

How do I free a busy tty device?

2864 Views 1 Reply Latest reply: Jun 14, 2014 1:38 PM by Sefi G



Level 1
(0 points)

Les 76

Apr 10, 2014 6:38 PM

Question:

Using the 'screen' command in terminal, I get the error "cannot open line '/dev/tty.usbserial' for R/W: resource busy". How do I release or free this resource?

Background:

I am connecting to a Raspberry Pi UART via a MAX3232 serial to TTL converter module. The RS232 serial port on my iMac is provided via a Prolific USB to Serial adaptor. Using a terminal window, I entered "screen /dev/tty.usbserial 115200". The first time I did this, and booted the raspberry pi, i got many beeps and scrolling blank spaces (eg there was some sort of connection, good). I then didn't know how to exit screen, so I command Q'd the session. Now when i re-open the session, and use 'screen' again, I get the error as stated above. I realise turning it off and on again will probably do it, but am after a commnad.

Cheers,

Les.

iMac, OS X Mavericks (10.9.2)



I have this question too (5)



Level 1
(0 points)

Sefi G

Jun 14, 2014 1:38 PM

Re: [How do I free a busy tty device?](#)

in response to Les 76

From terminal, run:

ls -l | grep usbserial

If the port is in use, you will get a response like this (otherwise it will return nothing):

```
screen 27127 Sefi 5u CHR 18,0 0t0 605 /dev/tty.usbserial
```

Note the session number. In my case, it's 27127. Then run:

screen -x 27127 (obviously use your session number from the grep)

It will return you to your previous screen session. Then use **ctr-A ctr-** to close it properly (will ask you to confirm).



This helped me (0)

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