Very basic install pointer.

I'm going to stick to installing Ubuntu, not that there are not lots of other flavours of Linux because there are. See distrowatch

Before I write more about installing Ubuntu, there is also the option to run Linux from a Live CD or USB memory stick, you may wish to do this to a: try before you buy! Or b: Run a ephemeral copy or say *Lubuntu* to provide a secure environment to carry out Internet banking.

Option 1

You have run Ubuntu from a Live CD or memory stick, all your hardware is supported and you want to change over to Ubuntu replacing windows entirely.

- 1.1 Back up your private data, all your photo's documents, export shortcuts from your browser, backup email etc. Make sure you backups are valid and accessible; It's no good backing up if cant restore....
- 1.2 Boot from your Ubuntu media. On very old machines with very limited hardware the installer may not have enough memory to run but this will only apply to very old hardware that hasn't been running a recent MS Windows.
    - 1.2.1   Decide on a partitioning scheme, there are lots of possibilities here but I would place first among them; do you want a separate home partition?
- 1.3 Copy back your backed up data, set up email etc
- 1.4 Your done.

Option 2 You want to run Windows and Ubuntu

- 2.1.1   Install Wubi and run Linux from within Widows (why it's just not natural)
- 2.1.2   2.2 do step 1.1
- 2.2   Resize the existing Windows partition, one of the specialised Linux distributions that provides sets of tools for bending MS Windows to your will, is probably where   to start.
- 2.3   Do step 1.2 and the Ubuntu installer will sort out the dual booting issue.
- 2.4   Do step 1.3 and you are at 1.4