
Subject: Re: Installing IDL 6.1 on debian linux 2
Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Mon, 01 Aug 2005 18:14:49 GMT
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```
> Attempt #1
> -----
> $ sudo su -                                     Password:
> testserver:~# cd /media/cdrom
> testserver:/media/cdrom# ls
> adobe apache flexlm info install xinstall.sh
> testserver:/media/cdrom# sh xinstall.sh
>
> You cannot run the Motif-based installer because your DISPLAY
> environment variable is not defined correctly or you are not
> running X Windows. Please define your display environment
> and execute this script again from a machine running X Windows.
>
> -----
> -> First problem, xinstall requires you to be logged as root (X
> session). There is no way a program can require such power (at least in
> a non microsoft world).
```

Have you actually tried setting the DISPLAY variable as the error message says? That should take care of the error.

Also, have you tried not making your su session a login shell? If you don't make it a login shell, your environmental variables should be carried over from your user session instead of setting new values for root. Hence, the DISPLAY variable will not be reset.

```
> Attempt #2
> -----
> testserver:/media/cdrom# logout
> mathieu@testserver $ sudo sh xinstall.sh
> /media/cdrom
> xinstall.sh: line 307: /media/cdrom/install/xinstall/xinstall.linux.x86:
> Permission denied
> xinstall.sh: line 307: /media/cdrom/install/xinstall/xinstall.linux.x86:
> Success
> -----
> -> Nothing happen. I don't know what the install is looking for but I
> have sudo power.
```

How is the CDROM mounted? Is it mounted with noexec? Have you looked at the script to see what's supposed to happen at 307?

```

> Attempt #3
> -----
> mathieu@testserver $ fakeroot sh xinstall.sh
> /media/cdrom
> xinstall.sh: line 307: /media/cdrom/install/xinstall/xinstall.linux.x86:
> Permission denied
> xinstall.sh: line 307: /media/cdrom/install/xinstall/xinstall.linux.x86:
> Success
> -----
> -> Same problem. Nothing happen.
>

```

Same answer, except what in the world is a "fakeroot"?

```

> Attempt #4
> -----
> mkdir /tmp/cdrom
> cp -r /media/cdrom /tmp/cdrom
> cd /tmp/cdrom
> sudo sh xinstall.sh
> -----
> -> Ok finally replicating cdrom onto /tmp fixes the problem.
>

```

Whatever works.

```

> The scripts are using an old fashion way to decompress tarballs:
>
>   zcat | tar xf -
>
> Therefore everytime a file is decompressed it gives me an error.
> For base1.tz, base2.tz, demo.tz, idl_help.tz, javab.tz
> I get:
>   tar: Read 6656 bytes from -
>
> I am guessing the error is ignored, but it would be nice that this would
> not be considered as an error.

```

The question is, does it work? If it works, then don't worry about it.

And there's nothing old-fashioned about zcat. It's just one of the gzip and gunzip family. Remember that it's the GNU version of tar that has the z option where you can tar and zip together. The tar program on other OSes, such as Solaris, don't have that option, so zcat and tar used in that way in the only was to decompress the file.

-Mike
