

Install Mplayer and Multimedia Codecs in Ubuntu 8.10 (Intrepid Ibex)

Why?

The FIB streaming videos are a challenge for Ubuntu and other Linux distributions. Out of the box, Ubuntu 8.10 cannot play all those embedded or streaming videos with no stuttering or annoyances probably because Totem-plugin is broken in Firefox. Even after installing Intrepid's restricted codecs (which we will do below), they do not work past the FIB corporate announcement, and even that takes about half a minute to start playing back.



How?

We will fix the problem by reconfiguring Firefox to use the Mplayer plugin and installing the restricted codecs (to ensure windows media plays). The end result will be that FIB WMS streaming videos play nicely and start very fast, plus all other sites to windows media or flash streaming work fine as well.

About MPlayer (<http://www.mplayerhq.hu/>)

MPlayer is a movie and animation player that supports a wide range of codecs and file formats, including MPEG 1/2/4, DivX 3/4/5, Windows Media 7/8/9, RealAudio/Video up to 9, Quicktime 5/6, and Vivo 1/2. It has many MMX/SSE (2)/3DNow(Ex) optimized native audio and video codecs, but allows using XAnim's and RealPlayer's binary codec plugins, and Win32 codec DLLs. It has basic VCD/DVD playback functionality, including DVD subtitles, but supports many text-based subtitle formats too. For video output, nearly every existing interface is supported. It's also able to convert any supported files to raw/divx/mpeg4 AVI (pcm/mp3 audio), and even video grabbing from V4L devices.

Enable Universe/Multiverse repositories

You need to add the following lines to /etc/apt/sources.list file or you need to make sure you have enabled Universe and multiverse repositories Using GUI (System > Administration > Software Sources)

```
sudo gedit /etc/apt/sources.list
```

Make sure you have the following two lines save and exit your file

```
deb http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu intrepid universe multiverse
```

```
deb-src http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu intrepid universe multiverse
```

Now you need to run the following command to update the source list

```
sudo apt-get update
```

Remove the plugins we will no longer be using

We will remove Totem and VLC plugins because we want to use the MPlayer ones

```
sudo apt-get remove totem-mozilla mozilla-plugin-vlc
```

Install MPlayer and Mozilla MPlayer plugin

We install MPlayer using the following command

```
sudo apt-get install mozilla-mplayer
```

If you want to open MPlayer you can go to Applications > Sound&Video > Mplayer Movie Player

Install libdvdcss2 and w32 video codecs

Support for WMV, RealMedia and other formats, has been bundled into the w32codecs package. This package is not available from the Ubuntu repositories due to licensing and legal restrictions.

```
sudo wget http://www.medibuntu.org/sources.list.d/intrepid.list  
--output-document=/etc/apt/sources.list.d/medibuntu.list
```

Then, add the GPG Key using the following commands

```
sudo apt-get update  
sudo apt-get install medibuntu-keyring  
sudo apt-get update
```

For i386 Users install Codecs using the following command

```
sudo apt-get install w32codecs libdvdcss2
```

For amd64 Users install Codecs using the following command

```
sudo apt-get install w64codecs libdvdcss2
```

Using above download locations you can install most of the multimedia codecs for ubuntu.

That's all, hope this helps reduce the "video streaming woes and frustration" with Ubuntu.

<https://help.ubuntu.com/community/Medibuntu>

<http://fredrik.hubbe.net/plugger/test.html>

<http://www.apple.com/trailers/>