

VirtualBox Guest Additions on PAE kernel

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If you are using a [PAE](#) (Physical Address Kernel) kernel in a [Virtual Box](#) guest and wish to install the VirtualBox Guest additions, you need to download the *kernel-PAE-devel* package as well as the *kernel-headers* package. PAE kernels are available for Fedora, Red Hat, CentOS and more.

Otherwise you will end up failing to build the main Guest Additions kernel module and getting a misleading message in */var/log/vboxadd-install.log* after attempting to run *sh ./VBoxLinuxAdditions.run*:

```
*** Error: KERN_DIR does not point to a directory.
```

That message is misleading as the real error is due to you not having the PAE headers installed. For example, the PAE headers for the 3.9.10-100 Fedora 17 kernel should be located under */usr/src/kernels/3.9.10-100.fc17.i686.PAE* - not under */usr/src/kernels/3.9.10-100.fc17.i686*.

Unless you have deliberately installed the kernel headers in some unusual directory, you should normally never have to configure the *KERN_DIR* or *KERN_INCL* environmental variables.