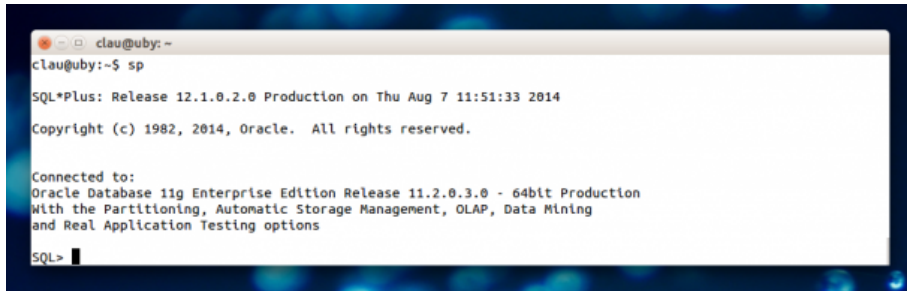




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## Installing Oracle SQL\*Plus client on Ubuntu

Claudiu Cristea · 8/7/2014



Tags: [Oracle](#) [client](#) [database](#) [Ubuntu](#)

Case type: [Best practices](#)

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### Problem

You need to connect with sqlplus command line tool to your Oracle database but there are no binaries packages available for Debian/Ubuntu.

### Solution

Convert and install from Oracle Instantclient RPM files. If case, tune your installation to correctly access the Oracle client libraries.

### Download

You'll need at least three RPM files. Go to <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/database/features/instant-client/index...> and, once you have accepted the "License Agreement", download "Basic", "SQL\*Plus" and the "SDK" RPMs.

In my case (Ubuntu 14.04 LTS, Intel on 64-bit) my downloaded files were:

- oracle-instantclient12.1-sqlplus-12.1.0.2.0-1.x86\_64.rpm
- oracle-instantclient12.1-basic-12.1.0.2.0-1.x86\_64.rpm
- oracle-instantclient12.1-basic-12.1.0.2.0-1.x86\_64.rpm

### Convert and Install

In order to convert from .rpm to .deb , you'll need [alien](#):

```
$ sudo apt-get install alien
```

Now convert and install the packages in this order:

```
$ sudo alien -i oracle-instantclient12.1-sqlplus-12.1.0.2.0-1.x86_64.rpm
$ sudo alien -i oracle-instantclient12.1-basic-12.1.0.2.0-1.x86_64.rpm
$ sudo alien -i oracle-instantclient12.1-devel-12.1.0.2.0-1.x86_64.rpm
```

### Test & Fix

Test your Oracle client. User either `sqlplus` either `sqlplus64` depending on your platform:

```
$ sqlplus64 username/password@//dbhost:1521/SID
```

If sqlplus yields of a missing `libaio.so.1` file, run:

```
$ sudo apt-get install libaio1
```

If you get the next message, then you need to instruct sqlplus to use the proper library:

```
sqlplus64: error while loading shared libraries: libsqlplus.so: cannot open shared object file: No such file or directory
```

To do so, first find the location of Oracle libraries. The path should be something like `/usr/lib/oracle/<version>/client(64)/lib/`. In my case (Ubuntu 14.04 LTS, Intel on 64-bit), it was `/usr/lib/oracle/12.1/client64/lib/`.

Now, add this path to the system library list. Create and edit a new file:

```
$ sudo nano /etc/ld.so.conf.d/oracle.conf
```

Add inside the path:

```
/usr/lib/oracle/12.1/client64/lib/
```

Run now the dynamic linker run-time bindings utility:

```
$ sudo ldconfig
```

For other errors when trying to run sqlplus, please consult the [Ubuntu help page](#).

## Wait! History? Auto-completion?

The weird thing about SQL\*Plus is that it doesn't provide history and auto-completion like the MySQL client does. Here comes [rlwrap](#), the "readline wrapper" — a small utility that uses the GNU readline library to allow the editing of keyboard input for any command.

Installing rlwrap on Ubuntu is simple:

```
$ sudo apt-get install rlwrap
```

Now you can run SQL\*Plus wrapped with rlwrap:

```
$ rlwrap sqlplus64 username/password@//dbhost:1521/SID
```

Now you have line commands history in sqlplus. Nice :)

But what about auto-completion? Well, that needs some more workingaround and is not in the scope of this post. But you can check [this post](#) and figure a way to add tab completion to SQL\*Plus.

It's time to make you life easy by adding an alias to `.bashrc`. Just ad this line:

```
alias sp='rlwrap sqlplus64 username/password@//dbhost:1521/SID'
```

and now you can simply use:

```
$ sp
```

to connect to your database.

Enjoy!

## Resources

- <https://help.ubuntu.com/community/Oracle%20Instant%20Client>
- [http://www.idevelopment.info/data/Oracle/DBA\\_tips/SQL\\_PLUS/SQLPLUS\\_8.shtml](http://www.idevelopment.info/data/Oracle/DBA_tips/SQL_PLUS/SQLPLUS_8.shtml)
- <http://mikesmithers.wordpress.com/2013/07/06/simple-pleasures-rlwrap-and...>



Join the discussion...

**Maciej Szewczyk** • 3 years ago

Thanks!

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Kaboos Kam** • a year ago

thank you

^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**rain** • 2 years ago

I found error in my ubuntu like this :

root@rain-X450LCP:~# sqlplus64 myUsername/myPassword@//host/sid

SQL\*Plus: Release 12.1.0.2.0 Production on Thu Mar 12 12:55:35 2015

Copyright (c) 1982, 2014, Oracle. All rights reserved.

ERROR:

ORA-12514: TNS:listener does not currently know of service requested in connect descriptor

Enter user-name: ^C

root@rain-X450LCP:~#

do you know how to solve it...?

Thanks.

^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Luis Alberto Romero Calderon** • 2 years ago

Thanks a lot friend :')

^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Guest** • 3 years ago

Awesome-Thanks a lot!

SQLPlus is installed, but I've got no idea what the username/password is.

^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Claudiu Cristea** Mod → Guest • 2 years ago

Again. This is just a client. To connect to Oracle ask the database administrator for user and password (together with all connection info you need).

^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Arjun Mayilvaganan** • 3 years ago

I am a new user to oracle sqlplus. I successfully installed it as per this guide, a 64 bit version on 14.04 64 bit Ubuntu machine. But, i didn't know to configure the username and password to work on the local machine to use it personally for practice purposes.

Can you please help me from here?

^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Claudiu Cristea** Mod → Arjun Mayilvaganan • 3 years ago

You probably need to ask the Oracle DBA to create for you an user/password. SQL\*Plus is just a client that allows you to remotely connect to an Oracle server.

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Arjun Mayilvaganan** → Claudiu Cristea • 3 years ago

much thanks, Cristea! :)

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Ashish** → Claudiu Cristea • 2 years ago

how to ask Oracle DBA to create a new user/password

^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Claudiu Cristea** Mod → Ashish • 2 years ago


DBA = Database administrator. You'll need to contact him.

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