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Debian / Ubuntu Linux WARNING: The following packages cannot be authenticated! Error and Solution

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

Q. I'm trying to install a package using apt-get command. I'm getting warning message that read as follows:

Need to get 15.1MB of archives. After unpacking 50.2MB of additional disk space will be used. Do you want to continue [Y/n]? y

WARNING: The following packages cannot be authenticated!

libmono-sharpzip0.84-cil autopano-sift libpano12-0 libwxbase2.8-0 libwxgtk2.8-0

libpano12-bin libplot2c2 enblend

Install these packages without verification [y/N]?



How do I solve this warning related issue under Debian or Ubuntu Linux 7.10?

A. Just run the following command to get rid of this problem:

Open terminal

Type command:

```
$ sudo apt-get update
```

You must always install package using following format to get latest packages:

```
$ sudo apt-get update && sudo apt-get install {package-name}
```

apt-key utility

apt-key is used to manage the list of keys used by apt to authenticate packages. Packages which have been authenticated using these keys will be considered trusted. To update the local keyring with the keyring of Debian / Ubuntu archive keys and removes from the keyring the archive keys which are no longer valid.

```
$ sudo apt-key update
```

To list keys, enter:

```
$ sudo apt-key list
```

Output:

```
/etc/apt/trusted.gpg
      1024D/437D05B5 2004-09-12
pub
uid
                     Ubuntu Archive Automatic Signing Key
      2048g/79164387 2004-09-12
sub
pub
      1024D/FBB75451 2004-12-30
uid
                     Ubuntu CD Image Automatic Signing Key
pub
      1024D/E23C5FC3 2007-03-15
uid
                     Arnav Ghosh (Automatix Team Lead)
sub
      2048g/C2D84CF8 2007-03-15
      1024D/9072870B 2007-08-13 [expires: 2009-08-12]
pub
uid
                     jre-phoenix (moblock-deb maintainer)
      1024g/1E5C7A1D 2007-08-13 [expires: 2009-08-12]
sub
```

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To delete a key i.e. rmove a key from the list of trusted keys., enter:

```
$ sudo apt-key del keyid
$ sudo apt-key remove 1E5C7A1D
```

Output:

OK

Updated for accuracy.

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