

# Enabling Linux Fonts

## Steps:

1. Ensure that the \$PATH value is the same for end users (for /etc and X11) as root
2. Do as root:

```
xlsfonts -fn *-helvetica-bold-r-normal-*. *-120-*. *-*. *-iso8859-1
```

Should give you a match and listing. If NOT than:

3. Run

```
xset q|grep -i font
```

 OR

in your in your xorgs.conf check the listing under FontPath:

- Looking for the 75dpi/100dpi/misc font path and libraries
- If you don't get some similar output, you'll need to verify that your '/etc/X11/xorg.conf' or '/etc/X11/XF86Config-4', whichever one you use, contains at least those critical directories in the "Files" section, as 'FontPath "/usr/share/fonts/X11/misc/"

4. In the resulting font directories check for the listing for the font families, for example:

```
grep -h -- -helvetica /usr/share/fonts/X11/100dpi/fonts.dir|head -5
```

Example listing would look like:

```
helvB08-ISO8859-1.pcf.gz -adobe-helvetica-bold-r-normal--11-80-100-100-p-60-iso8859-1  
helvB08.pcf.gz -adobe-helvetica-bold-r-normal--11-80-100-100-p-60-iso10646-1  
helvB10-ISO8859-1.pcf.gz -adobe-helvetica-bold-r-normal--14-100-100-100-p-82-iso8859-1
```

5. If no matching listing is produced then do:
  - `dlocate xfonts-{75,100}dpi` OR 'cd' into each of those font directories (`font.dir`) in turn and verify that you have the appropriate font files there
6. If listings are found then :
  - As root:
    - i. Execute cmd: `mkfontdir` (rebuilds `font.dir`)
    - ii. `xset fp rehash` (re-reads the fonts database in path)

# Appendix A

## Troubleshooting

1. Ensure the directory path to fonts directory is present in the global \$PATH (for example /usr/share/fonts)
2. Cd to /usr/share/fonts directory and check if fonts.dir and fonts.cache-1 are present if not the see step 7.
3. Create a backup of /usr/share/fonts directory (tar -cvf <source dir> <target path>)
4. cd /usr/share/fonts
5. mv fonts.cache-1 fonts.cache-1.orig
6. Check in directories like default, liberation and other that permission is 644
7. in /usr/share/font execute (as root)
  - a. mkfontdir (this should create font index & two files fonts.cache-1 & fonts.dir)
  - b. fc-cache (This command scans the font directories and builds information font cache files for applications)

