
Subject: Error: X does not support locale C.
Posted by [cantrell](#) on Tue, 19 Jun 2007 15:37:55 GMT
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I have a FC5 machine with IDL Version 5.5a. When I try and run the help, it does not work.

IDL> ?
IDL> Error: X does not support locale C.

I have no idea what could be causing this. Any ideas?

-Justin

Subject: Re: Error: X does not support locale C.
Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Tue, 19 Jun 2007 20:41:51 GMT
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cantr...@chara.gsu.edu wrote:

> I have a FC5 machine with IDL Version 5.5a. When I try and run the
> help, it does not work.
>
> IDL> ?
> IDL> Error: X does not support locale C.
>
>
> I have no idea what could be causing this. Any ideas?

At the shell prompt, type

locale -a

Does that list include the 'C' locale?

Subject: Re: Error: X does not support locale C.
Posted by [cantrell](#) on Wed, 20 Jun 2007 15:17:13 GMT
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Subject: Re: Error: X does not support locale C.
Posted by [Luis Hector Peraza](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2007 08:48:22 GMT

On Jun 19, 5:37 pm, cantr...@chara.gsu.edu wrote:

```
> I have a FC5 machine with IDL Version 5.5a. When I try and run the
> help, it does not work.
>
> IDL> ?
> IDL> Error: X does not support locale C.
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> I have no idea what could be causing this. Any ideas?
>
> -Justin
```

Hello Justin,

I recently upgraded my Linux system and ended up with the same problem.

The newer distribution came with Xorg instead of XFree86, which places the configuration files into a different directory. The `idlhelp` program apparently searches for the `locale.alias` and `locale.dir` files only in the `/usr/X11R6/lib/X11/locale` directory, which was missing in the new distribution. The new location was `/usr/share/X11/locale`.

To solve the problem, I did the following:

```
cd /usr/X11R6/lib
ln -s /usr/share/X11 X11
```

The symbolic link allows `idlhelp` to find the necessary files. I suspect your case is similar, just look first for the X11 locale directory (it may also be under `/usr/share/X11`, under `/etc/X11`, or somewhere else; use the `find` command if necessary), then create the X11 link so it points to the whole X11 directory.

Additionally, I had to setup the `LANG` environment variable:

```
export LANG=en_US.ISO-8859-1
```

otherwise `idlhelp` would segfault.

Hope that helps.

Regards,
Hector.

Subject: Re: Error: X does not support locale C.
Posted by [cantrell](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2007 15:12:04 GMT
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On Jul 10, 4:48 am, Luis Hector Peraza <hper...@canberra.com> wrote:
> On Jun 19, 5:37 pm, cantr...@chara.gsu.edu wrote:
>
>> I have a FC5 machine with IDL Version 5.5a. When I try and run the
>> help, itdoesnotwork.
>
>> IDL> ?
>> IDL>Error:XdoesnotsupportlocaleC.
>
>> I have no idea what could be causing this. Any ideas?
>
>> -Justin
>
> Hello Justin,
>
> I recently upgraded my Linux system and ended up with the same
> problem.
> The newer distribution came with Xorg instead of XFree86, which places
> the configuration files into a different directory. The idlhelp
> program
> apparently searches for the locale.alias and locale.dir files only in
> the /usr/X11R6/lib/X11/locale directory, which was missing in the new
> distribution. The new location was /usr/share/X11/locale.
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> your case is similar, just look first for the X11locale directory (it
> may also be under /usr/share/X11, under /etc/X11, or somewhere else;
> use
> the find command if necessary), then create the X11 link so it points
> to the whole X11 directory.
>
> Additionally, I had to setup the LANG environment variable:
>
> export LANG=en_US.ISO-8859-1
>
> otherwise idlhelp would segfault.
>
> Hope that helps.
>

> Regards,
> Hector.

YES!! YES!! THIS WORKED!!! Thank you so much

-Justin

Subject: Re: Error: X does not support locale C.
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2007 15:43:56 GMT
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cantrell@chara.gsu.edu writes:

> YES!! YES!! THIS WORKED!!! Thank you so much

OK, as long as we are fixing things that have long
annoyed us, how about this.

For years my IDL Help has come up where I want it on
my right-hand monitor. (IDL runs on my left-hand monitor.)
About a month ago I dropped something on my desk and when
I reached to catch it, I hit some keys on my keyboard that
caused a lot of window flashing, etc. And now, whenever
I run the IDL Help, it comes up on my left-hand monitor. :-(

I drag it over where I want it, but when I close it and
start it up again, sure enough, back where I don't want
it. Clearly this is configurable. (Windows XP Pro) I've
tried everything I can think of, including dropping furniture
onto my keyboard, etc., but so far no luck whatsoever.

Anyone have any bright ideas about this?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
