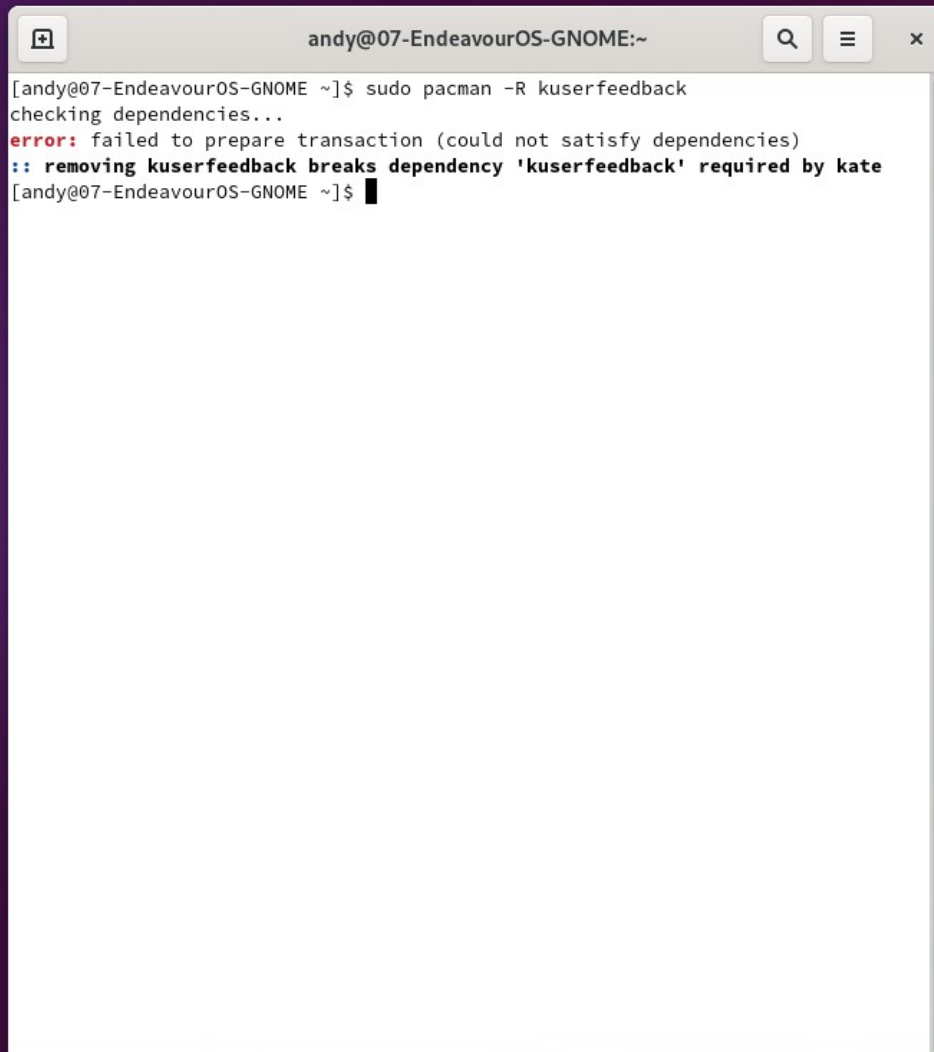
KUserFeedback telemetry in Repo; not installed. But if users install an KDE App like Kate or Dolphin then forced dependencies resulting KUserFeedback telemetry to be installed; can't be deleted.



```
andy@07-EndeavourOS-GNOME:~
(35/47) installing kio [-----] 100%
Optional dependencies for kio
  kio-extras: extra protocols support (sftp, fish and more)
  kdoctools: for the help kioslave
  kio-fuse: to mount remote filesystems via FUSE
(36/47) installing kpackage [-----] 100%
(37/47) installing knewstuff [-----] 100%
Optional dependencies for knewstuff
  kirigami2: QML components
(38/47) installing kparts [-----] 100%
(39/47) installing syntax-highlighting [-----] 100%
(40/47) installing http-parser [-----] 100%
(41/47) installing libgit2 [-----] 100%
(42/47) installing editorconfig-core-c [-----] 100%
(43/47) installing ktexteditor [-----] 100%
(44/47) installing threadweaver [-----] 100%
(45/47) installing kactivities [-----] 100%
Optional dependencies for kactivities
  qt5-declarative: QML bindings [installed]
(46/47) installing kuserfeedback [-----] 100%
Optional dependencies for kuserfeedback
  qt5-declarative: QML bindings [installed]
  qt5-charts: User Feedback console
  qt5-svg: User Feedback console [installed]
(47/47) installing kate [-----] 100%
Optional dependencies for kate
  konsole: open a terminal in Kate
  clang: C and C++ LSP support
  python-language-server: Python LSP support
  texlab: LaTeX LSP support
  rust: Rust LSP support
:: Running post-transaction hooks...
(1/5) Arming ConditionNeedsUpdate...
(2/5) Reloading system bus configuration...
(3/5) Updating icon theme caches...
(4/5) Updating the desktop file MIME type cache...
(5/5) Updating the MIME type database...
[andy@07-EndeavourOS-GNOME ~]$
```



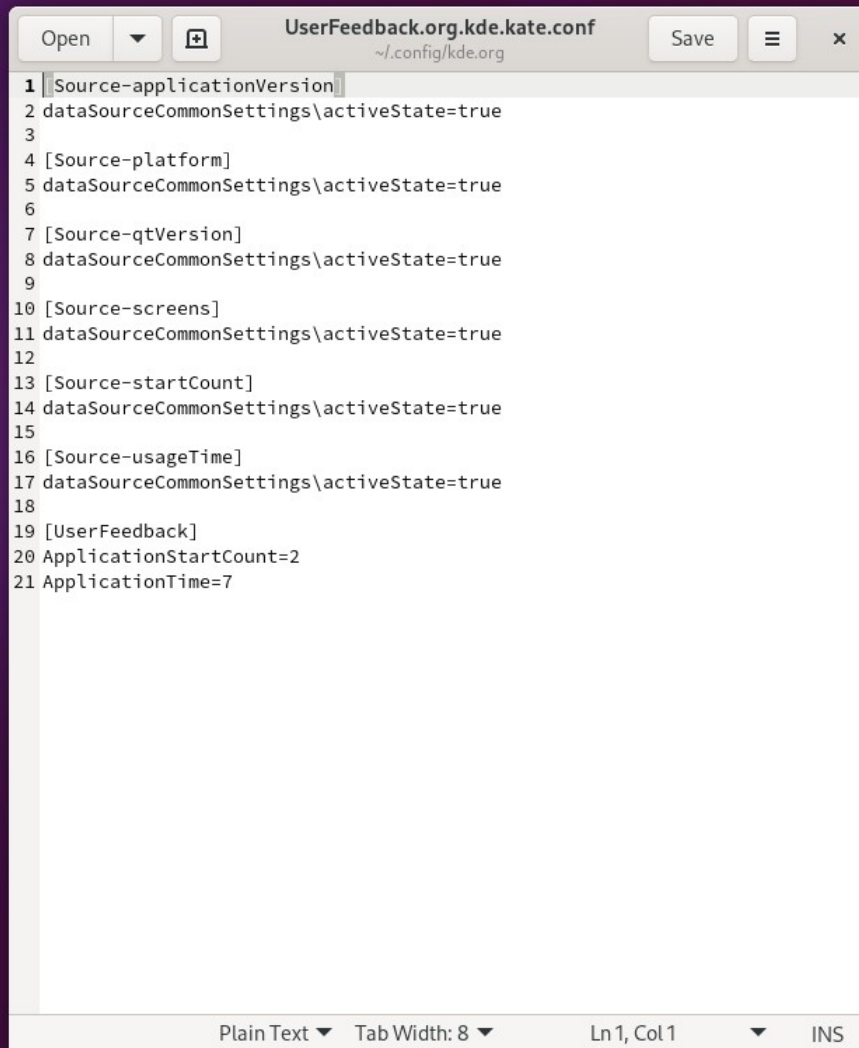
After KDE Kate "dependencies"-install the telemetry can't be removed.



```
andy@07-EndeavourOS-GNOME:~  
[andy@07-EndeavourOS-GNOME ~]$ sudo pacman -R kuserfeedback  
checking dependencies...  
error: failed to prepare transaction (could not satisfy dependencies)  
:: removing kuserfeedback breaks dependency 'kuserfeedback' required by kate  
[andy@07-EndeavourOS-GNOME ~]$
```



After KDE Kate "dependencies"-install the telemetry start working by store data in logfiles



```
1 [Source-applicationVersion]
2 dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true
3
4 [Source-platform]
5 dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true
6
7 [Source-qtVersion]
8 dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true
9
10 [Source-screens]
11 dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true
12
13 [Source-startCount]
14 dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true
15
16 [Source-usageTime]
17 dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true
18
19 [UserFeedback]
20 ApplicationStartCount=2
21 ApplicationTime=7
```



When installing KDE the KuserFeedback telemetry is present, working and not deletable

The screenshot shows a KDE desktop environment. In the background, the Dolphin file manager is open to the directory `Home > .config > kde.org`. It displays a list of files:

Name	Size	Modified
UserFeedback.org.kde.dolp....conf	617 B	20-03-2021 14:56
UserFeedback.org.kde.kate.conf	437 B	20-03-2021 14:58
UserFeedback.org.kde.plas....conf	39 B	20-03-2021 14:18

In the foreground, a KWrite window titled `UserFeedback.org.kde.kate.conf — KWrite` is open, showing the following configuration text:

```
dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true

[Source-platform]
dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true

[Source-qtVersion]
dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true

[Source-screens]
dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true

[Source-startCount]
dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true

[Source-usageTime]
dataSourceCommonSettings\activeState=true

[UserFeedback]
ApplicationStartCount=2
ApplicationTime=14
```

The status bar at the bottom of the KWrite window shows: `Line 1, Column 1`, `INSERT`, `en_US`, `Soft Tabs: 4`, `UTF-8`, and `Normal`.

The EndeavourOS logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the desktop background.

Annex-1

