User Friendly Install Of Oracle8i on Redhat Linux 6.1

If you have never tried to install Oracle8i on Linux then start here!

Oracle8i release 8.1.5.0.0 is the first release of Oracle8i on Linux and as such there are MANY complexities in the installation. These complexities are for the most part documented in various notes and FAQ articles. This article brings them together so that customers can go through the installation smoothly at the first attempt.

Please note this article describes the installation on Redhat Linux 6.1.

This article is broken down into 6 sections:

A) Downloads (before you even think about it)
B) Tasks to perform as the root user
C) Tasks to perform as the new Oracle account
D) Installing the Oracle8i Software
E) Post Installation Tasks
F) Creating A Database

A) Downloads (before you even think about it)

==========

This release of Oracle8i requires additional software that does not ship as native in Redhat Linux. You need to download this from the Internet.

Download the following - use the EXACT versions i.e. not newer/older versions

JRE version 1.1.6v5 (Java Runtime Environment) - please DO NOT get the JDK instead. This can be downloaded from

http://www.blackdown.org/

Select your local mirror site. The file you want can be located in the mirror structure as

/JDK-1.1.6/i386/glibc/v5/jre_1.1.6-v5-glibc-x86.tar.gz

If you want to use the Oracle Intelligent Agent (required for using Oracle Enterprise Manager) you also need to download TCL 7.5. This can be obtained from

ftp://www.scriptics.com/

The file you want can be located in the structure as

/pub/tcl/tcl7_5/tcl7.5.tar.Z

You should then follow the steps from <Note:97135.1> AFTER installing Oracle8i. Lastly you need to download the Oracle8i for Linux 8.1.5.0.2 patch set. This can be downloaded from the Oracle Technology Network (assuming you have created an account) at

http://technet.oracle.com/support/tech/linux/support_index.htm

Alternatively, raise a TAR with Oracle Support Services to request this patch.

B) Tasks to perform as the root user
==========
Now you have downloaded the software, it needs to be setup. Install JRE 1.1.6v5 into a directory of you choice. A good option is

/usr/local/jre116_v5

Create symbolic link for /usr/local/jre to /usr/local/jre116_v5

```
% ln -s /usr/local/jre116_v5 /usr/local/jre
```

The installer also requires that gmake is available as a command. This may well be set on your system. To check

```
% cd /usr/bin
% ls -l gmake
```

If this does not exist, create the symbolic link to make

```
% ls -s /usr/bin/make /usr/bin/gmake
```

Lastly, check you have enough disk space and memory. As a rule of thumb, you need about 800 Mb of disk space and 256 Mb of memory. Verify these as follows

```
% df -k
% cat /proc/meminfo
```

Did you previously fail to install this Product? If the answer is yes, there is some cleaning up to do. If not, go to step (2).

(1) Cleanup the environment:
A failed installation leaves some files around that could mess up this fresh attempt, so we have to delete them. In addition to deleting the main code tree, also do the following (note not all these files/directories may exist):

```
% cd /etc
% rm oraInst.loc
% mv oratab oratab.old
% cd /tmp
% rm -r orainstall
% /usr/bin
% rm dbhome oraenv coraenv
% cd /usr/local/bin
% rm dbhome oraenv coraenv
```

(2) Set up the new code tree:
You MUST install this product into a new ORACLE_HOME. Create the mount

points for the database/code tree. This installation assumes an OFA (Optimal Flexible Architecture) structure - see Appendix A of the Admininstrators Reference for Intel-Linux for further details.

```
% cd /usr/local/oracle/8i
% mkdir u01
% mkdir u01
% mkdir u02
% mkdir u03
```

Now create the new group to own the software. In Oracle8i it is recommended you create a create called oinstall to own the software. In addition you should create a dba group to administer the software.

```
% groupadd oinstall
% groupadd dba
```

Now create the Oracle account. This should have a default group of oinstall and also be a member of dba.

```
% useradd oracle8i -g oinstall -G dba oracle8i
```

Now change the ownership of the database mount points to the new oracle account.

```
% chown oracle8i.oinstall *
```

Now set the password for the Oracle account.

```
% passwd oracle8i
```

Lastly, mount the Oracle8i cdrom for use in the install. Put the cd in the drive and issue

```
% mount -t iso9660 /dev/cdrom /mnt/cdrom
```

C) Tasks to perform as the new Oracle account
==========
Now log onto the Linux node as the oracle8i account. It is recommended you logon to GUI local console as this software can only be installed in GUI mode (alternatively you could set the display back to another X server)

Set up the protection mask for installing the software.

```
$ umask 022
```

Check which shell you are using in order to establish where to set up the environment variables.

```
$ echo $SHELL
```

If you are using a /bin/bash shell then edit .bash_profile. If not then edit the appropriate profile or login script for your shell.

```
$ vi .bash_profile
```

You need to set up ALL the following environment variables. Please modify
the values of ORACLE_HOME, ORACLE_BASE and NLS_LANG to reflect your file system
and language/territory respectively. Note the need fo Java settings.

```
#
# Oracle Stuff Goes Here
#
ORACLE_HOME=/usr/local/oracle/8i/u01/app/oracle/product/8.1.5
ORACLE_BASE=/usr/local/oracle/8i/u01/app/oracle
export ORACLE_HOME ORACLE_BASE
NLS_LANG='english_united kingdom.we8iso8859p1'
ORA_NLS33=$ORACLE_HOME/ocommon/nls/admin/data
ORACLE_TERM=vt100
LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$ORACLE_HOME/lib
PATH=$PATH:$ORACLE_HOME/bin
export NLS_LANG ORA_NLS33 PATH LD_LIBRARY_PATH
#
# Java Stuff Goes Here
#
export JAVA_HOME=/usr/local/jre
export PATH=$JAVA_HOME/bin:$PATH
```

Once you have edited this file you need to execute it to set up the
environment for the installer.

```
$ ./.bash_profile
```

Now verify that the variables have been set and are valid

```
$ env
```

D) Installing the Oracle8i Software
==========
Now the environment is intact, you can now begin the installation. Due to
<Bug:1117931> the runInstaller command does not work on Redhat Linux. You
must therefore start the installer as follows:

```
$ cd /mnt/cdrom/install/linux
$ ./runIns.sh
```

If the installer does not start - please review all previous steps. The most
likely cause for failure is that a previous failed install has not been
cleaned up or the environment variables are missing or incorrect.

Once into the Oracle Universal Installer, most pages are self explanatory.
However please make sure you make the following selections. These are listed
in the order the installer will present them to you:

1) Select oinstall as the group to own the Oracle software. After entering
this you will be prompted to run the /tmp/orainstall/oraInstall.sh as root.
Please make sure you run this as root before proceeding.

```
% cd /tmp/orainstall
% ./oraInstall.sh
```

2) When you reach the "Installation Types" window, you must select Custom. The other two options will not work.

3) When you reach the "Available Product Components" window, you can select everything EXCEPT the Intermedia option. This is not fully available at present (see <Note:97129.1>, <Bug:1140083> and the release notes for details).

4) You will be prompted to run the $ORACLE_HOME/root.sh as root. This file does not have execute permission <Bug:1066947>. The workaround is to run the script as follows:

```
% sh root.sh
```

5) You will asked whether you wish to create a database as part of the installation. Regardless of your answer, the installer will start the Database Configuration Assistant (dbassist) and attempt to create a database at the end of the install.

6) When dbassist runs at the end of the install, the following error is displayed "JNLS Exception: oracle.ntp.jnls.JNLSException Unable to find any National Character Sets. Please check your Oracle installation."
This is a known problem <bug:884001>. Ignore the warning.

7) When database assistant starts, select cancel to exit. You should not attempt to create a database before applying the 8.1.5.0.2 patch set.

8) When you exit the database assistant, you will go back into the Oracle Universal Installer to complete the installation. Exit the installer at this point.

Now you are out of the installer, there are some additional tasks to perform. The file permissions on lsnrctl and several other executables will be incorrect (despite the fact you ran $ORACLE_HOME/root.sh at the appropriate time). To fix this do the following:

```
$ cd $ORACLE_HOME/install/utl
$ ./linux.sh
```

This will recompile and fix the permissions problems.

Now you need to apply the 8.1.5.0.2 patch set. Extract the file you downloaded into a suitable directory.

```
$ tar xvfz linux_815patches.tgz
$ cd linux_815patches
$ ./linux_815patches.sh
```

This will apply the patches. Check the log files in /tmp for any errors.

The code is now installed!

E) Post Installation Tasks
==========

You may now want to set the environment variable ORACLE_SID in your
.bash_profile or other login/profile script. Add the entry, run the profile
and check the variable is defined.

```
$ vi .bash_profile
```

Add the following

```
ORACLE_SID=v8i815
export ORACLE_SID
```

Now run the file

```
$ ~/.bash_profile
```

Lastly check the environment

```
$ echo $ORACLE_SID
```

If you are going to use the Oracle Intelligent Agent, please now follow the
steps in <Note:97135.1>.

F) Creating A Database
==========

You can now create a database. To do this, start the Database Configuration
Assistant:

```
$ dbassist &
```

The following should be observed

1) When prompted for "Select the type of database to create", select custom
- typical does not work.

2) When you reach the screen "Review the following database information...",
fill out the details as requested. Notice there is no Initialization
Filename. Hit next and then back. The file will now appear. This is
<Bug:931039>. Failure to do this can result in the initialization file
not being created.

3) When the database is created, several errors are observed when building
Intermedia (regardless of whether you selected it or not) - it appears
several files are missing such as ordanots.sql etc. Just hit ignore for
each file it cannot find. This is <Bug:1140083>.

Your database should now be created!