

## Stuck on "waiting for apt-get to exit" in Software Centre [duplicate]

This question already has an answer here:

[Unable to lock the administration directory \(/var/lib/dpkg/\) is another process using it?](#) 17 answers

I'm trying to download something, and it's stuck on "waiting for apt-get to exit". Also, when I'm trying to use the terminal it says "unable to lock the administration directory" after I type in a command.

command-line apt software-center netflix

asked Jul 6 '13 at 12:57



Aiyana

6 2 2 5

marked as duplicate by [Eliah Kagan](#), [jokerdino](#) ♦ Aug 14 '13 at 11:35

This question has been asked before and already has an answer. If those answers do not fully address your question, please [ask a new question](#).

### 2 Answers

`apt-get` is a tool for handling `dpkg` packages and handles one package at a time. There's may be a case that your previous action is still engaging the `apt-get` engine. Just like @karel suggested, 'close first and then only try another'

**Note:** If its not solving the problem *and neither rebooting*, maybe some old `apt-get` thread was halted while executing, leaving `apt` locked.

You'll need to delete the lock file with `sudo rm /var/lib/apt/lists/lock` and also the lock file in cache directory with `sudo rm /var/cache/apt/archives/lock`

answered Jul 6 '13 at 14:43



kern

744 1 9 19

Maybe you had two conflicting package download commands trying to run at the same time, so neither command would run. If so, try closing all your open windows, and then open only the Ubuntu Software Center and try again to install your package.

answered Jul 6 '13 at 13:02



karel

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