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Linux: Find Out If a Particular Driver / Feature Compiled Into Running Kernel or Not

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[1]

Q. I know how to find out information about [compiled driver under FreeBSD kernel](#) [2]. But, how do I find out if a Particular feature, driver or filesystem support is compiled into my running Linux kernel or not? How do I find out if DMA support is compiled into my kernel?

A. Current Linux kernel configuration is stored in `.config` file or `config-$(uname -r)` file:
[a] `/boot/config-$(uname -r)` or `/boot/config-$(uname -r)*`: Automatically generated kernel config file. This file present under almost all Linux distros including RHEL / CentOS / Fedora / Debian / Ubuntu Linux.

[b] `/usr/src/kernels/$(uname -r)-$(uname -m)/.config` or `/usr/src/linux-2.6.N/.config`: Current kernel config file.

If there is not a `/usr/src/kernels/$(uname -r)-$(uname -m)/` directory on your system, then the kernel source has not been installed. Use `apt-get` or `yum` command to install kernel source.

Find out if DMA support compiled or not, enter:

```
grep -i DMA .config
```

OR

```
grep -i DMA /boot/config-$(uname -r)*
```

Sample output:

```
CONFIG_GENERIC_ISA_DMA=y
CONFIG_ISA_DMA_API=y
CONFIG_BLK_DEV_IDEDMA_PCI=y
# CONFIG_BLK_DEV_IDEDMA_FORCED is not set
CONFIG_IDEDMA_PCI_AUTO=y
# CONFIG_IDEDMA_ONLYDISK is not set
# CONFIG_HPT34X_AUTODMA is not set
CONFIG_BLK_DEV_IDEDMA=y
# CONFIG_IDEDMA_IVB is not set
CONFIG_IDEDMA_AUTO=y
CONFIG SCSI_SYM53C8XX_DMA_ADDRESSING_MODE=1
CONFIG_PDC_ADMA=m
# CONFIG_PATA_OPTIDMA is not set
CONFIG_I2O_EXT_ADAPTEC_DMA64=y
CONFIG_BCM43XX_DMA=y
CONFIG_BCM43XX_DMA_AND_PIO_MODE=y
# CONFIG_BCM43XX_DMA_MODE is not set
CONFIG_CARDMAN_4000=m
CONFIG_CARDMAN_4040=m
# DMA Engine support
CONFIG_DMA_ENGINE=y
# DMA Clients
CONFIG_NET_DMA=y
# DMA Devices
CONFIG_INTEL_IOATDMA=m
CONFIG_HAS_DMA=y
```

For simplicity, most lines only contain one argument. Anything following a `#` is considered a comment and ignored. The option `CONFIG_HAS_DMA` has total 3 possibilities:

- `CONFIG_HAS_DMA=y`: DMA support compiled.
- `CONFIG_HAS_DMA=m`: DMA support compiled as a loadable kernel module.
- `CONFIG_HAS_DMA=n`: No DMA support.

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[2] compiled driver under FreeBSD kernel: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/freebsd-kernel-feature-compiled-or-not/>

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