Installing
unixODBC
on
Linux

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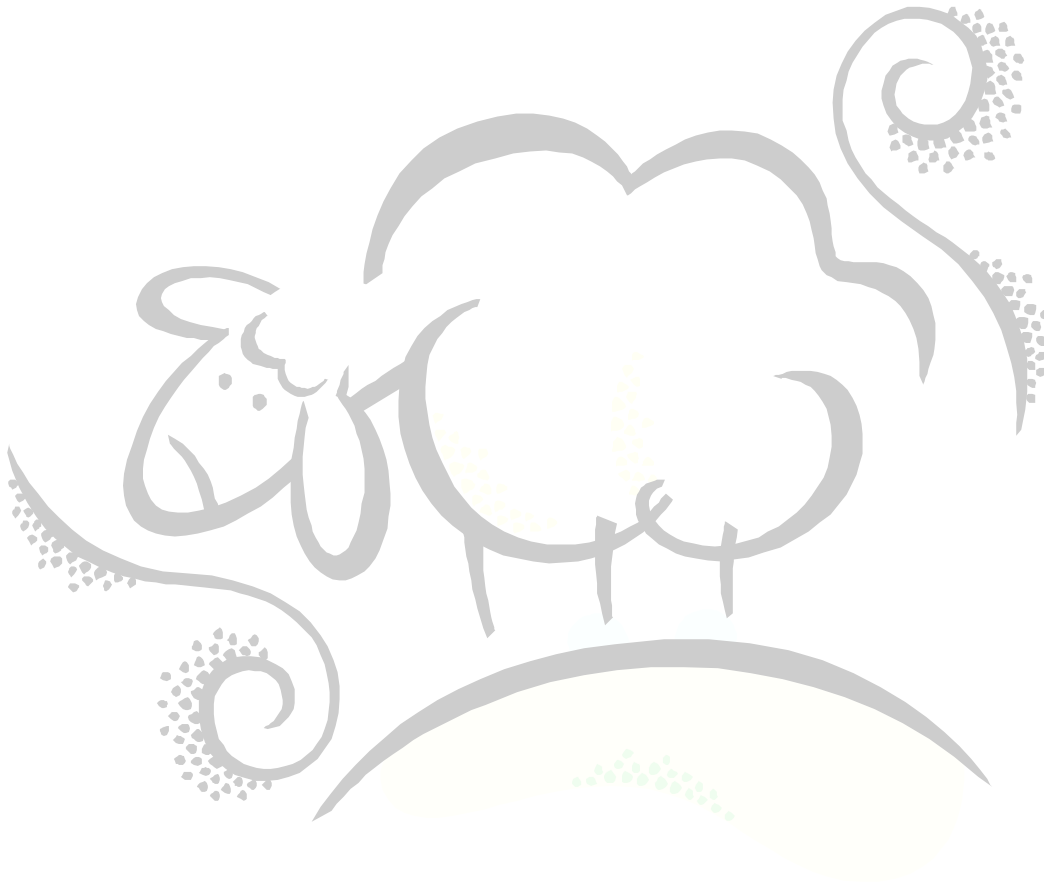
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Introduction

This document details how to install unixODBC on Linux machines. We assume your goal is to gain ODBC access to MySQL although we'll tell you where to obtain ODBC drivers for other databases.

TEST THESE INSTRUCTIONS ON A DEVELOPMENT SERVER BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO INSTALL ON A PRODUCTION SERVER!! YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!!

unixODBC Installation Instructions

Step 1: You must be logged in as `root`.

Step 2: In /tmp,or other temporary location, download the following files (or the files appropriate for your operating system):

    a. `unixODBC-2.2.11-x86-linux-rh9.tar.gz` from
       http://prdownloads.sourceforge.net/unixodbc/unixODBC-2.2.11-x86-linux-rh9.tar.gz?download

    b. `MyODBC-3.51.11-2.i586.rpm` from
       http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/connector/odbc/3.51.html

Step 3: Copy `unixODBC-2.2.11-x86-linux-rh9.tar.gz` to the / directory and issue the following commands:

```
gzip –dv unixODBC-2.2.11-x86-linux-rh9.tar.gz
tar –xvf unixODBC-2.2.11-x86-linux-rh9.tar
```

This installs unixODBC in specific directories under /usr.

Step 4: Install MyODBC-3.51.11-2.i586.rpm by issuing the following commands:

```
rpm –install MyODBC-3.51.11-2.i586.rpm
```

This installs the MyODBC drivers for MySQL.

Note that you may have to go to the .10 version of MyODBC because certain flavors of Linux may have a problem with dependencies.

Step 5: Add a LD_LIBRARY_PATH statement to your .bash_profile. This must be done for all users who will be using ODBC:

```
LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/usr/local/lib:/usr/lib
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH
```

This will allow the operating system to find the libraries.

Also add the following two environment variables to your .bash_profile:

```
export ODBCINI=/etc/odbc.ini
export ODBCINSTINI=/etc/odbcinst.ini
```

Step 6: Change to permissions to /etc/odbc.ini and /etc/odbcinst.ini:

```
chmod 777 /etc/odbc.ini
chmod 777 /etc/odbcinst.ini
```

The 777 is temporary until you get everything working. You can then throttle back to 755 once you have completed the installation instructions as outlined in this document.

Step 7: Here is an example /etc/odbcinst.ini file:

```
[MySQL ODBC 3.51 Driver DSN]
Driver = /usr/lib/libmyodbc3.so
Setup  = /usr/lib/libmyodbc3S.so
UsageCount= 1
```

Step 8: Here is an example /etc/odbc.ini file:

```
;
; odbc.ini configuration for MyODBC and MyODBC 3.51 Drivers
;

[ODBC Data Sources]

myodbc       = MySQL ODBC 2.50 Driver DSN
myodbc3      = MySQL ODBC 3.51 Driver DSN

[myodbc]
Driver       = /usr/lib/libmyodbc.so
Description  = MySQL ODBC 2.50 Driver DSN
SERVER       = localhost
PORT         =
USER         = root
Password     =
Database     = test
OPTION       = 3
SOCKET       =

[my_db]
Driver       = /usr/lib/libmyodbc3.so
Description  = MySQL ODBC 3.51 Driver DSN
SERVER       = your_mysql-server-name
PORT         = 3306
USER         = your-db-username
Password     = your-db-password
Database     = MY_DB
OPTION       = 3
#SOCKET       =
```

Note that you probably don't need the password to be hard-coded in the /etc/odbc.ini file as show above for the my_db data source since you can provide it in the SAS, Perl, etc. code.

Testing the Connection

Here is an example test program using a SAS/Access to ODBC call via SAS:

```
options nocenter date ps=55 ls=132;
run;

libname dbMYSQL odbc dsn="my_db" user="username" password="password";
run;

proc print data=dbMYSQL.my_db_table;
run;

libname dbMYSQL clear;
run;
```
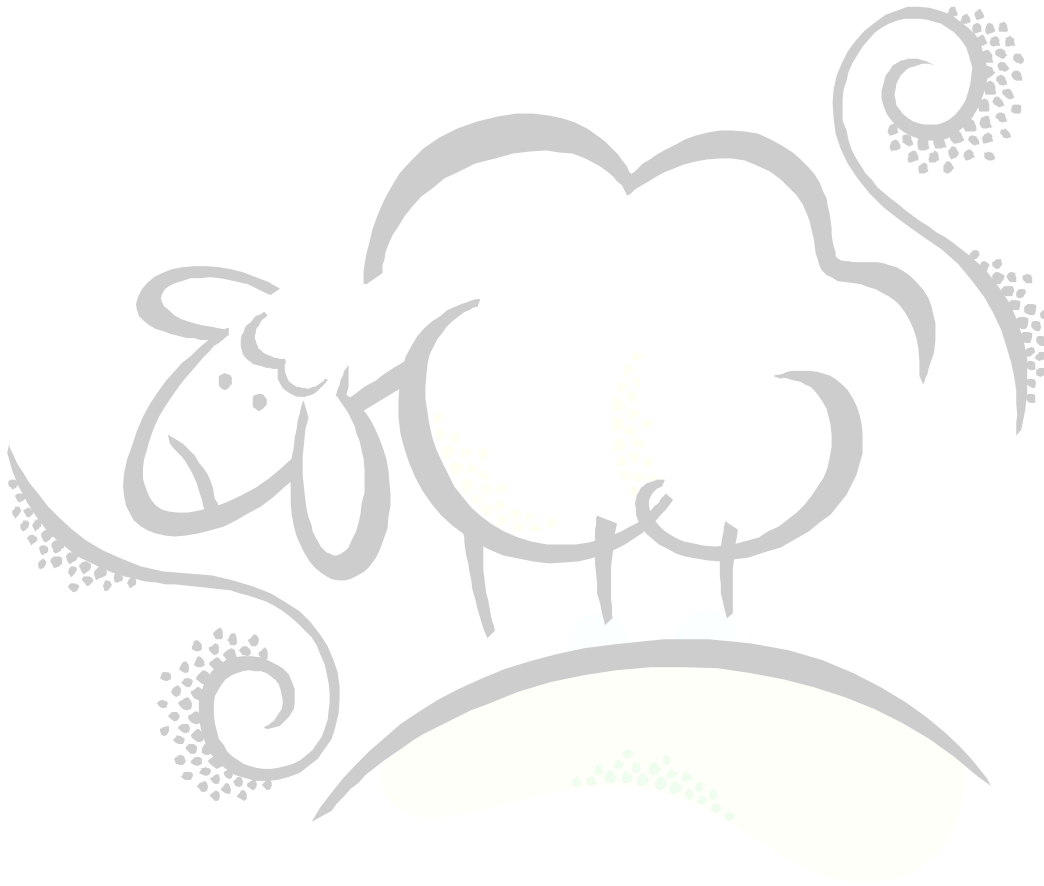
```
run;
endsas;
```

Notes

In order to gain access to other databases besides MySQL, you will need the appropriate ODBC driver for that database. Here are links to several websites you can peruse:

http://www.odbcsdk.com/products/openrda/unix_sql.asp
http://www.sommarskog.se/mssql/unix.html
http://www.easysoft.com/

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