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Building PTLib on Unix

This page describes how to build PTLib from revision 2.4.2 (Wolf) or later. For information on building earlier releases of PTLib, see [this page](#)

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1. Introduction

PTLib is built from source using make and configure in the same way as most other Unix programs.

If you want to install PTLib into a shared location accessible by all users of the system (normally /usr/local), and you have root access, then you can use the default configure and install procedure [Introduction](#) described here.

If you want do not want to install PTLib into a shared location, because you do not have root access or because you want to have more than one version of PTLib on the same host, then follow [this procedure](#).

2. Prerequisites

You will need the following:

- gcc 4.7 or later. Earlier versions of gcc may work, but are not maintained.
- A copy of the PTLib source archive from the [SourceForge download page](#) or from [Subversion](#). This is extracted into a directory referred to as *srcdir*

For Ubuntu etc, there are the following optional packages:

```
apt install g++ git make autoconf libpcap-dev libexpat-dev libssl1.0-dev libsasl2-dev libldap-dev \
    unixodbc-dev liblua5.3-dev libv8-dev libncurses-dev libsdl2-dev libavformat-dev libswscale-dev \
    libgstreamer1.0-dev libgstreamer-plugins-base1.0-dev
```

For CentOS, Fedora etc, use:

```
yum install g++ git make autoconf libpcap-devel expat-devel openssl-devel cyrus-sasl-devel openldap-devel \
    unixODBC-devel lua-devel v8-devel ncurses-devel SDL2-devel libavformat-devel libswscale-devel \
    gstreamer1.0-devel gstreamer-plugins-base1.0-devel
```

3. Default build and install

By default, PTLib will install into the /usr/local tree. In order for other packages (including Opal) to locate PTLib, the directory /usr/local/lib/pkgconfig must be added to the search path for pkg-config. This is usually done by setting the PKG_CONFIG_PATH environment variable.

It is also necessary to set the LD_LIBRARY_PATH environment variable so that programs can find the PTLib libraries at link or run time.

If you are using plugins, the PTLIBPLUGINDIR environment variable must be set to the location of the installed plugins. By default, this is /usr/local/lib/ptlib-*minor.major.patch*, where *minor.major.patch* is the version of PTLib being used.

For bash/sh

```
export PKG_CONFIG_PATH=/usr/local/lib/pkgconfig
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/usr/local/lib
export PTLIBPLUGINDIR=/usr/local/lib/ptlib-minor.major.patch
```

For tcsh/csh

```
setenv PKG_CONFIG_PATH /usr/local/lib/pkgconfig
setenv LD_LIBRARY_PATH /usr/local/lib
setenv PTLIBPLUGINDIR /usr/local/lib/ptlib-minor.major.patch
```

Use the following command to build and install the release version (optimised) as a shared library

```
cd srcdir
./configure
make
sudo make install
```

Use the following command to build and install the release version (optimised) as a static library

```
cd srcdir
./configure --disable-shared
make
sudo make install
```

Use the following command to build and install the debug version (includes debugging symbols) as a shared library

```
cd srcdir
./configure --enable-debug
make debug
sudo make install
```

Use the following command to build and install the debug version (includes debugging symbols) as a static library

```
cd srcdir
./configure --enable-debug --disable-shared
make debug
sudo make install
```

Multiple versions can be built in the same directory tree and installed separately

4. Build and use without install

Set the PTLIBDIR environment variable to point to *srcdir* as follows. This allows other libraries that use PTLib to find the code without using pkg-config.

IMPORTANT: you must set the environment variable **before** executing the configure script or the system will get very confused.

It is also necessary to set the LD_LIBRARY_PATH environment variable so that programs can find the PTLib libraries at link or run time. The correct directory name depends on the host architecture:

```
For Linux x86 32 bit      ${PTLIBDIR}/lib_linux_x86
For Linux x86 64 bit      ${PTLIBDIR}/lib_linux_x86_64
```

If you are using plugins, the PTLIBPLUGINDIR environment variable must be set to the location of the compiled plugins. This will be the same directory as used above for the LD_LIBRARY_PATH

For bash/sh

```
export PTLIBDIR=srcdir
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=${PTLIBDIR}/lib_linux_x86
export PTLIBPLUGINDIR=${PTLIBDIR}/lib_linux_x86
```

For tcsh/csh

```
setenv PTLIBDIR srcdir
setenv LD_LIBRARY_PATH ${PTLIBDIR}/lib_linux_x86
```

```
setenv PTLIBPLUGININDIR ${PTLIBDIR}/lib_linux_x86
```

Once this is done, configure and build the appropriate version of the code using the same commands as described in section 3 above, but omit the *sudo make install*

Note that it may be necessary to add `/usr/local/lib` to `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` and set `PKG_CONFIG_PATH` to `/usr/local/lib/pkgconfig` in order for other packages to be detected correctly.

5. Editing configure.ac, and running aclocal and autoconf

If you are developer, it may be necessary to modify the `configure.ac` file and regenerate the configure script using `autoconf`.

The following message may appear

```
configure.ac:5: error: possibly undefined macro: dnl
      If this token and others are legitimate, please use m4_pattern_allow.
      See the Autoconf documentation.
```

If this occurs, then you need to regenerate the `aclocal.m4` file by running the following command:

```
aclocal
```

Page last modified on November 24, 2018, at 10:01 AM

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