

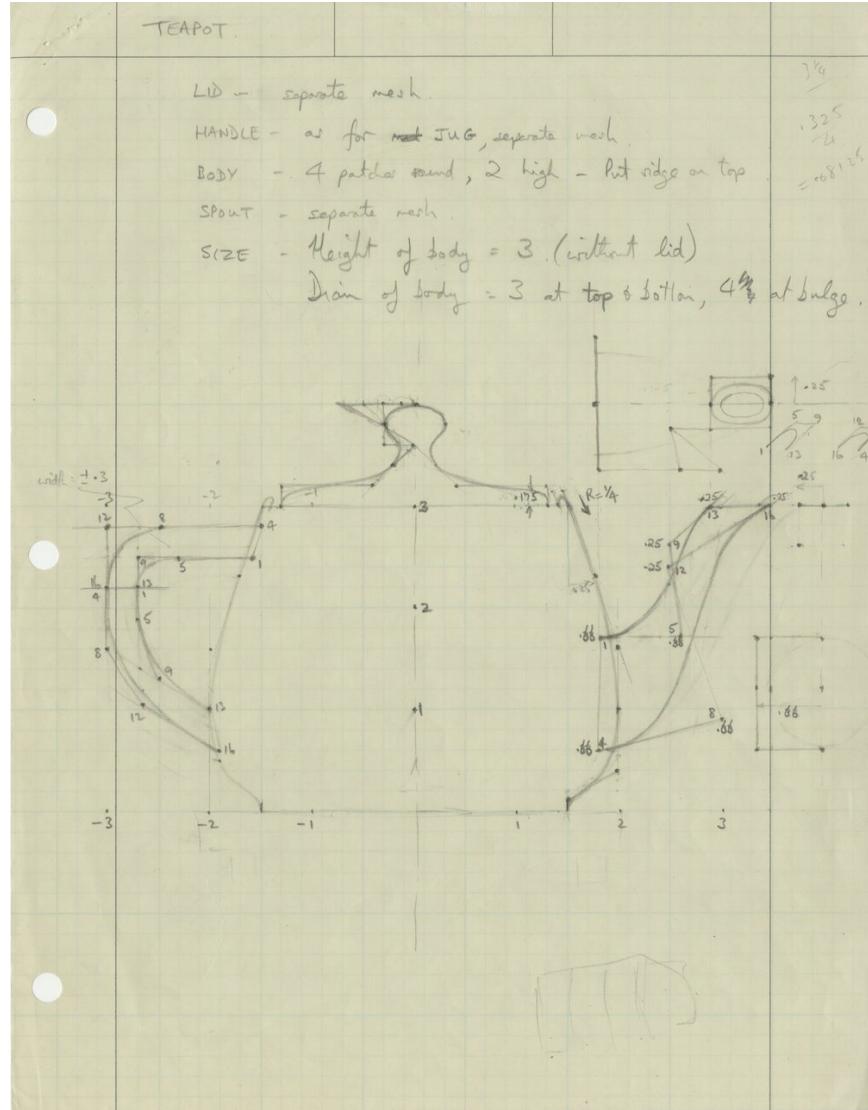
# **UNIX v4**

**the tape and early UNIX history**

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aap

# Timeline of the UNIX v4 tape

june 1974	sent from Ken Thompson to Martin Newell held onto by Jay Lepreau
28 july 2025	found by Aleks Maricq
18 dec 2025	driven to CHM by Jon Duerig
19 dec 2025	read and uploaded to archive.org by Al Kossow, Len Shustek, Thalia Archibald
20 dec 2025	booted on emulator by yours truly
24 dec 2025	booted on real PDP-11/45 by Jacob Ritorto
26 dec 2025	booted on real PDP-11/40 by Ashlin Inwood

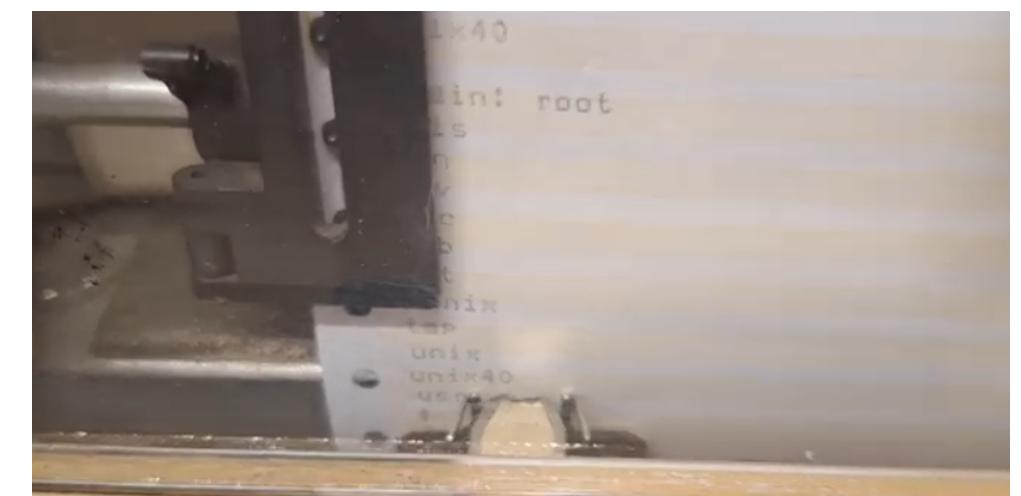


**k**  
**unix**  
**mem = 64530**

```

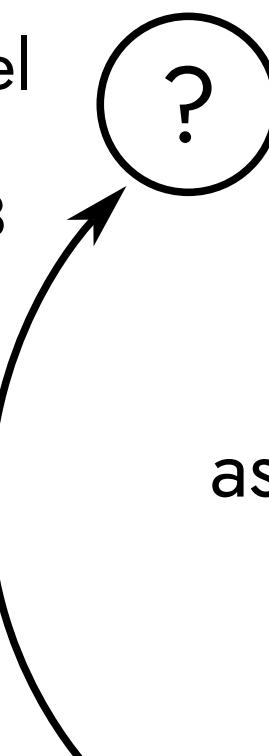
login: root
# date
Wed Jun 12 19:54:30 EDT 1974
# who
root      tty8 Jun 12 19:54
# ls
bin
dev
etc
lib
mnt
tmp
unix
usr
#
login:

```



	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5	v6	...	v7
manual	nov 71	jun 72	feb 73	nov 73	jun 74	may 75		jan 79
typeset		roff				troff/nroff		
hw	PDP-11/20		PDP-11/45	PDP-11/40				
number	1?	10	16	>20	>50	(55)	(>600)	
kernel		assembly				C		
bits	kernel source		nsys C kernel (pipes tbd!)	?	v4 dist jun 74	v5 dist nov 74 mar 75	v6 dist may 75 oct 75	
	user binaries		pipes /usr/bin					
lang.	B	NB	C	C structs	asm	C		
	/ 1 mb	/ 1 mb	/ 1 mb	/usr 2½ mb			chdir → cd	
	/usr 2½ mb	/usr 2½ mb	/sys 2½ mb	/usr 2½ mb			cp -r	
				/sys 2½ mb			tar	
				/crp 2½ mb			sed	
							awk	
						Lions' book	Bourne sh	
								...

first working  
kernel in C !!



# Links

the archived tape

[https://archive.org/details/utah\\_unix\\_v4\\_raw](https://archive.org/details/utah_unix_v4_raw)

11/45 boot

<https://youtu.be/zh-9rBYmGow>

11/40 boot

<https://youtu.be/FdpGGGnA3Kw>

my stuff

<http://squoze.net/UNIX/v4/>

more to come!

**Thanks to everyone involved!**