

# Installing drivers for Red Hat 9 using 2.4 kernel

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*Source:* <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.linux.setup/2006-02/msg00317.html>

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Hey can anyone here help me install these drivers I have for this webcam. Obviously I am new to this and I am not familiar with the terms

in the directions. So if someone can please explain these directions and why I have to do certain things then that would be flipping awesome. PLEASE HELP ME!!!! BTW IT COULD HELP IF YOU TOLD ME HOW TO MAKE IT LOAD AUTOMATICALLY IF IT CAN. THANK IN ADVANCE.

I am using a Logitech QuickCAM Express.

%%%%%%%%%% INSTRUCTIONS %%%%%%%%%%

## QUICKSTART

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Type `./quickcam.sh` in the current directory and follow the instructions.

## Requirements

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An USB camera with ST Microelectronics bridge chip and either VV6410, HDCS-1000, HDCS-1020 or Photobit sensor. Usually Logitech QuickCams qualify,

but check if your camera is supported from

<http://qce-ga.sourceforge.net>.

Important notice: never trust that if camera named "xxxx" is mentioned as supported, it really is. There are many different cameras sold with exactly same name/model, with some working and some not. Examples are QuickCam Notebook and Labtec cameras, of which some work and some don't.

VendorId and ProductId, as reported by `lsusb`, help much determining whether a camera really is supported, but even they aren't failproof.

The VendorId should be 0x046D and ProductId one of 0x0840, 0x0850, or 0x0870 or the camera definitely is not supported by this driver.

Required kernel: Linux 2.2.x (x >= 18), 2.4.x, or 2.6.x.

x86 is best tested, but the driver might also work on other architectures

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(I got a success report on Alpha and PPC). SMP appears to work too.

Where to get it?

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Well, you're already reading this so you obviously should already have the driver too. But just in case, here's the important links:

<http://qce-ga.sourceforge.net>

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/qce-ga>

[http://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group\\_id=12924](http://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group_id=12924)

To get the latest version under development, use anonymous CVS at <http://qce-ga.sourceforge.net>.

Here may be also some interesting links and information:

<http://www.ee.oulu.fi/~tuukkat/quickcam/quickcam.html>

How to install?

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The recommended way is now just to run the script `./quickcam.sh` in the driver source directory. In some cases you might want to run `make` manually, as described in the following:

Type `"make clean && make all"` to compile the driver. The resulting driver file is `"quickcam.o"` for kernels 2.2.x and 2.4.x, or `"quickcam.ko"` for kernel 2.6.x. Type `"make"` to get some installation

options. Especially you should consider disabling debugging, it will make

the driver about 30% smaller and faster (this is now the default). And if

compressed mode is not supported with your camera, you might want to compile the driver with `"make all USER_OPT=-DCOMPRESS=0"`, which will save some more bytes.

Note: `/lib/modules/x.y.zz/build` should be a symbolic link to your

kernel source. It is created automatically by `"make modules_install"` in

kernel source directory, but some distributions (such as Debian) might not

have it pre-installed correctly. You can make the link manually or by specifying alternate kernel source directory with

`LINUX_DIR=/usr/src/x.y.zz`.

You can see the kernel version that you are running with `"uname -r"`.

The kernel source must be configured (with `"make menuconfig"`,

for

example) to have the same options as the kernel you will be running with the

camera. Also `"make dep"` must be performed in the kernel source directory

before the camera can be compiled against it. One way is to download fresh

kernel source into `/usr/src/linux-x.y.zz`, copy `.config` into the

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directory,  
and then enter "make oldconfig && make dep". Then you can compile the camera driver against the kernel source using the LINUX\_DIR option, and

compile the kernel with "make bzImage && make modules", install the kernel with "make modules\_install" and running lilo, and install the camera driver with "MODULE\_DIR=/lib/modules/x.y.zz make install", and reboot. With kernel 2.6.x you must use "make modules\_prepare" instead of "make dep".

You should also compile the kernel and the camera driver with same versions of gcc. Check gcc version with "gcc -v" and the version which was used for compiling the kernel with "cat /proc/version". Easier is just to install the kernel source package from your Linux distribution and compile then the camera driver. For example, in Debian

you should first check which "kernel-image" package is installed, and then install the corresponding "kernel-headers" package, which is correctly preconfigured (at least on x86).

The driver is accessed using either /dev/video or /dev/videoX device file. If you are using devfs, it should appear automatically when

the driver is loaded. If not, you can create the file manually with

```
mknod /dev/video0 c 81 0
```

```
mknod /dev/video1 c 81 1
```

```
chmod a+rw /dev/video0
```

```
ln -s /dev/video0 /dev/video
```

as root.

If you still don't have a clue, ask from

```
qce-ga-discuss...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
```

### How to load?

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You need USB and Video4Linux support in your kernel. Check that they are compiled, if not, reconfigure kernel, compile and install. It took a long time to find the Video4Linux checkbox in 2.2, it is in Character Devices / Video4Linux

When you have a supported kernel, just load the necessary drivers with

```
modprobe videodev
```

```
modprobe usb-uhci # Either UHCI or OHCI,
```

```
modprobe usb-ohci # loading the another will fail
```

```
insmod ./quickcam.o(.ko) compatible=3
```

(or "modprobe quickcam" if you have already installed it).

If it works, you can install these lines into some startup script in /etc to load the driver every time you boot up your computer.

If you're using hotplug (package "hotplug" on Debian), the driver

should be loaded automatically (in 2.4.x and newer kernels) when you

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plug  
the camera in (after you have installed the driver with "make  
install").

For hotplug to work, the UHCI or OHCI driver has to be first loaded,  
on Debian typically by inserting the correct driver name into  
"/etc/modules".

### How to run?

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After the driver has been loaded, you can run your favorite camera  
software  
such as Xawtv, Motv, or Mplayer/Mencoder (see file APPLICATIONS for  
some

suggestions). If you have multiple video devices, do

```
cd /proc/video/quickcam
```

```
ls -la
```

to see which devices are allocated for the qc-usb driver. You can  
examine

the contents of the video\* files in the above directory by using e.g.  
"cat".

Specify /dev/video\* device file corresponding to the desired camera  
to the program what you are using.

There's an utility called "qcset" that you can use to change  
driver options on-the-fly. Run "qcset -h" for more info. It is  
recommended

that you use qcset to change driver options instead of using module  
parameters

when loading the module with insmod. The module options might go away  
in

future, and you can set different options for each plugged camera only  
with

qcset. Check out the possible module parameters with "qcset -h".

If some piece of program doesn't work, try enabling more compatibility  
levels:

```
qcset compatible=16x,dblbuf
```

By default all compatibility is disabled, because it is the user  
applications

not the driver which should be fixed. Meanwhile, use either  
compatible=1

or 3.

Some programs that require compatible=1: anything using the Xvideo  
driver.

Some programs that require compatible=3: motion, vic.

Other available options with qcset:

-b and -c Set camera exposure time and gain, when automatic  
adaptation

is disabled. When enabled, -b selects the target image  
brightness, into which the adaptation algorithm tries  
to

settle.

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`-o` and `-u` Set camera color balance. If the color strength (`-o`) is

less than half of the maximum (the default), all colors

have the equal gain and hue (`-u`) has no effect.

Otherwise,

the relative color gains are balanced according to hue and color strength. These options have effect only with

the HDCS and Photobit sensors, and on Photobit only when

automatic exposure control has been disabled

(`adaptive=n`).

`-w` Set image sharpness. This option has effect only when image quality is 5 (best). Zero value corresponds to quality 3 (bilinear). Also, this option has no effect

when compression is enabled.

`-g v` Enable lookup-table with the given gamma value

`-g rg:gg:bg` Specify different gamma value for each channel

`-g rg:gg:bg:rw:gw:bw` Specify also color gain for each color channel

Gamma and color correction is useful if your sensor does

not support hardware correction with options `-o` and `-u`.

The gamma values should be between 0.5...1.0 and the balance weights around 0.7-1.3. You can but probably should

not use equalization simultaneously with software lookup-table,

because the advantage is dubious.

Software lookup table will have no effect when compression is

enabled (`compress=y`).

`-e filename.pnm` Compute and enable static equalization from given PNM/PPM

image file. Similar to "`equalize=y`", except that the equalization lookup table is calculated from given image

file only once, and not constantly. This avoids problems

with flat surfaces or other views that do not contain balanced colors (e.g. if you would point the camera at full-red car, equalization would make it not to look red

at all).

How to generate own image for equalization:

`- qcset equalize=n quality=bilinear -g -`

`- xawtv -noxv -noscale` (disabling Xvideo is required)

`-` Point the camera into something that contains good balance

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of all primary colors, red, green, and blue.

Something like

pale walls are not good, try a bookshelf or something.

– Run GIMP, select "File/Acquire/Screen Shot".

Enable "Single Window", disable "Decorations", click OK.

– Click on the Xawtv window. If you get completely blue

image instead of what xawtv displays, then you didn't

disable Xvideo.

– Click on the GIMP image window with right mouse button,

select "File/Save As...", enter filename.pnm, select raw PNM file.

– `qcset quality=best -e filename.pnm`

The equalization image is sensor and lighting-specific, so if

you change the camera or go indoors/outdoors, redo the procedure above.

There may be some pre-made equalization files in

[http://www.ee.oulu.fi/~tuukkat/quickcam/eq-\\*.pnm](http://www.ee.oulu.fi/~tuukkat/quickcam/eq-*.pnm).

This option can not be use simultaneously with the "-g" option.

You can disable static equalization with "-g -".

Software lookup table will have no effect when compression is

enabled (`compress=y`).

`-g + / -e +` Enable software-based lookup-table for correcting colors

`-g - / -e -` Disable lookup-table

`-g '?' / -e '?'` Display whether lookup-table is enabled and the table contents

`qcdebug` Enable selected debug messages. You can write symbolic list

of error message types or bitmask, for example

`"qcdebug=errors,common"` displays debug messages related to

various errors and some common messages as "frame lost".

The kernel messages are logged typically into file

`/var/log/kern.log`.

Note that if the driver was not compiled with debugging

enabled (`"USER_OPT=-DDEBUG"`) this option will not do much.

`debug` Same as 'qcdebug', for compatibility with older versions.

`keepsettings` Keep image settings over camera uses. When this option is disabled, the image settings (brightness etc.)

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are reset to the default values each time when a program opens the camera.

`settle` Specify the maximum number of frames to wait for image brightness to settle before starting capturing. Has effect only when adaptation is enabled. For example, if `settle=30`, the camera driver waits maximum of 30 frames until automatic adaptation (brightness control) has stabilized the image brightness and only then gives

the first image. Some programs, e.g. `xawtv`, don't like if the driver pauses for a long time.

This option is particularly useful if you take single image snapshots but the images are too dark or bright. `subsample` Increases framerate but decreases image resolution. May work or not to work depending on camera sensor type.

Works on HDCS-1000. To get high frame rate, you must use

short exposure time. Either disable adaptation and set contrast into small value or use enough light so that the adaptation routine uses short exposure time.

`compress` Enable MJPEG compression with QuickCam Web and LEGO cameras.

On other cameras, compression is automatically disabled.

When using compression, image size is fixed to 320\*240 and frame rate is about doubled to 15 frames per second.

`frameskip` Lower frame rate by skipping frames. Decreases CPU power requirement. For slow computers.

`quality` Select image conversion routine which is used for converting Bayer CFA image into RGB image. Has no effect when compression is enabled.

`adaptive` Enable or disable automatic brightness control.

Use `-b` to set the target brightness.

`equalize` Equalizes the image. May improve colors hugely sometimes.

`userlut` Enables or disables the default whether to use software

`lookup-table` color correction in the driver. Affects only

cameras which are plugged in after setting this setting.

For already plugged-in cameras, use `-g` and `-e` options.

`retryerrors` If there are problems with communicating with the camera,

and `retryerrors` is enabled, the driver tries to retry a few times instead of immediately failing and returning

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error to application.

compatible Enable various compatibility levels:

16x: force image width and height be multiple of sixteen.

dblbuf: lie applications about the number of frame buffers.

torgb: convert BGR values into RGB.

video\_nr Select the video device number to use. Can not be set with qcset.

You can query the named parameters by adding a question mark, for example

```
qcset 'qcdebug?'
```

displays the current debugging selection.

With kernel 2.6.x you can run qcset simultaneously while running other applications which use the camera. With older kernels, you must close other applications before qcset can be used.

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