systems

The TEXLive CDROM
easy and fast installation

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abstract
Recently all ntg members received the latest TEXLive cdrom. This article describes a quick and efficient method of installing the content of this TEX repository. Since you can download the latest cdrom image via the internet, you can also use this method for occasional updates.

If you don't like to make decisions on how and where to install TEX, you may like to run TEX straight from the TEXLive CDROM. If you do so, you have everything there is, but your system will be rather slow.

If you use a Unix operating system, you can use the following script, which provides you with a running system with a minimum of decisions, given that you can afford to create a 680MB file somewhere and have the TEXLive cdrom in your CDROM drive. You must be root to run this script. On my system (223 MHz, 192Mb) this script took 9 minutes to complete. But,

- you'll probably want to run texconfig;
- users who throw /etc/profile's PATH setting away will have to take care to include /texlive/bin/i386-linux explicitly in their PATH;
- the bs=64M may be too large if you have not at least that much RAM (use about half your RAM size);
- you may have to replace /etc/profile and i386-linux with values appropriate for your system;
- as far as I know, similar tricks cannot be done on winxx systems.

The script is as follows:

```
# set your system info:

PROFILE=/etc/profile.local
OS=i386-linux
HALFRAM=64M

# directory with enough space

SPACYDIR=/space

# copy the cd-image to a file

dd if=/dev/cdrom of=$SPACYDIR/texlive \
  bs=$HALFRAM

# create a mount point:

mkdir -p /texlive

# add an entry to the file system table:

echo $SPACYDIR/texlive /texlive iso9660 \
  loop=/dev/loop3 0 0 >>/etc/fstab

# mount the new filesystem:

mount /texlive

# create a local tex-tree:

mkdir -p /usr/TeX.local/web2c
chmod a+rw /usr/TeX.local

# set global environment variables:

cat <<EOF>>$PROFILE
export VARTEXMF=/usr/TeX.local
export PATH=/texlive/bin/$OS:\$PATH
export MANPATH=/texlive/man:$MANPATH
export TEXMFCNF=/usr/TeX.local/web2c
EOF

# activate those for current session:

. $PROFILE

# correct texmf.cnf:

CNF=$TEXMFCNF/texmf.cnf
cp /texlive/texmf/web2c/texmf.cnf $CNF
grep "^% more mem for context" $CNF ||
cat << EOF >> $CNF
% more mem for context and mf:
main_memory.context      = 1500000
hash_extra.context       =   50000
pool_size.context        = 1000000
string_vacancies.context =   90000
max_strings.context      =  100000
pool_free.context        =   47500
nest_size.context        =     500
```

```
param_size.context      =    5000
save_size.context       =   50000
stack_size.context      =   10000
obj_tab_size.context    =  200000
main_memory.mf          =  800000
EOF

# let tex know where everything is:
mktexlsr
# generate formats for context:
texexec --make en nl
```