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Subject: Re: Linux Font Warning

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Fri, 30 Sep 2005 18:10:03 GMT

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Karl Schultz wrote:

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> On Fri, 30 Sep 2005 11:13:46 -0500, Michael Wallace wrote:
>
>> This isn't a big deal, but sometimes when I run IDL commands that bring
>> up a GUI, I get a warning about the fonts used. I just got this when I
>> ran ascii_template().
>>
>> Warning: Cannot convert string "courier*12" to type FontStruct
>>
>>
>> I've seen this thing happen before and it doesn't concern me at all, but
>> just wondering why I see it. It's curiosity more than anything else.
>>
>
> That's coming from an X toolkit, most likely Xt. You've got a resource
> set someplace that is referencing this font and that font isn't available
> or there is some other problem with it.
>
> You can issue:
>
> xrbdb -query
>
> to see what resources are in your resource database. Chances are this
> font name is used to set one of the resources. The resource name would be
> a big clue. But in general, you then would have to hunt around for the
> place/file that is setting the resource, and that can be tricky because it
> could be in any one of a number of places. There could be system-wide
> resource files, application-specific resource files, and your own
> resource files. If the resource is in a place that you can't change (or
> find), then you could try setting it yourself, overriding it, in your own
> resources to a value that works. That should get rid of the message.
```

Note: you can use xfontsel to find out what fonts are available on your system.

It's possible that what it should have been was  
-\*courier-\*-\*-\*12-\*-\*-\*-\*-. If you're willing to risk  
ambiguity, you can abbreviate it. On my system, xlsfonts  
"\*courier\*12-\*" lists the same 8 fonts as the full specification.  
However, the font specification can't be abbreviated to courier\*12.