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how to install PIL with JPEG support on a raspberry pi?

I tried to install PIL on my raspberry pi and read JPEG files. However, it does not work out of the box.

When I run the following:

```
sudo pip install pil
```

I receive the following error, trying to open an Image:

```
""decoder jpeg not available""
```

While trying to install all needed JPEG libraries I ran into some errors e.g.:

```
sudo apt-get install libjpeg
E: Unable to locate package libjpeg
```

python   python-imaging-library   pip   raspberry-pi

asked Nov 24 '13 at 16:25
Marco Pashkov
2,346   1   25   45

1 Answer

You have to re-install PIL and also install the needed libraries as well as link them manually. This answer is based on this blog post for a regular ubuntu PIL installation and this askubuntu question, where it is explained how to compile the jpeg encoding:

```
### uninstall PIL
sudo pip uninstall pil

### download and compile the JPEG library
wget http://www.ijg.org/files/jpegsrc.v8c.tar.gz
tar xvfz jpegsrc.v8c.tar.gz
cd jpeg-8c
./configure --enable-shared --prefix=$CONFIGURE_PREFIX
make
sudo make install

### link the libraries correctly - RASPBERRY PI ONLY
sudo ln -s /usr/lib/arm-linux-gnueabi/libjpeg.so /usr/lib
sudo ln -s /usr/lib/arm-linux-gnueabi/libfreetype.so /usr/lib
sudo ln -s /usr/lib/arm-linux-gnueabi/libz.so /usr/lib

### install rest of the libraries, as well as freetrype and zlib
sudo apt-get install libjpeg-dev libfreetype6 libfreetype6-dev zlib1g-dev

### re-install PIL
sudo pip install pil
```

hope that helps someone!

edited Apr 13 '17 at 12:22   answered Nov 24 '13 at 16:25
Community ♦   Marco Pashkov
1   1   **2,346**   1   25   45

I tried but got support available for freetype2 and ZLIB(png/zip) not for jpeg and tkinter. Any idea what could possibly went wrong ? – Caglar Sekmen Jul 16 '14 at 12:30

Thanks! I had to install using this command, since PIL has now been replaced with Pillow: `pip install PIL --allow-external PIL --allow-unverified PIL` – JeffThompson Jun 12 '15 at 1:21

Thank you, worked like a charm. I used `pip install pillow` instead of `pip install pil` . – Leistungsabfall Aug 19 '15 at 18:27

3   In case it should help future readers, the only part I needed was `sudo apt-get install libjpeg-dev libfreetype6 libfreetype6-dev zlib1g-dev` – Mark Smith Jan 15 '17 at 17:16