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# How to Install BusyBox on Rooted Android Phone

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by Jeffry on December 21, 2009



BusyBox is a single multical binary that packages the functionality of most widely used standard Unix tools. Follow the simple steps below to **install BusyBox on rooted Android device**.

```
$ busybox
BusyBox v1.15.1 (2009-09-17 21:01:46 EDT) multi-call binary
Copyright (C) 1998-2008 Erik Andersen, Rob Landley, Denys Vlasenko
and others. Licensed under GPLv2.
See source distribution for full notice.

Usage: busybox [function] [arguments]...
or: function [arguments]...

BusyBox is a multi-call binary that combines many common Unix
utilities into a single executable. Most people will create
a link to busybox for each function they wish to use and BusyB
ox will act like whatever it was invoked as!

Currently defined functions:
[, [[, arping, ash, awk, basename, bbconfig, bunzip2,
bzip2, cat, catv, chgrp, chmod, chown, chroot, chrt,
chvt, cksum, clear, cmp, cp, cpio, crond, crontab, cut,
```

BusyBox combines tiny versions of many common UNIX utilities into a single small executable. It provides replacements for most of the utilities you usually find in GNU fileutils, shellutils, etc. BusyBox provides a fairly complete environment for any small or embedded system.

### BusyBox binary highlights

*chown, chgrp*: change permission ownership.  
*awk, sed*: languages to both process & transform text  
*grep*: a text search utility

*du*: shows disk usage  
*vi*: a shell based text editor  
*pidof*: return the pid of a running process  
*less*: text reader with back and forward nav  
*tail*: trail the end of a file for activity  
*gunzip, gzip, tar, bzip2*: archival compression software  
*clear*: clear screen  
*crontab, crond*: task scheduling  
*diff*: compare files  
*httpd*: a light webserver  
*telnet*: basic TCP remote login  
*xargs*: use the output of a command as the arguments for another  
*su*: masquerade as another system user  
*wget*: retrieves content from a web server  
*which*: identifies the location of an executable

## How to Install BusyBox on rooted Android device

**Step #1** Download [BusyBox 1.15.3](#) built for your phone. Unzip it and place the busybox file in your SDK/tools dir

**Step #2** Reboot your android device normally and plug in to your PC.

**Step #3** Open the command prompt/console and cd to the SDK/tools dir. At the prompt:

```
[shell]
adb shell
su
mount -o rw,remount -t yaffs2 /dev/block/mtdblock3 /system
exit
adb push busybox /data/local
adb shell
cd /system
ls -al
[/shell]
```

You're pushing busybox to the phone rather than the SD card as the SD card is mounted noexec.  
if the dir /system/xbin is not there:

```
[shell]
/data/local/busybox mkdir /system/xbin
[/shell]
```

then use busybox to install busybox

```
[shell]
cd /data/local
chmod busybox 755
/data/local/busybox cp /data/local/busybox /system/xbin/busybox
cd /system/xbin
chmod busybox 755
./busybox --install -s /system/xbin
rm /data/local/busybox
[/shell]
```

Yes you're chmod'ing busybox twice. This is to make sure the permissions work in the /system/xbin folder as well.

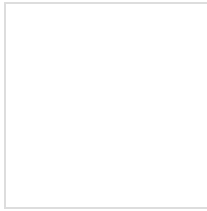
Then exit and reboot:

```
[shell]
reboot
[/shell]
```

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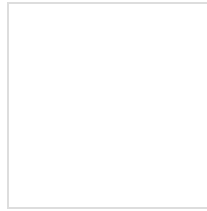
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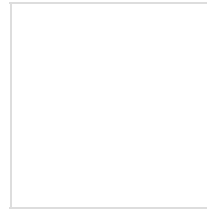
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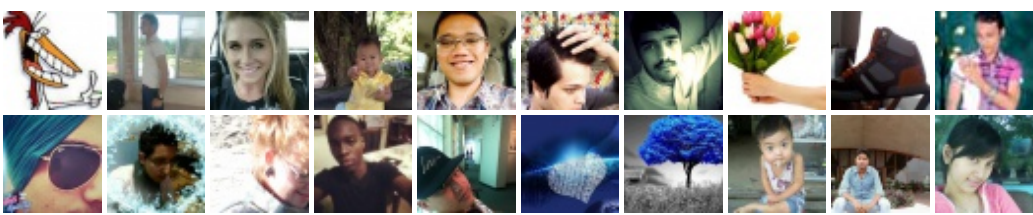
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Asd • 2 years ago

It's adb push busybox /data/local/busybox

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fuck busy box.....lol do it on your linux computer

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> That zip file contains a tar file of the busybox source, not a compiled executable.

+1

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Sanko • 2 years ago

fuck it. WINDOWS MOBILE 6,5.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Sdasdasd • 3 years ago

you fucken moron, you havent even tested this have you, thanks asshole

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Arpy Vanyan • 3 years ago

adb push busybox /data/local

won't work. after cd /data/local and chmod says "Unable to chmod busybox: No such file or derectory" what to do?

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Arpy Vanyan → Arpy Vanyan • 3 years ago

ok I got it. it should be

adb push busybox /data/local/busybox

Now there's another problem. after /data/local/busybox cp /data/local/busybox /system/xbin/busybox says perimition denied....

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Lazyboi\_125 • 3 years ago

is it suppose to take a while to push the files? im stuck on busybox/examples/mdev.conf

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Shadowlord • 4 years ago

I am trying to downloud busybox. In command prompt I am at the step where yo type su and I am getting "Permission denied" where did I screw up

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



PaLmeTTo\_X → Shadowlord • 3 years ago

Sounds like your phone is not rooted

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Amedee • 4 years ago

Wrong syntax:

chmod busybox 755

Right syntax:

chmod 755 busybox

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



david • 4 years ago

Yeah man, that's source code, not a binary file. Edit your steps or people (like me) will end up loading source files into the phones internal memory.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Kieran • 4 years ago

That zip file contains a tar file of the busybox source, not a compiled executable.

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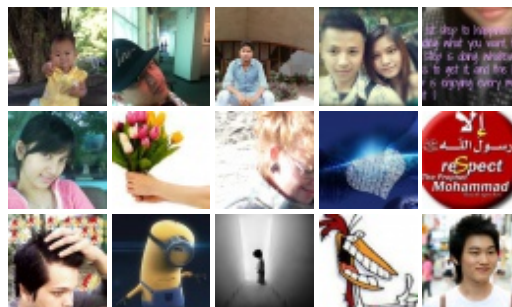
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