

Re: mount: could not find any free loop device

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Fedora/2007-06/msg05692.html>

- *From:* Luciano Rocha <strange@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 26 Jun 2007 23:42:40 +0100
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On Wed, Jun 27, 2007 at 12:28:28AM +0200, Andras Simon wrote:

I'm trying to

```
mount -o loop,offset=32256 /usr/local/kvm-images/WinXP.raw /mnt/
```

as I've done successfully several times before, but now I get

```
mount: could not find any free loop device
```

What can possibly use loop devices? There are eight processes called loop0 through loop7, all started by kthread. But I've no idea what they do and if it's them who are using the loop devices.

They're the one serving the loop devices in use. So you exhausted the free loop devices. Free one (umount any in use) and try again.

You can see what is being used by a loop device with losetup:

```
# losetup /dev/loop0  
/dev/loop0: [fd06]:234921356 (/linux/isos/backtrack.iso)
```

It is possible to increase the number of available loop devices. Free all loop devices, and add a line with the following to

```
/etc/modprobe.conf:  
options loop max_loop=64
```

(maximum is 256)

Then, do: `rmmod loop && modprobe loop`

If you get an error that the module couldn't be removed, you still have loop devices in use.

Newer kernels (2.6.21 or 2.6.22) use a dynamic allocation of loop devices, so you will only have to create the filesystem representation of the devices:

```
for ((i=8;i<64;i++)); do  
[ -e /dev/loop$i ] || mknod -m 0600 /dev/loop$i b 7 $i
```

Re: mount: could not find any free loop device

done

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