

Quick Start: DataDirect Connect[®] for ODBC Oracle Driver on UNIX and Linux

The following basic information enables you to connect with and test your driver immediately after installation. For installation instructions for DataDirect Connect for ODBC, please see the [DataDirect Connect and Connect XE for ODBC Installation Guide](#). The following command samples assume that the user is executing from within the Korn (ksh) shell.

Environment Setup

IMPORTANT: You must have all components of the Oracle client software installed and connecting properly; otherwise, the driver will not operate correctly.

- 1 Check your permissions:** Log in as a user with full r/w/x permissions recursively on the entire DataDirect Connect for ODBC installation directory.
- 2 Determine which shell you are running:** From the login shell, execute the `echo $SHELL` command.
- 3 Run the DataDirect Technologies setup script to set variables:** Two scripts, `odbc.csh` and `odbc.sh`, are installed in the installation directory. For Korn, Bourne, and equivalent shells, execute `odbc.sh`. For a C shell, execute `odbc.csh`. After running the setup script, execute the `env` command to verify that the `installation_directory/lib` directory has been added to your shared library path.
- 4 Set ODBCINI variable:** DataDirect Connect for ODBC installs a default `odbc.ini` file, where your data sources reside, in the installation directory. You must set the `ODBCINI` environment variable to point to the path of the `odbc.ini` file. For example:

```
$ ODBCINI= /opt/odbc/odbc.ini; export ODBCINI
```

- 5 Set database-specific variables:**
 - `ORACLE_HOME`—set to the main directory where Oracle resides
 - `Shared Library Path`—You must add `(ORACLE_HOME)/lib` and `usr/lib`
- 6 Test your native connection:** The driver uses native libraries (database client to database) to connect to the database. You should test this native connection before attempting to connect with the driver. Errors encountered when testing the native connection are not ODBC driver-related.

Test Loading the Driver

The `ivtestlib` tool is a utility to verify that the driver can be loaded into memory; it is located in the `installation_directory/bin` directory. For example, to load the driver (where `xx` represents the driver level number and `nn` the extension), you would enter:

```
$ ivtestlib /opt/odbc/lib/ivor8xx.nn
```

If the load is successful, `ivtestlib` returns a success message along with the version string of the driver. If the driver cannot be loaded, `ivtestlib` returns an error message explaining why.

Connecting to a Database for All Users

The following procedure is applicable for all UNIX/Linux users. Linux users can choose to use the DataDirect ODBC Data Source Administrator for UNIX/Linux. See [Connecting to a Database for Linux Users](#).

Defining a Data Source in the `odbc.ini`

The default `odbc.ini` installed in the installation directory is a template into which you enter your site-specific database connection information using a text editor. The following sample shows the minimum connection string attributes you must enter for a test connection (where `xx` represents the driver level number and `nn` the extension). For example, you might enter:

```
[Oracle]
Driver=/opt/odbc/lib/ ivor8xx.nn
Description=connection to my accounting database
ServerName=OracleServer
```

Testing the Connection

The DataDirect Connect *for* ODBC installation includes a program named `example` that can be used to connect to a data source and execute SQL. The application is located in the `installation_directory/example` directory. To run the program, type `example` and follow the prompts to enter your data source name, user name, and password. If successful, a `SQL>` prompt appears and you can type in SQL Statements such as `Select * from <table_name>`. If `example` is unable to connect, the appropriate error message appears.

Connecting to a Database for Linux Users

The following procedure is applicable only on Linux systems using a Motif GUI. The procedure describes using the DataDirect ODBC Data Source Administrator for UNIX/Linux (the UNIX ODBC Administrator).

- 1 To start the UNIX ODBC Administrator, change to the `install_dir/tools` directory, where `install_dir` is the path to the product installation directory; at a command prompt, enter: `odbcadmin`
- 2 On the User DSN tab, click **Add** to display a list of installed drivers. Select the driver from the list and click **Finish** to display the driver Setup dialog box.
- 3 On the General tab, provide the following information; then, click **Apply**.
 - **Data Source Name:** Type a string that identifies this data source configuration in the system information, such as "Accounting."
 - **Description:** Type an optional long description of a data source name, such as "My Accounting Database."
 - **Server Name:** Type the client connection string designating the server and database to be accessed. The information required varies depending on the client driver you are using.

Testing the Connection

- 1 At the bottom of the Driver Setup dialog box, click **Test Connect** to attempt to connect to the data source using the connection properties that you specified. A logon dialog box appears. Note that the information you enter in the logon dialog box during a test connect is not saved. Click **OK**.

If the driver can connect, it releases the connection and displays a `connection established` message. If the driver cannot connect because of an improper environment or incorrect connection value, it displays an appropriate error message. Click **OK**.

- 2 Click **OK** or **Cancel** at the bottom of the Driver Setup dialog box. If you click **OK**, the values you have specified become the defaults when you connect to the data source.

Tuning the Driver for Optimal Performance

To tune the driver for optimal performance, run the DataDirect Connect *for* ODBC Performance Wizard, which is installed along with the product and is also available from the DataDirect web site (http://www.datadirect.com/products/odbc/performance_tuning_wizard/index.ssp). The Wizard leads you step-by-step through a series of questions about your application. Based on your answers, the Wizard provides the optimal settings for performance-related connection attributes.

The Wizard runs as an applet within a browser window. To run the Wizard, one of the following browsers must be installed:

- Netscape 4.x or higher
- Firefox 1.0 or higher

To start the Wizard that was installed with the product, launch the following file from your browser, where *installation_directory* is your DataDirect Connect *for* ODBC installation directory:

```
installation_directory/wizards/index.html
```

NOTE: Security features set in your browser can prevent the Wizard from launching. A security warning message is displayed. Often, the warning message provides instructions for unblocking the Wizard for the current session. To allow the Wizard to launch without encountering a security warning message, the security settings in your browser can be modified. Check with your system administrator before disabling any security features.

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