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Subject: On Unix IDL CD must mount with exec for install to work  
Posted by [John McLeod](#) on Tue, 09 Aug 2005 16:52:18 GMT  
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Hi all,

Just had a similar problem as Mathieu Malaterre on 01Aug05 with "Installing IDL 6.1 on debian linux 2".

I was installing the new Unix IDL 6.2 on the UBUNTU debian-based Linux distribution. UBUNTU and debian configure the mount command so that CDs mount "noexec" by default. So executable files on the CDs can't be run. The IDL CD must be mounted with "exec" for the IDL install to work. I have submitted a support incident to RSI asking them to make this more prominent in their documentation.

Start gory details ...

After mounting the Unix IDL 6.2 CD on a UBUNTU Linux workstation with the default mount command

```
# mount /cdrom
```

the IDL installer failed for me with the following error messages:

```
# /bin/sh /cdrom/xinstall.sh
/cdrom/xinstall.sh: line 307: /cdrom/install/xinstall/xinstall.linux.x86:
Permission denied
/cdrom/xinstall.sh: line 307: /cdrom/install/xinstall/xinstall.linux.x86:
Success
```

At first, I was completely baffled by this error, especially as the xinstall.linux.x86 file clearly had world read and executable.

This occurs because UBUNTU by default mounts CDs "noexec", which means : "Do not allow direct execution of any binaries on the mounted [CD] file system. (Until recently it was possible to run binaries anyway using a command like /lib/ld\*.so /mnt/binary. This trick fails since Linux 2.4.25 / 2.6.0.)"

The "noexec" on the CD filesystem can be confirmed using the mount command.

```
# mount
...
```

```
/dev/hda on /media/cdrom0 type iso9660 (ro,noexec,nosuid,nodev)
```

My UBUNTU behaved this way because the CD's fstab line omitted "exec" and the default is "noexec" (even though the info page for mount says otherwise).

```
$ grep cd /etc/fstab
```

```
/dev/hda    /media/cdrom0  udf,iso9660 ro,user,noauto 0    0
```

The IDL CD can be mounted with executable binaries either by adding exec to the above fstab line, e.g.

```
/dev/hda    /media/cdrom0  udf,iso9660 ro,user,noauto,exec 0    0
```

or by using a mount command that explicitly uses exec, e.g.

```
# mount -o ro,user,noauto,exec -t udf,iso9660 /dev/hda /media/cdrom0
```

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