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How to compile program under Linux / UNIX / FreeBSD

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Q. I've downloaded tar ball software but I don't know how to compile the same? Can you provide the instructions for compiling a program?

A. Many new users find it difficult to compiling programs in Linux. Usually following steps are involved:

- a) Download tar ball using wget
- b) Untar tar ball using tar command
- c) Compile program using make or configure command
- d) Install software

[1]

Task: compiling program

Step # 1: Download program tar ball:

```
$ wget http://url-com/prog.tar.gz
```

Step # 2: Untar tar ball :

```
$ tar -zxvf prog.tar.gz
$ cd prog
```

Step # 3: Untar tar ball:

Configure program:

```
$ ./configure
```

Compile program:

```
$ make
```

Install program (must be run as the root, login using su or use sudo):

```
$ sudo make install
```

or

```
$ su -
$ make install
```

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