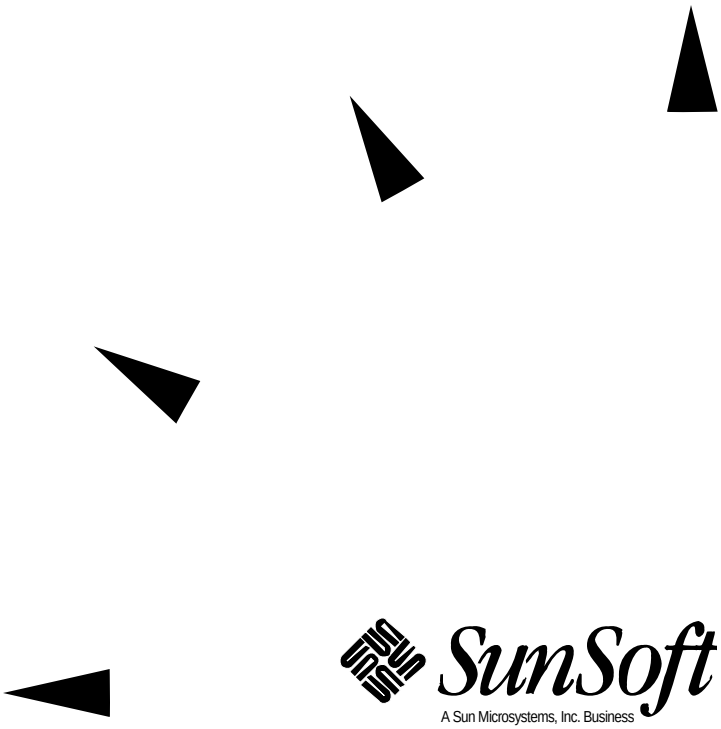
# Solaris Common Messages and Troubleshooting Guide



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# *Preface*

System administrators and advanced users can use the *Common Messages and Troubleshooting Guide* to find explanations of some of the more common error messages in the Solaris system.

Look up the messages and explanations here when you see a system message that you don’t understand. If the message you’re searching for is fairly common, it might be documented in this book.

## *How This Book Is Organized*

**Chapter 1, “About Error Messages,”** explains how to find messages in both the AnswerBook Navigator and in the printed book.

**Chapter 2, “Alphabetical Message Listing,”** lists messages alphabetically, with troubleshooting information following each message listing.

**Chapter 3, “Permuted Index,”** alphabetizes messages by key words in the message. Use the permuted index to find messages that contain varying words and numbers.

## *Special Symbols*

Three special symbols are used with the message explanations in this book.

### *Data Corruption Highly Likely*

The bomb symbol next to a message explanation warns that data corruption is highly likely. The situations described are often associated with damage to data, and might require serious and immediate remedial action, depending on the importance of data integrity to your task. Please note that "data corruption" is usually differentiated from "data loss." When data loss is known to be highly likely, it is usually noted in the text of the explanation.

### ❖ *See Also*

When further reading is suggested for a topic mentioned in the message explanation, the ❖ symbol appears next to the first mention of the topic. This tells you to look in the message "*See Also*" section for sources of more information.

### ↵ *New Line*

This symbol means that the part of this multi-line message following ↵ appears on a separate line.

## *Deciphering Type Changes And Prompt Symbols*

The following table describes the typographic changes used in this book.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *AaBbCc123* | Variables, book titles, words to be emphasized | To delete a file, type `rm` *filename.*<br>Read Chapter 6 in *User's Guide.* |

*Table P-1* Typographic Conventions

| **Typeface or Symbol** | **Meaning** | **Example** |
|---|---|---|
| `AaBbCc123` | Functions, commands, filenames, code, screen displays | Edit your `.login` file.<br>Use `ls -a` to list all files.<br>The `setlogmask()` function sets... |
| **`AaBbCc123`** | What you type, contrasted with screen displays | `machine_name% su`<br>`Password:` |
| `name(num)` | The manual page in the *Solaris 2.5 Reference Manual AnswerBook* | See `ls(1)`. |
| *%* | C shell prompt | % **`ls -a`** |
| *$* | Bourne or Korn shell prompt | $ **`ls -a`** |
| *#* | Superuser prompt | # **`ls -a`** |

# About Error Messages 1

This book covers some of the more common error messages in the Solaris 2.5 system. Most messages covered here come from the operating system and the window system, but some come from commands, networking, and system administration (the section 1 and section 1M man pages).

## Searching for Messages

### Choosing What To Look For

How you choose to look up a particular message depends both on how the message is constructed and on whether you are searching in a printed book or in the AnswerBook documentation.

#### Variable Words and Numbers

In either case, remember as you are searching that some words and numbers in messages vary when the messages are displayed. For example, the following message uses the name of the server affected, b5server in this case:

```
NFS read failed for server b5server
```

When message words or numbers vary, this book uses the words *variable* and *number* in the italics type face. So the previous message is listed in this book as:

```
NFS read failed for server variable
```

Variable words and numbers can appear anywhere in a message, even at the beginning. Because of this, messages are alphabetized by the first nonreplaced word or number in the message.

## *Frequently Duplicated Parts of Messages*

Many messages you see are actually combined messages, often beginning with a program name. The five error messages in the following example are basically the same even though the command names are different.

- `find: out of memory`
- `grep: out of memory`
- `ls: out of memory`
- `mount: out of memory`
- `fsck: out of memory`

Rather than document this message at least five times, it appears in this book as the message "out of memory." Messages that contain colons (:) are often combined messages, and you might find that explanations of message sections are available separately.

So, if you don't find the beginning of a message in the book, and the message contains colons, search for other parts of the message, also.

## *Using the Permuted Index*

When you are not sure which message words or numbers have been replaced, look for the message in the permuted index at the end of this book. With the permuted index you can find the original message by searching on any of the key words in the message.

In the permuted index, you can find the message "NFS read failed for server *variable*" by looking for "NFS," "read," "failed," and "server."

If you've never used a permuted index before, be sure to read the instructions at the beginning of Chapter 3, "Permuted Index."

## *In the Printed Book*

Methods for finding a particular message vary depending on whether you are looking at a printed book or are searching online with the AnswerBook Navigator.

To find a message in the printed book, you can start with either the alphabetical listing of messages in Chapter 2, “Alphabetical Message Listing,” or with the permuted index in Chapter 3, “Permuted Index.”

## *In the AnswerBook Navigator*

While print search methods work in AnswerBook, too, it’s much faster to search for messages through the search utility in the AnswerBook Navigator.

1. Bring up AnswerBook

   $ **answerbook**

2. Click SELECT on the Search button
3. Enter the words or pattern to search for in the “Search Library For:” pane
4. Double-click SELECT on an entry in the resulting list. Although any of the entries might contain the information you’re looking for, those from this book are most likely to be what you want.

If your first search doesn’t find the message, consider altering the search pattern. Remember, though, that this book contains only a small percentage of possible messages. If you aren’t sure whether or not the message you’re looking for is documented here, check in Chapter 3, “Permuted Index.

In general, you are most likely to find a documented message in the AnswerBook search pane when you enclose the searched-for words in quotation marks (““) or in parentheses ().

### *Using Pattern Matching*

You can search in the AnswerBook Navigator for text containing specific single words, phrases that contain spaces, words near one another, and word variations.

See “Using the AnswerBook Software” in the *Solaris User’s Guide* for more detailed information about the AnswerBook search.

*Table 1-1* AnswerBook Search Pattern Matching

| To search for | Such as | Use |
|---|---|---|
| Single words | installing, le0, group | The words |
| Phrases with spaces | Installing Packages | Quotation marks (““) |
| Words near one another | Installing...Server | Parentheses ( ( ) ) |
| Word variations | delete, deleting, deletion | Asterisks (*) and hyphens (-) |

The following example shows some of the possible matches for specific AnswerBook Navigator searches.

*Table 1-2* AnswerBook Search Results

| Searching with | Finds these (for example) |
|---|---|
| Installing | Installing XIL Device Handlers (XIL Device Porting and Extensibility Guide)<br>Installing Packages on a Server for... (Application Packaging Developer’s Guide) |
| “Installing Packages” | Installing Packages on a Server for... (Application Packaging Developer’s Guide)<br>Installing Packages for Clients on a Server (Software and AnswerBook Packages...) |
| (Installing Server) | Installing Packages on a Server for... (Application Packaging Developer’s Guide)<br>Creating an Install Server (SPARC Installing Solaris Software) |
| Delet* | Delete All Silence (Solaris Advanced User’s Guide)<br>Deleting a Line (Solaris Advanced User’s Guide)<br>Deletion of the New Selection (OLIT Reference Manual) |

If you are unable to find an error message documented, please take the time to report it to us by sending e-mail to msgdoc@Eng.Sun.COM (this address is an autoresponder alias, not an actual person).

## *Combining Search Techniques*

Combine the above search techniques to further refine your search. For example, “chang* mail-tool” finds documents containing phrases such as “change mailtool,” “change mail tool,” “change mail-tool,” “changing mailtool,” and so on.

## *Understanding the Message Explanations*

Each message contains at least one of the following areas:

- *Cause*: What might have happened to cause the message
- *Action*: What you can do to fix the problem or, to continue with your work
- *Technical Notes*: Background information that might be interesting or helpful to a technical audience. This often contains information specifically for programmers.

  Whenever you see part of a message that says “errno=” and then a number, look up the number on the Intro(2) man page to see what it indicates. System error messages on the Intro(2) man page are organized numerically.
- *See Also*: Suggests further reading

# 1

# Alphabetical Message Listing 2

Messages listed here are in the current Solaris 2.5 system. Many were also present in earlier Solaris 2.x systems.

Messages are listed alphabetically. If you don't find the message the first time you look, try looking up phrases from the middle of the message in *Chapter 3, "Permuted Index."*

## Numbers and Symbols

### ***** FILE SYSTEM WAS MODIFIED *****

#### *Cause*

This comment from the `fsck`(1M) command tells you that it changed the filesystem it was checking.

#### *Action*

If `fsck` was checking the root filesystem, reboot the system immediately to avoid corrupting the / partition. If `fsck` was checking a mounted filesystem, unmount that filesystem and run `fsck` again, so that work done by `fsck` is not undone when in-memory file tables are written out to disk.

# Numbers and Symbols

## ** Phase 1 – Check Blocks and Sizes

### *Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command is checking the filesystem shown in the messages that are displayed before this one. The first phase checks the inode list, finds bad or duplicate blocks, and verifies the inode size and format.

### *Action*

If more than a dozen errors occur during this important phase, you might want to restore the filesystem from backup tapes. Otherwise it is fine to proceed with `fsck`.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

## ** Phase 1b – Rescan For More DUPS

### *Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command detected duplicate blocks while checking a filesystem, so `fsck` is rescanning the filesystem to find the inode that originally claimed that block.

### *Action*

If `fsck` executes this optional phase, you will see additional DUP/BAD messages in phases 2 and 4.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

## ** Phase 2 – Check Pathnames

### *Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command is checking a filesystem, and `fsck` is now removing directory entries pointing to bad inodes that were discovered in phases 1 and 1b. This phase might ask you to remove files, salvage directories, fix inodes, reallocate blocks, and so on.

### *Action*

If more than a dozen errors occur during this important phase, you might want to restore the filesystem from backup tapes. Otherwise it is fine to proceed with `fsck`.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I.*

## ** Phase 3 – Check Connectivity

### *Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command is checking a filesystem, and `fsck` is now verifying the integrity of directories. You might be asked to adjust, create, expand, reallocate, or reconnect directories.

### *Action*

You can usually answer yes to all these questions without harming the filesystem.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I.*

## ** Phase 4 – Check Reference Counts

### *Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command is checking a filesystem, and `fsck` is now checking link count information obtained in phases 2 and 3. You might be asked to clear or adjust link counts.

### *Action*

You can usually answer yes to all these questions without harming the filesystem.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

## ** Phase 5 – Check Cyl groups

### *Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command is checking a filesystem, and `fsck` is now checking the free-block and used-inode maps. You might be asked to salvage free blocks or summary information.

### *Action*

You can usually answer yes to all these questions without harming the filesystem.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

## 451 timeout waiting for input during *variable*

### *Cause*

When `sendmail`(1M) reads from anything that might time out, such as an SMTP connection, it sets a timer to the value of the `r` processing option before reading begins. If the read doesn't complete before the timer expires, this message appears and reading stops. (Usually this is during RCPT.) The mail message is then queued for later delivery.

### *Action*

If you see this message often, increase the value of the `r` processing option in the `/etc/mail/sendmail.cf` file. If the timer is already set to a large number, look for hardware problems such as poor network cabling or connections.

### *See Also*

For more information about setting the timer, see the section describing the `sendmail` configuration options in the *Mail Administration Guide*. If you are using the AnswerBook, the term "timeouts" is a good search string.

## 550 *variable*... Host unknown

### *Cause*

This `sendmail`(1M) message indicates that the destination host machine, specified by the address portion after the @ (at-sign), was not found during DNS (Domain Naming System) lookup.

### *Action*

Use the `nslookup`(1M) command to verify that the destination host exists in that or other domains, perhaps with a slightly different spelling. Failing that, contact the intended recipient and ask for a proper address.

Sometimes this return message indicates that the intended host is merely down, rather than unknown. If a DNS record contains an unknown alternate host, and the primary host is down, `sendmail` returns a "Host unknown" message from the alternate host.❖

For `uucp` mail addresses, the "Host unknown" message probably means that the destination hostname is not listed in the `/etc/uucp/Systems` file.

***Technical Notes***

❖ This is a known `sendmail` version 8.6.7 bug.

***See Also***

For information on how `sendmail` works, see the *Mail Administration Guide.*

## 550 *variable*... User unknown

***Cause***

This `sendmail`(1M) message indicates that the intended recipient, specified by the address portion before the @ (at-sign), could not be located on the destination host machine.

***Action***

Check the e-mail address and try again, perhaps with a slightly different spelling. If this doesn't work, contact the intended recipient and ask for a proper address.

***See Also***

For information on how `sendmail` works, see the *Mail Administration Guide.*

## 554 *variable*... Local configuration error

***Cause***

This `sendmail`(1M) message usually indicates that the local host is trying to send mail to itself.

***Action***

Check the value of the `$j` macro in the `/etc/mail/sendmail.cf` file to ensure that this value is a fully-qualified domain name.

### *Technical Notes*

When the sending system provides its hostname to the receiving system (in the SMTP HELO command), the receiving system compares its name to the sender's name. If these are the same, the receiving system issues this error message and closes the connection. The name provided in the HELO command is the value of the `$j` macro.

### *See Also*

For information on how `sendmail` works, see the *Mail Administration Guide.*

# A

## A command window has exited because its child exited.

### *Cause*

The argument to a `cmdtool`(1) or a `shelltool`(1) window looks like it is supposed to be a command, but the system cannot find the command.

### *Action*

To run this command inside a `cmdtool` or a `shelltool`, make sure the command is spelled correctly and is in your search path (if necessary, use a full path name). If you intended this argument as an option setting, use a minus sign (-) at the beginning of the option.

### *Technical Notes*

Both the `cmdtool` and the `shelltool` are OpenWindows terminal emulators.

## admintool: Received communication service error 4

### *Cause*

AdminTool could not start a display method because a remote procedure call timed out, so it can't send the request. This error results when `admintool` tries to access the NIS or NIS+ tables when networking is not enabled.

### *Action*

Verify the system network status with `ifconfig -a` to make sure the system is connected to the network. Make sure the ethernet cable is connected and the system is configured to run NIS or NIS+.

## answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set

### *Cause*

The AnswerBook navigator window comes up, but the document viewer window does not. This message appears on the console, and the message "Could not start new viewer" appears in the navigator window. This situation indicates that you have an unknown client or a problem with the network naming service.

### *Action*

Run the `ypmatch`(1) or `nismatch`(1) command o determine if the client hostname is in the hosts map. If it isn't, add it to to NIS hosts map on the NIS master server. Then make sure the `/etc/hosts` file on the client contains an IP address and entry for that hostname followed by `loghost` (reboot if you changed the `/etc/hosts` file). Check that the `ypmatch` or `nismatch` *client* `hosts` command returns the same IP host address as in the `/etc/hosts` file. Finally, quit all existing AnswerBooks and restart.

### *See Also*

For more information on the NIS hosts map, see the section on the default search criteria in the *NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide*. If you are using the AnswerBook, "NIS hosts map" is a good search string.

## Arg list too long

### *Cause*

The system could not handle the number of arguments given to a command or program when it combined those arguments with the environment's exported shell variables. The argument list limit is the size of the argument list plus the size of the environment's exported shell variables.

### *Action*

The easiest solution is to reduce the size of the parent process environment by unsetting extraneous environment variables. (See the man page for the shell you're using to find out how to list and change your environment variables.) Then run the program again.

### *Technical Notes*

An argument list longer than ARG_MAX bytes was presented to a member of the `exec()` family of system calls.

The symbolic name for this error is E2BIG, errno=7.

## Argument out of domain

### *Cause*

This is a programming error or a data input error.

### *Action*

Ask the program's author to fix this condition, or supply data in a different format.

### *Technical Notes*

This indicates an attempt to evaluate a mathematical programming function at a point where its value is not defined. The argument of a programming function in the math package (3M) is out of the domain of the function. This could happen when taking the square root, power, or log of a negative number, when computing a power to a non-integer, or when passing an out-of-range argument to a hyperbolic programming function.

To help pinpoint a program's math errors, use the `matherr`(3M) facility.

The symbolic name for this error is EDOM, errno=33.

# A

## Arguments too long

### *Cause*

This C shell error message indicates that there are too many arguments after a command. For example, this can happen by invoking `rm *` in a huge directory. The C shell cannot handle more than 1706 arguments.

### *Action*

Temporarily start a Bourne shell with `sh` and run the command again. The Bourne shell dynamically allocates command line arguments. Return to your original shell by typing `exit`.

## assertion failed: *variable*, file *variable*, line *number*

### *Cause*

A condition in the program that was never expected to happen has happened.

### *Action*

Contact the vendor or author of the program to ask why it failed. If you have the source code for the program, you can look at the file and line number where the assertion failed. This might give you an idea of how to run the program differently.

### *Technical Notes*

This message results from a diagnostic macro called `assert`() that a programmer inserted into the specified line of a source file. The expression that evaluated untrue precedes the file name and line number.

## automountd[*number*]: No network locking on *variable*: contact admin to install server change

### *Action*

See the similar message “WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change” for details. If the server is not changed, data loss is possible in applications that depend on locking.

## automountd[*number*]: server *variable* not responding

### *Cause*

This automounter message indicates that the system tried to mount a filesystem from an NFS server that is either down or extremely slow to respond. In some cases this message indicates that the network link to the NFS server is broken, although that condition produces other error messages as well.

### *Action*

If you are the system administrator responsible for the non-responding NFS server, check it out to see whether the machine needs repair or rebooting. Encourage your user community to report such problems quickly but only once. When the NFS server is back in operation, the automounter will be able to access the requested filesystem.

### *See Also*

For more information on NFS failures, see the section on NFS troubleshooting in the *NFS Administration Guide*. If you are using the AnswerBook, a good search string is “NFS Service.”

## automount[*number*]: *variable*: Not a directory

### *Cause*

The file specified after the first colon is not a valid mount point because it is not a directory.

### *Action*

Ensure that the mount point is a directory, and not a regular file or a symbolic link.

# B

## Bad address

### *Cause*

The system encountered a hardware fault in attempting to access a parameter of a programming function.

### *Action*

Check if the bad address resulted from supplying the wrong device or option to a command. If that is not the problem, contact the vendor or author of the program for an update.

### *Technical Notes*

This error could occur any time a function that takes a pointer argument is passed an invalid address. Because processors differ in their ability to detect bad addresses, on some architectures passing bad addresses can result in undefined behaviors.

The symbolic name for this error is EFAULT, errno=14.

## BAD/DUP FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t ↵ CLEAR?

### *Cause*

While checking inode link counts during phase 4, `fsck`(1M) found a file (or directory) that either does not exist or exists somewhere else.

### *Action*

To clear the inode of its reference to this file or directory, answer yes. With the `-p` (preen) option, `fsck` automatically clears bad or duplicate file references, so answering yes to this question seldom causes a problem.

## Bad file number

### *Cause*

Generally this is a program error, not a usage error.

### *Action*

Contact the vendor or author of the program for an update.

### *Technical Notes*

Either a file descriptor refers to no open file, or a `read` (or `write`) request is made to a file that is open only for writing (or reading).

The symbolic name for this error is EBADF, errno=9.

## *number*BAD I=*number*

### *Cause*

Upon detecting an out-of-range block, `fsck`(1M) prints the bad block number and its containing inode (after I=).

### *Action*

In `fsck` phases 2 and 4, you will decide whether or not to clear these bad blocks. Before committing to repair with `fsck`, you could determine which file contains this inode by passing the inode number to the `ncheck`(1M) command: by passing the inode number to the `ncheck`(1M) command:

```
# ncheck -inum filesystem
```

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

## bad module/chip at: *variable*

### *Cause*

This message from the memory management system often appears with parity errors, and indicates a bad memory module or chip at the position listed. Data loss is possible if the problem occurs other than at boot time.

### *Action*

Replace the memory module or chip at the indicated position. Refer to the vendor's hardware manual for help finding this location.

## BAD SUPER BLOCK: *variable*

### *Cause*

This message from `fsck`(1M) indicates that a filesystem's super-block is damaged beyond repair and must be replaced. At boot time (with the `-p` option) this message is prefaced by the filesystem's device name. After this message comes the actual damage recognized (see Action). Unfortunately `fsck` does not print the number of the damaged super-block.

### *Action*

The most common cause of this error is overlapping disk partitions. Do not immediately rerun `fsck` as suggested by the lines that display after the error message. First make sure that you have a recent backup of the filesystem involved; if not, try to back up the filesystem now using `ufsdump`(1M). Then run the `format`(1M) command, select the disk involved, and print out the partition information.

```
# format
: N
> partition
> print
```

Note whether the overlap occurs at the beginning or end of the filesystem involved. Then run `newfs`(1M) with the `-N` option to print out the filesystem parameters, including the location of backup super-blocks.

```
# newfs -N /dev/dsk/device
```

Select a super-block from a non-overlapping area of the disk, but note that in most cases you have only one chance to select the proper replacement super-block, which `fsck` soon propagates to all the cylinders. If you select the wrong replacement super-block, data corruption will probably occur, and you will have to restore from backup tapes. After you select a new super-block, provide `fsck` with the new master super-block number:

```
# fsck -o b=NNNN /dev/dsk/device
```

### *Technical Notes*

Specific reasons for a damaged super-block include: a wrong magic number, out of range NCG (number of cylinder groups) or CPG (cylinders per group), the wrong number of cylinders, a preposterously large super-block size, and trashed values in super-block. These reasons are generally not meaningful because a corrupt super-block is usually extremely corrupt.

### *See Also*

For more information on bad superblocks, see the sections on restoring bad superblocks in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “superblock” is a good search string.

## BAD TRAP

### *Cause*

A bad trap can indicate faulty hardware or a mismatch between hardware and its configuration information. Data loss is possible if the problem occurs other than at boot time.

### *Action*

If you recently installed new hardware, verify that the software was correctly configured. Check the kernel traceback displayed on the console to see which device generated the trap. If the configuration files are correct, you will probably have to replace the device.

In some cases, the bad trap message indicates a bad or down-rev CPU.

***Technical Notes***

A hardware processor trap occurred, and the kernel trap handler was unable to restore system state. This is a fatal error that usually precedes a panic, after which the system performs a sync, dump, and reboot. The following conditions can cause a bad trap: a system text or data access fault, a system data alignment error, or certain kinds of user software traps.

## bad trap = *number*

***Action***

See the message "BAD TRAP" for details.

## /bin/sh: *variable*: too big

***Cause***

This Bourne shell message indicates a classic "no memory" error. While trying to load the program specified after the first colon, the shell noticed that the system ran out of virtual memory (swap space).

***Action***

See the message "Not enough space" for information on reconfiguring your system to add more swap space.

## Block device required

***Cause***

A raw (character special) device was specified where a block device was required, such as during a call to the `mount`(1M) command.

***Action***

To see which block devices are available, use `ls -l` to look in `/devices`. Then specify a block device instead of a character device. Block device modes start with a `b`, whereas raw character device modes start with a `c`.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENOTBLK, errno=15.

## Boot device: /iommu/sbus/*variable*/*variable*/sd@3,0

### *Cause*

This message always appears at the beginning of rebooting. If there is a problem, the system hangs, and no other messages appear. This condition is caused by conflicting SCSI targets for the boot device, which is almost always target 3.

### *Action*

The boot device is usually the machine's internal disk drive, target 3. Make sure that external and secondary disk drives are targeted to 1, 2, or 0, and do not conflict with each other. Also make sure that tape drives are targeted to 4 or 5, and CD drives to 6, avoiding any conflict with each other or with the disk drives. You can set a device's target number using pushbutton switches or a dial on the back near the SCSI cables. If the targeting of the internal disk drive is in question, check it by powering off the machine, removing all external drives, turning the power on, and running the `probe-scsi-all` or `probe-scsi` command from the PROM monitor.

## Broadcast Message from root (pts/*number*) on server [date]

### *Cause*

This message from the `wall`(1M) command gets transmitted to all users logged into a system. You could see it during a `rlogin` or `telnet` session, or on terminals connected to a timesharing system.

### *Action*

Carefully read the broadcast message. Often this broadcast is followed by a shutdown warning.

See the message "The system will be shut down in number minutes" for details about system shutdown.

### *See Also*

For more information on bringing down the system, see the section on halting the system in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “halting the system” is a good search string.

## Broken pipe

### *Cause*

This condition is often normal, and the message is merely informational (as when piping many lines to the `head` program). The condition occurs when a write on a pipe does not find a reading process. This usually generates a signal to the executing program, but this message displays when the program ignores the signal.

### *Action*

Check the process at the end of the pipe to see why it exited.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EPIPE, errno=32.

## Bus Error

### *Cause*

A process has received a signal indicating that it attempted to perform I/O to a device that is restricted or that does not exist. This message is usually accompanied by a core dump, except on read-only filesystems.

### *Action*

Use a debugger to examine the core file and determine what program fault or system problem led to the bus error. If possible, check the program’s output files for data corruption that might have occurred before the bus error.

***Technical Notes***

Bus errors can result from either programming error or device corruption on your system. Some common causes of bus errors are: invalid file descriptors, unreasonable I/O requests, bad memory allocation, misaligned data structures, compiler bugs, and corrupt boot blocks.

# C

## Cannot allocate colormap entry for "*variable*"

***Cause***

This message from `libXt` (X Intrinsics library) indicates that the system colormap was full even before the color name specified in quotes was requested. Some applications can continue after this message. Other applications, such as Workspace Properties Color, fail to come up when the colormap is full.

***Action***

Exit the programs that make heavy use of the colormap, then restart the failed application and try again.

## Can’t create public message device (Device busy)

***Cause***

This message comes from the `lp` print scheduler, indicating that it is either extremely busy or hung.

***Action***

If print jobs are coming out of the printer in question, wait until they are finished and then resubmit this print job. If you see this message again, the `lp` system is probably hung.

See the message “lp hang” for a procedure to clear the queue.

### *Technical Notes*

If `lp` is unable to create a device for printer messages, the message FIFO could be already in use, or locked by another print job.

### *See Also*

For more information on the print scheduler, see the section on administrating printers in the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*.

## Can't invoke /etc/init, error *number*

### *Cause*

This message can appear while a system is booting, indicating that the `init` program is missing or corrupted. Note that `/etc/init` is a symbolic link to `/sbin/init`.

### *Action*

Boot the miniroot so you can replace `init`. Halt the machine by typing `Stop-A` or by pressing the reset button. Reboot single-user from CDROM, the net, or diskette. For example, type `boot cdrom -s` at the `ok` prompt to boot from CDROM. After the system comes up and gives you a # prompt, mount the device corresponding to the original / partition somewhere, with a command similar to the `mount` command below. Then copy the `init` program from the miniroot to the original / partition, and reboot the system.

```
# mount /dev/dsk/c0t3d0s0 /mnt
# cp /sbin/init /mnt/sbin/init
# reboot
```

If this doesn't work, other files might be corrupted, and you might need to reinstall the entire system.

### *Technical Notes*

The error number is 2 if `/sbin/init` is missing, or 8 if `/sbin/init` has an incorrect executable format. This is usually followed by a "panic: icode" message. The system tries to reboot itself, but goes into a loop, because rebooting is impossible without `init`.

### *See Also*

For more information on booting the system, see the section on halting and booting the system in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

## can't synchronize with hayes

### *Cause*

This message sometimes appears when using a modem that the system regards as a "Hayes" type modem, which includes most modems manufactured today. The message can be caused by incorrect switch settings, by poor cable connections, or by not turning the modem on.

### *Action*

Check that the modem is on and that the cables between the modem and your system are securely connected. Check the internal and external modem switch settings. Turn the modem off and then on again, if necessary.

## cd: Too many arguments

### *Cause*

The C shell's cd(1) command takes only one argument. Either more than one directory was specified, or a directory name containing a space was specified. Directory names with spaces are easy to create with File Manager.

### *Action*

Use only one directory name. To change to a directory whose name contains spaces, enclose the directory name in double (") or single (') quotes, or use File Manager.

## Channel number out of range

### *Cause*

The system has run out of stream devices. This error results when a stream head attempts to open a minor device that does not exist or that is currently in use.

### *Action*

Check that the stream device in question exists and was created with an appropriate number of minor devices. Make sure that the hardware corresponds to this configuration. If the stream device configuration is correct, try again later when more system resources might be available.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ECHRNG, errno=37.

## chmod: ERROR: invalid mode

### *Cause*

This message from the `chmod`(1) command indicates a problem in the first non-option argument.

### *Action*

If you are specifying a numeric file mode, you can provide any number of digits (although only the final one to four are considered), but all digits must be between 0 and 7. If you are specifying a symbolic file mode, use the syntax provided in the `chmod` usage message to avoid the "invalid mode" error message:

```
Usage: chmod [ugoa][+-=][rwxlstugo] file ...
```

Note that some combinations of symbolic keyletters produce no error message but fail to have any effect. The first group, `[ugoa]`, is truly optional. The second group, `[+-=]`, is mandatory for `chmod` to have an effect. The third group, `[rwxlstugo]`, is also mandatory for effect, and can be used in combination when that combination does not conflict.

## Command not found

### *Cause*

The C shell could not find the program you gave as a command.

### *Action*

Check the form and spelling of the command line. If that looks correct, `echo $path` to see if the user's search path is correct. When communications are garbled, it is possible to unset a search path to such an extent that only built-in shell commands are available. Here is a command to reset a basic search path:

```
% set path = (/usr/bin /usr/ccs/bin /usr/openwin/bin .)
```

If the search path looks correct, check the directory contents along the search path to see if programs are missing or if directories are not mounted.

### *See Also*

For more information about the C shell, see `csh`(1).

## Connection closed.

### *Cause*

This message can appear when using `rlogin`(1) to another system if the remote host cannot create a process for this user, if the user takes too long to type the correct password, if the user interrupts the network connection, or if the remote host goes down. Data loss is possible if files were modified and not saved before the connection closed.

### *Action*

Just try again. If the other system has gone down, wait for it to reboot first.

## Connection closed by foreign host.

### *Cause*

When a user `telnet`s to another system, this message can appear if the user takes too long to type the correct password, if the remote host cannot create a login for this user, or if the remote host goes down or terminates the connection. Data loss is possible if files were modified and not saved before the connection closed.

### *Action*

Just try again. If the other system has gone down, wait for it to reboot first.

## [Connection closed. Exiting]

### *Cause*

After using the `talk`(1) command to communicate with another user, the other person enters an interrupt (usually Control-c), and this message appears on your screen.

### *Action*

Sending an interrupt like this is the usual way of exiting the `talk` program. The `talk` session is over and you can return to your work.

## Connection refused

### *Cause*

No connection could be made because the target machine actively refused it. This happens either when trying to connect to an inactive service or when a service process is not present at the requested address.

### *Action*

Activate the service on the target machine, or start it up again if it has disappeared. If for security reasons you do not intend to provide this service, inform the user community, possibly suggesting an alternative.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ECONNREFUSED, errno=146.

## Connection timed out

### *Cause*

This occurs either when the destination host is down or when problems in the network cause lost transmission.

### *Action*

First check the operation of the host system, for example by using `ping`(1M) and `ftp`(1), then repair or reboot as necessary. If that doesn't solve the problem, check the network cabling and connections.

### *Technical Notes*

No connection was established in a specified time. A connect or send request failed because the destination host did not properly respond after a reasonable interval. (The timeout period is dependent on the communication protocol.)

The symbolic name for this error is ETIMEDOUT, errno=145.

## console login: ^J^M^Q^K^K^P

### *Cause*

This usually occurs because OpenWindows exited abnormally, leaving the system's keyboard in the wrong mode. The characters that appear when someone attempts to login are garbage transliterations of what someone types.

### *Action*

Find another machine and remote login to this system, then run this command:

```
$ /usr/openwin/bin/kbd_mode -a
```

This puts the console back into ASCII mode. Note that `kbd_mode` is not a windows program, it just fixes the console mode.

### *Technical Notes*

The usual reason for this problem occurring is an automated script run from `cron` that clears out the `/tmp` directory every so often. Ensure that any such scripts do not remove the `/tmp/.X11-pipe` or `/tmp/.X11-unix` directories, or any files therein.

## core dumped

### *Cause*

A core file contains an image of memory at the point of software failure, and is used by programmers to find the reason for the failure.

### *Action*

To see which program produced a `core` file, run either the `file`(1) command or the `adb`(1) command. The following examples show the output of the `file` and `adb` commands on a core file from the `dtmail` program.

```
$ file core
core: ELF 32-bit MSB core file SPARC Version 1, from 'dtmail'
$ adb core
core file = core – program 'dtmail'
SIGSEGV 11: segmentation violation
^D (use Control-d to quit the program)
```

Ask the vendor or author of this program for a debugged version.

### *Technical Notes*

Some signals, such as SIGQUIT, SIGBUS, and SIGSEGV, produce a core dump. See the `signal`(5) man page for a complete list.

If you have the source code for the program, you can try compiling it with `cc -g`, and debugging it yourself using `dbx` or a similar debugger. The `where` directive of `dbx` provides a stack trace.

On mixed networks, it can be difficult to discern which machine architecture produced a particular core dump, since `adb` on one type of system generally cannot read a `core` file from another type of system, and will produce an "unrecognized file" message. Run `adb` on various machine architectures until you find the right one.

The term "core" is archaic – ferrite core memory was supplanted by silicon RAM in the 1970s, although spaceships still employ core memory for its imperviousness to radiation.

### *See Also*

For information on saving and viewing crash information see the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “system crash” is a good search string.

## Could not initialize tooltalk (tt_open): TT_ERR_NOMP

### *Cause*

Various desktop tools display or print this message when the `ttsession`(1) process is not available. The TookTalk service generally tries to restart `ttsession` if it is not running. So this error indicates that the ToolTalk service is either not installed or is not installed correctly.

### *Action*

Verify that the `ttsession` command exists in `/usr/openwin/bin` or `/usr/dt/bin`. If this command is not present, ToolTalk is not installed correctly. The packages constituting ToolTalk are the runtime SUNWtltk, developer support SUNWtltkd, and the manual pages SUNWtltkm. CDE ToolTalk packages have the same names with “.2” appended.

### *Technical Notes*

The full TT_ERR_NOMP message string reads as follows: “No `ttsession` is running, probably because `tt_open()` has not been called yet. If this is returned from `tt_open()` it means `ttsession` could not be started, which generally means ToolTalk is not installed on the system.“

## Could not start new viewer

### *Cause*

This message appears in the AnswerBook navigator window, along with an XView error message on the console.

### *Action*

See the message “answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set” for details.

## cpio: Bad magic number/header.

### *Cause*

A `cpio`(1) archive has either become corrupted or was written out with an incompatible version of `cpio`.

### *Action*

Use the `-k` option to `cpio` to skip I/O errors and corrupted file headers. This might permit you to extract other files from the `cpio` archive. To extract files with corrupted headers, try editing the archive with a binary editor such as `emacs`. Each `cpio` file header contains a filename as a string.

### *See Also*

For more information on magic numbers, see `magic`(4).

## Cross-device link

### *Cause*

An attempt was made to make a hard link to a file on another device, such as on another filesystem.

### *Action*

Establish a symbolic link using `ln -s` instead. Symbolic links are permitted across filesystem boundaries.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EXDEV, errno=18.

# D

## data access exception

### *Cause*

This message can result from running an old version of the operating system that does not support new hardware, or by running an operating system that is not configured for new hardware. It can also result from incorrectly installed DSIMMs or from a disk problem.

### *Action*

Upgrade your operating system to a version that supports the new hardware or machine architecture. For example, upgrading a SPARCstation 2 (with sun4c kernel architecture) to a SPARCstation 20 (with sun4m kernel architecture) requires an operating system upgrade or reconfiguration.

### *See Also*

For more information on upgrades, see the section describing system and device configuration in the *Solaris 1.x to 2.x Transition Guide.*

## Data fault

### *Cause*

This is a kind of bad trap that usually causes a system panic. When this message appears after a bad trap message, a system text or data access fault probably occurred.❖ In the absence of a bad trap message, this message might indicate a user text or data access fault. Data loss is possible if the problem occurs other than at boot time.

### *Action*

Make sure the machine can reboot, then check the log file `/var/adm/messages` for hints about what went wrong.

❖ See the message “BAD TRAP” for more information.

## Deadlock situation detected/avoided

### *Cause*

A programming deadlock situation was detected and avoided.

### *Action*

If the system had not detected and avoided a deadlock, a piece of software would have hung. Run the program again. The deadlock might not reoccur.

### *Technical Notes*

This error usually relates to file and record locking, but can also apply to mutexes, semaphores, condition variables, and read/write locks.

The symbolic name for this error is EDEADLK, errno=45.

### *See Also*

See the section on deadlock handling in the *System Interfaces Guide*. See the section on avoiding deadlock in the *Multithreaded Programming Guide*.

## Device busy

### *Cause*

An attempt was made to mount a device that was already mounted or to unmount a device containing an active file (such as an open file, a current directory, a mount point, or a running program). This message also occurs when trying to enable accounting that is already enabled.

### *Action*

To unmount a device containing active processes, close all the files under that mount point, quit any programs started from there, and change directories out of that hierarchy. Then try to unmount again.

### *Technical Notes*

Mutexes, semaphores, condition variables, and read/write locks set this error condition to indicate that a lock is held.

The symbolic name for this error is EBUSY, errno=16.

## /dev/rdsk/*variable*: CAN'T CHECK FILE SYSTEM.

### *Cause*

The system cannot automatically clean (preen) this filesystem because it appears to be set up incorrectly or is having hard disk problems. This message asks that you run `fsck`(1M) manually, since data corruption might already have occurred.

### *Action*

Run `fsck` to clean the filesystem in question. See the message "/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY; RUN fsck MANUALLY." for proper procedures.

## /dev/rdsk/*variable*: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY; RUN fsck MANUALLY.

### *Cause*

At boot time the `/etc/rcS` script runs the `fsck`(1M) command to check the integrity of filesystems marked "fsck" in `/etc/vfstab`. If `fsck` cannot repair a filesystem automatically, it interrupts the boot procedure and produces this message. When `fsck` gets into this state, it cannot repair a filesystem without losing one or more files, so it wants to defer this responsibility to you, the administrator. Data corruption has probably already occurred.

### *Action*

First run `fsck -n` on the filesystem, to see how many and what type of problems exist. Then run `fsck` again to repair the filesystem. If you have a recent backup of the filesystem, you can generally answer "y" to all the `fsck` questions. It's a good idea to keep a record of all problematic files and inode numbers for later reference. To run `fsck` yourself, specify options as recommended by the boot script. For example:

```
# fsck /dev/rdsk/c0t4d0s0
```

Usually the files lost during `fsck` repair are these that were created just before a crash or power outage, and they cannot be recovered. If you lose important files, you can recover them from backup tapes.

If you don't have a backup, ask an expert to run `fsck` for you.

***See Also***

For more information on file checking, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I.*

## Directory not empty

***Cause***

The directory operation that was attempted, such as directory removal with `rmdir`, can be performed only on an empty directory.

***Action***

To remove the directory, first remove all the files that it contains. A quick way to remove a non-empty directory hierarchy is with the `rm -r` command.

***Technical Notes***

The symbolic name for this error is ENOTEMPTY, errno=93.

## Disc quota exceeded

***Cause***

The user's disk limit has been exceeded on a user filesystem, usually because a file was just created or enlarged beyond the limit. This almost always refers to a magnetic disk, and not to an optical disc. Any data created after this condition occurs will be lost.

***Action***

The user can delete files to bring disk usage under the limit, or the server administrator can use the `edquota`(1M) command to increase the user's disk limit.

***Technical Notes***

The symbolic name for this error is EDQUOT, errno=49.

## dumptm: Cannot open '/dev/rmt/*variable*': Device busy

### *Cause*

During filesystem backup, the `dump` program cannot open the tape drive because some other process is holding it open.

### *Action*

Find the process that has the tape drive open, and either `kill`(1) the process or wait for it to finish.

```
# ps -ef | grep /dev/rmt
# kill -9 processID
```

## DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t FILE=f ↵ REMOVE?

### *Cause*

During phase 1, `fsck`(1M) found duplicate blocks or bad blocks associated with the file or directory specified after FILE= whose inode number appears after I= (with other information).

### *Action*

To remove this file or directory, answer yes. If you end up removing more than a few files in this manner, data loss will result, so it might be preferable to restore the filesystem from backup tapes.

### *See Also*

For more information on checking filesystems, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

## *number* DUP I=*number*

### *Cause*

Upon detecting a block that is already claimed by another inode, `fsck`(1M) prints the duplicate block number and its containing inode (after I=).

### *Action*

In `fsck` phases 2 and 4, you will decide whether or not to clear these bad blocks. Before committing to repair with `fsck`, you could determine which file contains this inode by passing the inode number to the `ncheck`(1M) command:

```
# ncheck -iinum filesystem
```

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

## E

## error: DPS has not initialized or server connection failed

### *Cause*

This message appears when trying to run AnswerBook with a generic X11 window server or on a generic X terminal.

### *Action*

Running AnswerBook requires Display PostScript (DPS), or a NeWS server, or the Adobe DPS NS remote display software. In addition, a complete LaserWriterII Type-1 font set (including Palatino) should be installed on the X server. To find out if your X server has DPS, run `xdpyinfo`(1) to verify the presence of an “Adobe-DPS-Extension” line. X servers without this line don’t know about DPS.

## ERROR: missing file arg (cm3)

### *Cause*

An attempt was madd to run some `sccs`(1) operation that requires a filename, such as `create`, `edit`, `delget`, or `prt`.

### *Action*

Supply the appropriate filename after the SCCS operation.

## ERROR [SCCS/s.*variable*]: 'SCCS/p.*variable*' nonexistent (ut4)

### *Cause*

An attempt was made to `sccs edit` or `sccs get` a file that is not yet under SCCS control.

### *Action*

Run `sccs create` on that file to place it under SCCS control.

## ERROR [SCCS/s.*variable*]: writable '*variable*' exists (ge4)

### *Cause*

An attempt was made to `sccs edit` a file that is writable, probably because it is already checked out.

### *Action*

Run `sccs info` to see who has the file checked out. If it is you, go ahead and edit it. If it is somebody else, ask that person to check in the file.

## esp0: data transfer overrun

### *Cause*

When a user tries to mount a CDROM on a third-party CD drive, `mount`(1M) fails with the above error, followed by the "sr0: SCSI transport failed" message. The CD drive probably comes from a vendor unknown to the system.

### *Action*

Third-party CD drives generally have an 8192 block size, as opposed to the 512 block size on supported Sun drives. Check with the vendor to see if any special configuration is possible to allow the drive to operate on a Sun workstation.

## Event not found

### *Cause*

This C shell message indicates that a user tried to repeat a command from the history list, but that command or number does not exist in the list.

### *Action*

Run the C shell `history` command to display recent events in the history list. If a user often tries to run commands that have disappeared from the history list, make the list longer by setting `history` to a higher value.

### *See Also*

For more information about the C shell, see `csh`(1).

## EXCESSIVE BAD BLKS I=*number* ↵ CONTINUE?

### *Cause*

During phase 1, `fsck`(1M) found more than 10 bad (out-of-range) blocks associated with the specified inode number.

### *Action*

With this many bad blocks, it might be preferable to restore the filesystem from backup tapes.

### *See Also*

For more information on bad blocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “bad blocks” is a good search string.

## EXCESSIVE DUP BLKS I=*number* ↵ CONTINUE?

### *Cause*

During phase 1, `fsck`(1M) found more than 10 duplicate (previously claimed) blocks associated with the specified inode number.

### *Action*

With this many duplicate blocks, it might be preferable to restore the filesystem from backup tapes.

### *See Also*

For more information on blocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “bad blocks” is a good search string.

## Exec format error

### *Cause*

This often happens when trying to run software compiled for different systems or architectures, such as when executing Solaris 2.x programs on a SunOS 4.1.x system, or when trying to execute SPARC-specific programs on an x86 machine. On a Solaris 2.x system, it can also occur if the Binary Compatibility Package was not installed.

### *Action*

Make sure that the software matches the architecture and system you’re using. The `file`(1) command can help you determine the target architecture. If you’re using SunOS 4.1.x software on a Solaris 2.x system, make sure that the Binary Compatibility Package is installed. You can check for it using this command:

```
$ pkginfo | grep SUNWbcp
```

### *Technical Notes*

A request was made to execute a file that, although it has the appropriate permissions, does not start with a valid format.

The symbolic name for this error is ENOEXEC, errno=8.

### *See Also*

See the `a.out`(4) man page for a description of executable files.

# F

## fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette in the drive

### *Cause*

This message appears on the system console to indicate that the floppy driver `fd`(7) could not read the label on a diskette. Usually this is either because a new diskette has not yet been formatted, or a formatted diskette has become corrupted. This message often appears along with “read failed” and “bad format” messages after `volcheck`(1) is run.

### *Action*

If you are certain that the diskette contains no data, run `fdformat -d` to format the diskette in DOS format. (You can also format a diskette in UFS format if you like, although then it is not transportable to most other systems.) When the diskette is formatted, you can write on it, if it was not corrupted beyond repair.

## File exists

### *Cause*

The name of an existing file was mentioned in an inappropriate context. For example, it is not allowed to establish a link to an existing file, or to overwrite an existing file when the `csh`(1) noclobber option is set.

### *Action*

Look at the names of files in the directory, then try again with a different name or after renaming or removing the existing file.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EEXIST, errno=17.

## File locking deadlock

### *Cause*

This is a programming problem, in some cases unavoidable.

### *Action*

All a user can do is restart the program and hope deadlock does not reoccur.

### *Technical Notes*

In the file locking subsystem, two processes tried to modify some lock at the same time. In the multithreading subsystem, two threads became deadlocked and could not continue. When a program using the threads library encounters this error, it should restart the deadlocked threads.

The symbolic name for this error is EDEADLOCK, errno=56.

## filemgr: mknod: Permission denied

### *Cause*

File Manager issues this message and fails to come up whenever the `/tmp/.removable` directory is owned by another user and is not 1777 mode. This can happen, for example, when multiple users share a workstation.

### *Action*

Have the original owner change the mode (`chmod(1)`) of this file back to 1777, its default creation mode. Rebooting the workstation also resolves this problem.

### *Technical Notes*

This is a known problem that was fixed in Solaris 2.4.

## File name too long

### *Cause*

The specified file name has too many characters.

### *Action*

If a file name or path name component is too long, devise a shorter name. If the total path name is longer than PATH_MAX characters, first change to an intermediate directory, then specify a shorter path name. Newly-created data will be lost unless written to another file with a shorter name.

### *Technical Notes*

In a UFS or NFS-mounted UFS filesystem, the length of a path name component exceeds MAXNAMLEN (255) characters, or the total length of the path name exceeds PATH_MAX (1024) characters. In a System V filesystem, the length of a path name component exceeds NAME_MAX (14) characters while no-truncation mode is in effect. These values are defined in the `/usr/include/limits.h`(4) file.

The symbolic name for this error is ENAMETOOLONG, errno=78.

## FILE SYSTEM STATE IN SUPERBLOCK IS WRONG; FIX?

### *Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command has just checked a filesystem, and has determined that the filesystem is clean. The filesystem's superblock, however, still thinks the filesystem is "dirty" in some way.

### *Action*

If you believe that the filesystem is adequately repaired, answer yes to mark the filesystem as clean.

### *Technical Notes*

Different "dirty" filesystem types are listed in `/usr/include/sys/fs/ufs_fs.h`, and include FSACTIVE, FSBAD, FSFIX, FSLOG, and FSSUSPEND.

### *See Also*

For more information on superblocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, "bad superblock" is a good search string.

## File table overflow

### *Cause*

The kernel file table is full because too many files are open on the system. Temporarily, no more files can be opened. New data created under this condition will probably be lost.

### *Action*

Simply waiting often gives the system time to close files. However, if this message occurs often, reconfigure the kernel to allow more open files. To increase the size of the file table in Solaris 2.x, increase the value of `maxusers` in the `/etc/system` file. The default `maxusers` value is the amount of main memory in MB, minus 2.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENFILE, errno=23.

## File too large

### *Cause*

The file size exceeded the limit specified by `ulimit`(1), or the file size exceeds the maximum supported by the file system. New data created under this condition will probably be lost.

### *Action*

In the C shell, use the `limit` command to see or set the default file size. In the Bourne or Korn shells, use the `ulimit -a` command. Even when the shells claim that the file size is unlimited, in fact the system limit is FCHR_MAX (usually 1 gigabyte).

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EFBIG, errno=27.

## FREE BLK COUNT(S) WRONG IN SUPERBLK ↵ SALVAGE?

### *Cause*

During phase 5, `fsck`(1M) detected that the actual number of free blocks in the filesystem did not match the superblock's free block count. The `df`(1M) command accesses this free block count when measuring filesystem capacity.

### *Action*

Generally you can answer yes to this question without harming the filesystem.

### *See Also*

For more information on superblocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, "bad superblock" is a good search string.

## fsck: Can't open /dev/dsk/*variable*

### *Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command cannot open the disk device, because although a similar filesystem exists, the partition specified does not.

### *Action*

Run the `mount`(1M) or the `format`(1M) command to see what filesystems are configured on the machine. Then run `fsck` again on an existing partition.

## fsck: Can't stat /dev/dsk/*variable*

### *Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command cannot open the disk device, because the specified filesystem does not exist.

### *Action*

Run the `mount`(1M) or the `format`(1M) command to see what filesystems are configured on the machine. Then run `fsck` again on an existing filesystem.

# G

## giving up

### *Cause*

This message appears in the SCSI log to indicate that a read or write operation has been retried until it timed out. With SCSI disk the timeout period is usually 30 seconds; with tape the period is usually 20 attempts. Timeout periods are generally coded into the drivers.

### *Action*

Check that all SCSI devices are connected and powered on. Make sure that SCSI target numbers are correct and not in conflict. Verify that all cables are no longer than six meters, total, and that all SCSI connections are properly terminated.

### *Technical Notes*

The `scsi_log`(9F) routine usually displays messages on the system console and in the `/var/adm/messages` file. Run the `dmesg`(1M) command to see the most recent message buffer.

## Graphics Adapter device /dev/fb is of unknown type

### *Cause*

The `/dev/fb` driver is either missing or corrupted.

### *Action*

See “InitOutput: Error loading module for /dev/fb” for details.

## group.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable

### *Cause*

This is the second of three messages that an NIS+ client prints when it cannot locate an NIS+ server on the network.

***Action***

See the message “hosts.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable” for details.

# H

## /home/*variable*: No such file or directory

***Cause***

An attempt was made to change to a user’s home directory, but either that user does not exist or the user’s fileserver has not shared (exported) that filesystem.

***Action***

To check on the existence of a particular user, run the `ypmatch`(1) or `nismatch`(1) command, specifying the user name and then the `passwd` map.

To export filesystems from the remote fileserver, become superuser on that system and run the `share`(1M) command with the appropriate options. If that system is sharing (exporting) filesystems for the first time, also invoke `/etc/init.d/nfs.server start` to begin NFS service.

***See Also***

For more information on sharing filesystems, see the `share_nfs`(1M) man page.

## Host is down

***Cause***

A transport connection failed because the destination host was down. For example, mail delivery was attempted over several days, but the destination machine was not available during any of these attempts.

***Action***

Report this error to the system administrator for the host. If you are the person responsible for this system, check to see if the machine needs repair or rebooting.

### *Technical Notes*

This error results from status information delivered by the underlying communication interface. If there is no known connection to the host, a different message usually results. See “No route to host” for details.

The symbolic name for this error is EHOSTDOWN, errno=147.

## host name configuration error

### *Cause*

This is an old `sendmail` message, which replaced “I refuse to talk to myself” and is now replaced by the “Local configuration error” message.

### *Action*

See the message “554 variable... Local configuration error” for details.

## hosts.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable

### *Cause*

This is the third of three messages that an NIS+ client prints when it cannot locate an NIS+ server on the network.

### *Action*

If other NIS+ clients are behaving normally, check the Ethernet cabling on the workstation showing this message. On SPARC machines, disconnected network cabling also produces a series of “no carrier” messages. On x86 machines, the NIS+ messages might be your only indication that network cabling is disconnected.

If many NIS+ clients on the network are giving this message, go to the NIS+ server in question and reboot or repair it, as necessary. When the server machine is back in operation, NIS+ clients will give an “NIS server for domain OK” message.

# I

## I can't read your attachments. What mailer are you using?

### *Cause*

The SunView `mailtool` and pre-3.3 OpenWindows `mailtool` produce this message when they cannot cope with an attachment. The attachment is probably in MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) format, using `base64` encoding.

### *Action*

To read a mail message containing MIME attachments, use `mailtool`(1) from Solaris 2.3 or later. If you are running an earlier version of Solaris, `rlogin`(1) to a later version of Solaris, set the DISPLAY environment variable back to the first system, and run `mailtool` remotely. If those options prove impossible, ask the originator to send the message again using `mailtool`, or using the CDE `dtmail` compose File->SendAs->SunMailTool option.

### *Technical Notes*

Standard MIME attachments with base64 encoding, for example, produce this message and fail to display in older `mailtool`s.

### *See Also*

Look into using `metamail`, available on the Internet, which allows you to send and receive MIME attachments.

## ie0: Ethernet jammed

### *Cause*

This message can appear on SPARCservers or x86 machines with an Intel 82586 Ethernet chip. It indicates that 16 successive transmission attempts failed, causing the driver to give up on the current packet.

### *Action*

If this error occurs sporadically or at busy times, it probably means that the network is saturated. Wait for network traffic to clear. If bottlenecks arise frequently, think about reconfiguring the network or adding subnets.

Another possible cause of this message is a noise source somewhere in the network, such as a loose transceiver connection. Use snoop(1M) or a similar program to isolate the problem area, then check and tighten network connectors as necessary.

## ie0: no carrier

### *Cause*

This message can appear on SPARCservers or x86 machines with an Intel 82586 Ethernet chip. It indicates that the chip has lost input to its carrier detect pin while trying to transmit a packet, causing the packet to be dropped.

### *Action*

Check that the Ethernet connector is not loose or disconnected. Other possible causes include an open circuit somewhere in the network and noise on the carrier detect line from the transceiver. Use snoop(1M) or a similar program to isolate the problem area, then check the network connectors and transceivers, as needed.

## Illegal Instruction

### *Cause*

A process has received a signal indicating that it attempted to execute an instruction that is not allowed by the kernel. This usually results from running programs compiled for a slightly different machine architecture. This message is usually accompanied by a core dump, except on read-only filesystems.

### *Action*

If you are booting from CDROM or from the net, check README files to make sure you are using an image appropriate for your machine architecture. Run `df` to make sure there is enough swap space on the system; too little swap space

can cause this error. If you recently upgraded your CPU to a new architecture, replace your operating system with one that supports the new architecture (an operating system upgrade might be required).

### *Technical Notes*

Sometimes this condition results from programming error, such as when a program attempts to execute data as instructions. This condition can also indicate device file corruption on your system.

## Illegal instruction "0x*number*" was encountered at PC 0x*number*

### *Cause*

The machine is trying to boot from a non-boot device, or from a boot device for a different hardware architecture.

### *Action*

If you are booting from the net, check README files to make sure you are using a boot image for that architecture. If you are booting from disk, make sure the system is looking at the right disk, which is usually SCSI target 3. Failing these solutions, connect a CD drive to the system and boot from CDROM.

## Illegal seek

### *Cause*

Using a pipe (“|”) on the command line doesn’t work here.

### *Action*

Rather than using a pipe on the command line, redirect the output of the first program into a file and then run the second program on that file.

### *Technical Notes*

A call to `lseek`(2) was issued to a pipe. This error condition can also be fixed by altering the program to avoid using `lseek()`.

The symbolic name for this error is ESPIPE, errno=29.

## Image Tool: Unable to open XIL Library.

### *Cause*

This message follows multiple multi-line “XilDefaultErrorFunc” errors, indicating that ImageTool could not locate the X Imaging Library. Many OpenWindows and CDE desksets programs require XIL.

### *Action*

Run `pkginfo`(1) to determine what packages are installed on the system. If the following packages are not present, install them from CDROM or over the net: SUNWxildg, SUNWxiler, SUNWxilow, and SUNWxilrt.

## Inappropriate ioctl for device

### *Cause*

This is a programming error.

### *Action*

Ask the program’s author to fix this condition. The program needs to be changed so it employs a device driver that can accept special character device controls.

### *Technical Notes*

The `ioctl()` system call was given as an argument for a file that is not a special character device. This message replaces the traditional but puzzling “Not a typewriter” message.

The symbolic name for this error is ENOTTY, errno=25.

## INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT I=*number* (should be *number*) ↵ CORRECT?

### *Cause*

During phase 1, `fsck`(1M) determined that the specified inode pointed to a number of bad or duplicate blocks, so the block count should be corrected to the actual number shown.

### *Action*

Generally you can answer yes to this question without harming the filesystem.

### *See Also*

For more information on bad blocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I.*

## inetd[*number*]: execv /usr/sbin/in.uucpd: No such file or directory

### *Cause*

This message indicates that the Internet services daemon `inetd`(1M) tried to start up the UUCP service without the UUCP daemon existing on the system.

### *Action*

The SUNWbnuu package must be installed before the machine can run UUCP. Run `pkgadd`(1M) to install this package from the distribution CDROM or over the network.

## inetd[*number*]: *variable*/tcp: unknown service

### *Cause*

This message indicates that the Internet services daemon `inetd`(1M) could not locate the TCP service specified after the first colon.

### *Action*

Check the current machine's `/etc/services` file, and the NIS `services` map, to see if the service is described. To start this service, add an appropriate entry into the `/etc/services` file and possibly the `services` map as well. Note that NIS+ does not consult the local `/etc/services` file unless you put "files" right after "nisplus" on the services line of the system's `/etc/nsswitch.conf` file.

If you do not want to start this service, edit the system's `/etc/inetd.conf` file and delete the entry that tries to start it up.

### *See Also*

For more information about NIS+, see the *NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide.*

## inetd[*number*]: *variable*/udp: unknown service

### *Cause*

This message indicates that the Internet services daemon `inetd`(1M) could not locate the UDP service specified after the first colon.

### *Action*

See the message “inetd[number]: variable/tcp: unknown service” for a solution.

## inetd: Too many open files

### *Cause*

This message can appear when someone runs a command from the shell or uses a third-party application. The `sar`(1M) command does not indicate that the system-wide open file limit has been exceeded.

### *Action*

The probable cause for this is that the shell limit has been exceeded. The default open file limit is 64, but can be raised to 256.

See the message “Too many open files” for a solution.

## INIT: Cannot create /var/adm/utmp or /var/adm/utmpx

### *Cause*

This console message indicates that `init`(1M) cannot write in the `/var` directory, which is usually part of the `/` (root) filesystem. Some other messages follow, and the system usually comes up single-user. The problem is often that `/` or `/var` is mounted read-only. Sometimes a brief power outage leaves the system believing that many filesystems are still mounted.

### *Action*

If `/var` is a separate filesystem on the machine, and is not yet not mounted, mount it now. If the filesystem containing `/var` is mounted read-only, remount it read-write with a command similar to this:

```
# mount -o rw,remount /
```

Then type Control-d and try to bring up the system multi-user. If that fails, the root filesystem is probably corrupted. Run `fsck`(1M) on the root filesystem, halt the machine, power cycle the CPU, and wait for the system to reboot. Should this problem still occur, restore the root filesystem from backup tapes, or re-install the system from net or CDROM to replace the root filesystem.

## InitOutput: Error loading module for /dev/fb

### *Cause*

This fatal X server error message indicates that `/dev/fb`, the "dumb frame buffer," is either missing or corrupted. It is usually followed by a "giving up" message and a few `xinit` errors.

### *Action*

If other devices on the system are working correctly, the most likely reason for this error is that the `SUNWdfb` package was removed or never installed. Insert the installation CD-ROM, change to the Solaris_2.x directory, and run the following command to install the packages SUNWdfbh and SUNWdfb (for your machine architecture):

```
pkgadd -d .
```

If other devices on the system are not working correctly, the system might have a corrupt `/devices` directory. Halt the system and boot using the `-r` (reconfigure) option. The system will run `fsck`(1M) if the `/devices` filesystem is corrupted, most likely fixing the problem.

## Interrupted system call

### *Cause*

The user issued an interrupt signal (usually Control-c) while the system was in the middle of executing a system call. When network service is slow, interrupting `cd`(1) to a remote-mounted directory can produce this message.

### *Action*

Proceed with your work, this message is purely informational.

### *Technical Notes*

An asynchronous signal (such as interrupt or quit), which a program was set up to catch, occurred during an internal system call. If execution is resumed after processing the signal, it will appear as if the interrupted programming function returned this error condition, so the program might exit with an incorrect error message.

The symbolic name for this error is EINTR, errno=4.

## Invalid argument

### *Cause*

An invalid parameter was specified that the system cannot interpret. For example, trying to mount an uncreated filesystem, printing without sufficient system support, or providing an undefined signal to a `signal`(3c) library function, can all produce this message.

### *Action*

If you see this message when you are trying to mount a filesystem, make sure that you have run `newfs`(1M) to create the filesystem. If you see this message when you are trying to read a diskette, make sure that the diskette was properly formatted with `fdformat`(1), either in DOS format (`pcfs`) or as a UFS filesystem. If you see this message while you are trying to print, make sure that the print service is configured correctly.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EINVAL, errno=22.

## Invalid null command

### *Cause*

This C shell message results from a command line with two pipes (|) in a row or from a pipe without a command afterwards.

### *Action*

Change the command line so that each pipe is followed by a command.

## I/O error

### *Cause*

Some physical Input/Output error has occurred. If the process was writing a file, data corruption is possible.

### *Action*

First find out which device is experiencing the I/O error. If the device is a tape drive, make sure a tape is inserted into the drive. When this error occurs with a tape in the drive, it is likely that the tape contains an unrecoverable bad spot.

If the device is a floppy drive, an unformatted or defective diskette could be at fault. Format the diskette, or obtain a replacement.

If the device is a hard disk drive, you might need to run `fsck`(1M) and possibly even reformat the disk.

### *Technical Notes*

In some cases this error might occur on a call following the one to which it actually applies.

The symbolic name for this error is EIO, errno=5.

## Is a directory

### *Cause*

An attempt was made to read or write a directory as if it were a file.

### *Action*

Look at a listing of all the files in the current directory and try again, specifying a file instead of a directory.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EISDIR, errno=21.

# K

## kernel read error

### *Cause*

This message appears when `savecore`(1M), if activated, tries to copy a debugging image of kernel memory to disk but cannot read various kernel data structures correctly. Generally this occurs after a system panic has corrupted main memory. Data corruption on the system is possible.

### *Action*

Look at the kernel error messages that preceded this one to try to determine the cause of the problem. Error messages such as “BAD TRAP” usually indicate faulty hardware. Until the problem that caused the kernel panic is resolved, a kernel core image cannot be saved for debugging.

## Killed

### *Cause*

This message is purely informational. If the killed process was writing a file, some data might be lost.

### *Action*

Continue with your work.

### *Technical Notes*

This message from the signal handler or various shells indicates that a process has been terminated with a SIGKILL. However, if you don't see this message and cannot terminate a process with a SIGKILL, you might have to reboot the machine to get rid of that process.

## kmem_free block already free

### *Cause*

This is a programming error, probably from a device driver.

### *Action*

Determine which driver is giving this message and contact the vendor for a software update, as this message indicates a bug in the driver.

### *Technical Notes*

This message is from the DDI programming function `kmem_free`(9F), which releases a block of memory at address `addr` of size `siz` that was previously allocated by the DDI function `kmem_alloc`(9F). Both `addr` and `siz` must correspond to the original allocation. If you have source code for the driver, follow `kmem_alloc`() and `kmem_free`() in the code to make sure they allocate and free the same chunk of memory.

# L

## last message repeated *number* times

### *Cause*

This message comes from `syslog`(1M), the facility that prints messages on the console and records them in `/var/adm/messages`. To reduce the log size and minimize buffer usage, `syslog` collapses any identical messages it sees during a 20 second period, then prints this message with the number of repetitions.

### *Action*

Look above this message to see which message was repeated so often. Then consider the repeated message and take action accordingly. If repeated log entries such as “su ... failed” appear, consider the possibility of a security breach.

## ld.so.1: *variable*: fatal: relocation error: symbol not found: *variable*

### *Cause*

This message from the run-time linker `ld.so.1` indicates that in trying to execute the application given after the first colon, the specified symbol could not be found for relocation. The message goes on to say in what file the symbol was referenced. Since this is a fatal error, the application terminates with this message.

### *Action*

Run the `ldd -d` command on the application to show its shared object dependencies and symbols that aren’t found. Probably your system contains an old version of the shared object that should contain this symbol. Contact the library vendor or author for an update.

### *Technical Notes*

This error does not necessarily occur when you first bring up an application. It could take months to develop, if ordinary use of the application seldom references the undefined symbol.

## ld.so.1: *variable*: fatal: *variable*: can't open file: errno=2

### *Cause*

This message indicates that the run-time linker, `ld.so.1`, while running the program specified after the first colon, could not find the shared object specified after the third colon. (A shared object is sometimes called a dynamically linked library.) Error number 2 translates to "No such file or directory" (ENOENT).

### *Action*

As a workaround, set the environment variable LD_LIBRARY_PATH to include the location of the shared object in question, for example:

```
/usr/dt/lib:/usr/openwin/lib
```

Better yet, if you have access to source code, recompile the program using the `-R`*path* loader option. Using LD_LIBRARY_PATH is discouraged because it slows down performance.

## le0: Memory error!

### *Cause*

This message indicates that the network interface encountered an access time-out from the CPU's main memory. There is probably nothing wrong except system overload.

### *Action*

If the system is busy with other processes, this error can occur frequently. If possible, try to reduce the system load by quitting applications or killing some processes.

### *Technical Notes*

The Lance Ethernet chip timed out while trying to acquire the bus for a DVMA transfer. Most network applications wait for a transfer to occur, so generally no data gets lost. However, data transfer might fail after too many time-outs.

### *See Also*

For more information about the Lance Ethernet chip, see the `le`(7D) man page.

## le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled?

### *Cause*

Standalone machines with no Ethernet port connection get this error when the system tries to access the network. If the Ethernet cable is disconnected, SPARC machines with the sun4m architecture usually display this message, whereas machines with the sun4c architecture usually display the “le0: No carrier – transceiver cable problem” message instead. If the Ethernet cable is connected, this message could result from a mismatch between the machine’s NVRAM settings and the Ethernet hub settings.

### *Action*

If this message is continuous, try to save any work to local disk.

When a machine is configured as a networked system, it must be plugged into the Ethernet with a twisted pair J45 connector.

If the Ethernet cable is plugged in, find out whether or not the Ethernet hub does a Link Integrity Test. Then become superuser to check and possibly set the machine’s NVRAM. If the hub’s Link Integrity Test is disabled, set this variable to `false`.

```
# eeprom | grep tpe
tpe-link-test?=true
# eeprom 'tpe-link-test?=false'
```

The default setting is `true`. If for some reason `tpe-link-test?` was set to `false`, and the hub’s Link Integrity Test is enabled, set this variable to `true`.

## le0: No carrier – transceiver cable problem?

### *Cause*

Standalone machines with no Ethernet port connection get this error when the system tries to access the network.

### *Action*

If this message is continuous, try to save any work to local disk.

When a machine is configured as a networked system, it must be plugged into the Ethernet with either a twisted pair J45 connector or thicknet 10Base-T connector (depending on the building's Ethernet cable type).

### *Technical Notes*

Older workstations have a thicknet connection on the back instead of a twisted pair Ethernet connection, so they require a thicknet to twisted pair transceiver to translate between cabling types.

## LINK COUNT FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t COUNT... ↵ ADJUST?

### *Cause*

During phase 4, `fsck`(1M) determined that the inode's link count for the specified file is wrong, and asks if you want to adjust it to the value given.

### *Action*

Generally you can answer yes to this question without harming the filesystem.

### *See Also*

For more information on `fsck`, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I.*

## LL105W: Protocol error detected.

### *Cause*

This error message comes from Lifeline Mail, an unbundled PC compatibility application.

### *Action*

The likeliest cause for this problem is that someone set up a user account without a password. Assign the user a password to solve this problem.

## ln: cannot create /dev/fb: Read-only file system

### *Cause*

During device reconfiguration at boot time, the system cannot link to the frame buffer because `/dev` is on a read-only filesystem.

### *Action*

Check that `/dev/fb` is a symbolic link to the hardware frame buffer, such as `cgsix` or `tcx`. Ensure that the filesystem containing `/dev` is mounted read-write.

## lockd[*number*]: create_client: no name for inet address 0x*number*

### *Cause*

This lock daemon message usually indicates that the NIS `hosts.byname` and `hosts.byaddr` maps are not coordinated.

### *Action*

Wait a short time for the maps to synchronize. If they don't, take steps to coordinate them.

### *See Also*

For information on updating NIS data, see the section on NIS maps in the *NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide.* If you are using the AnswerBook, "hosts.byaddr" is a good search string.

## Login incorrect

### *Cause*

This message from the `login`(1) program indicates an incorrect combination of login name and password. There is no way to tell whether what's wrong is the login name, the password, or both. Other programs such as `ftp`(1), `rexecd`(1M), `sulogin`(1M), and `uucp`(1C) also give this error under similar conditions.

### *Action*

Check the `/etc/passwd` file and the NIS or NIS+ `passwd` map on the local system to see if an entry exists for this user. If a user has simply forgotten the password, `su` and set a new one with the `passwd` *username* command. This command automatically updates the NIS+ `passwd` map, but with NIS you'll need to coordinate the update with the `passwd` map.

The "Login incorrect" problem can also occur with older versions of NIS when the user name has more than eight characters. If this is the case, edit the NIS password file, change the user name to have eight or fewer characters, and then remake the NIS `passwd` map.

If you cannot log in to the system as root, despite knowing the proper password, it is possible that the `/etc/passwd` file is corrupted. Try to log in as a regular user and `su` to root.

If that doesn't work, see the message "su: No shell" and follow most of the instructions given there. Instead of changing the default shell however, make the password field blank in `/etc/shadow`.

## lp hang

### *Cause*

On a print server, the queue continues to grow but nothing comes out of the printer. The printer daemon is hung.

### *Action*

Here is a simple procedure for flushing a hung printing queue:

1. Login or switch user to `root`.
2. Issue the `reject` *printername* command to make sure no one sends any job to the printer.
3. Turn off power to the printer.
4. If the active job appears to be causing the hang, remove it from the print queue with the `cancel` *jobnumber* command, and ask the owner to requeue that print job.
5. Shut down the print queue with the `/usr/lib/lpshut` command.

6. Remove the lock file `/var/spool/lp/SCHEDLOCK` and the temporary files `/var/spool/lp/tmp/*/*`.
7. Turn the printer back on.
8. Restart the print queue with the `/usr/lib/lpsched` command.

***See Also***

For more information on print queuing, see the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “print server” is a good search string.

# M

## mailtool: Can’t create dead letter: Permission denied

***Cause***

An attempt was made to send a message with `mailtool`(1) from a directory where the user does not have write permission, and the user’s home directory is currently unavailable.

***Action***

Change to another directory and start `mailtool` again, or use `chmod`(1) to change permissions for the directory (if possible).

## mailtool: Could not initialize the Classing Engine

***Cause***

When a user runs `mailtool`(1) on a remote machine, setting the DISPLAY environment back to the local machine, this message might appear inside a dialog box window. The dialog box goes on to say that the Classing Engine must be installed to use Attachments. This problem occurs because `rlogin`(1) does not propagate the user’s environment.

### *Action*

Exit `mailtool` and set your OPENWINHOME environment variable to `/usr/openwin`. Then run `mailtool` again. The error message will not appear, and you will be able to use Attachments.

### *Technical Notes*

Classing Engine is a new name for Tool Talk. Earlier versions of `mailtool` said "Tool Talk: TT_ERR_NOMP" instead of Classing Engine.

## Mail Tool is confused about the state of your Mail File.

### *Cause*

This message appears in a pop-up dialog box whenever you ask `mailtool`(1) to access messages after another mail reader has modified your inbox. A request follows: "Please Quit this Mail Tool."

### *Action*

Click "Continue" to close the dialog box, then exit `mailtool`. If you continue trying to read mail, messages deleted by the other mail reader will never appear, and `mailtool` will fail to see any new messages.

## mail: Your mailfile was found to be corrupted (Content-length mismatch).

### *Cause*

This message comes from `mail`(1) or `mailx`(1) whenever it detects messages with a different content length than advertised. The `mail` program tells you which message might be truncated or might have another message concatenated to it.

Two common causes of content length mismatches are the simultaneous use of different mail readers (such as `mail` and `mailtool`), or using a mail reading program (or an editor) that does not update the Content-Length field after altering a message.

### *Action*

The `mailx` program can usually recover from this error and delineate mail message boundaries correctly. Pay close attention to the message that might be truncated or combined with another message, and to all messages after that one. If a mail file becomes hopelessly corrupted, run it through a text editor to eliminate all Content-Length lines, and ensure that each message has a `From` (no colon) line for each message, preceded by a blank line.

To avoid mailfile corruption, exit from `mailtool` without saving changes when you are currently running `mail` or `mailx`.

## Memory address alignment

### *Cause*

This message can occur when printing large files on a SPARCprinter attached to a SPARCstation 2.

### *Action*

Replace the SPARCstation 2 CPU with one that is at the most recent dash level.

## memory leaks

### *Cause*

An application uses up more and more memory, until all swap space is exhausted.

### *Action*

Many developers have found that third party software (such as Purify) can help identify memory leaks in their applications. If you suspect that you have a memory leak, you can use `sar`(1) to check on the Kernel Memory Allocation (KMA). Any driver or module that uses KMA resources, but does not specifically return the resources before it exits, can create a memory leak.

### *See Also*

For more information on memory leaks, see the section on monitoring system activity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*. If you are using the AnswerBook, "displaying disk usage" is a good search string. Also, see the section on system resource problems in the *NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide*.

## mount: /dev/dsk/*variable* is already mounted, /*variable* is busy, or...

### *Cause*

While trying to mount a filesystem, the `mount`(1M) command received a "Device busy" (EBUSY) error code. There are several possible reasons: this `/dev/dsk` filesystem is already mounted on a different directory, the busy path name is the working directory of an active process, or the system has exceeded its maximum number of mount points (unlikely).

### *Action*

Run `/etc/mount` to see if the filesystem is already mounted. If not, check to see if any shells are active in the busy directory (did the user `cd` into the directory?), or if any processes in the `ps`(1) listing are active in that directory. If the reason for the error message isn't obvious, try using a different directory for the mount point.

## mount: giving up on: /*variable*

### *Cause*

An existing server did not respond to an NFS mount request, so after retrying a number of times (default 1000), the `mount`(1M) command has given up. Nonexistent servers or bad mount points produce different messages.

### *Action*

If the "RPC: Program not registered" message precedes this one, the requested mount server probably did not share (export) any filesystems, so it has no NFS daemons running. Have the superuser on the mount server `share`(1M) the filesystem, then run `/etc/init.d/nfs.server start` to begin NFS service.

If the requested mount server is down or slow to respond, check to see whether the machine needs repair or rebooting.

### mount: mount-point /*variable* does not exist.

***Cause***

Someone tried to mount a filesystem onto the specified directory, but there is no such directory.

***Action***

If this is the directory name you want, run `mkdir`(1) to create this directory as a mount point.

### mount: the state of /dev/dsk/*variable* is not okay

***Cause***

The system was unable to mount the filesystem that was specified because the super-block indicates that the filesystem might be corrupted. This is not an impediment for read-only mounts.

***Action***

If you don't need to write on this filesystem, `mount`(1M) it using the `-o ro` option. Otherwise, do as one of the message continuation lines suggests and run `fsck`(1M) to correct the filesystem state and update the super-block.

***See Also***

For more information on using `fsck`, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I.*

## N

### /net/*variable*: No such file or directory

***Cause***

A user tried to change directory (for example with `cd`) to a network partition on the system specified after `/net/`, but this host either does not exist or has not shared (exported) any filesystem.

### *Action*

To gain access to files on this system, try `rlogin`(1).

To export filesystems from the remote system, become superuser on that system and run the `share`(1M) command with the appropriate options. If that system is sharing filesystems for the first time, also run `/etc/init.d/nfs.server start` to begin NFS service.

## Network is down

### *Cause*

A transport connection failed because it encountered a dead network.

### *Action*

Report this error to the system administrator for the network. If you are the person responsible for this network, check to see why the network is dead and what repairs are necessary.

### *Technical Notes*

This error results from status information delivered by the underlying communication interface.

The symbolic name for this error is ENETDOWN, errno=127.

## Network is unreachable

### *Cause*

An operational error occurred either because there was no route to the network or because negative status information was returned by intermediate gateways or switching nodes.

The returned status is not always sufficient to distinguish between a network that is down and a host that is down (See the “No route to host” message.)

### *Action*

Check the network routers and switches to see if they are disallowing these packet transfers. If they are allowing all packet transfers, check network cabling and connections.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENETUNREACH, errno=128.

## NFS getattr failed for server *variable*: RPC: Timed out

### *Cause*

This message appears on an NFS client that requested a service from an NFS server whose hardware is failing. Often the message “NFS read failed” appears along with this message. If the server were merely down or slow to respond, the “NFS server not responding” message would appear instead. Data corruption on the server system is possible.

### *Action*

Because this message usually indicates server hardware failure, initiate repair procedures as soon as possible. Check the memory modules, disk controllers, and CPU board.

### *See Also*

For more information on NFS tuning, see chapter on monitoring network performance in the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*.

## nfs mount: Couldn’t bind to reserved port

### *Cause*

This message appears when a client attempts to NFS mount a filesystem from a server that has more than one Ethernet interface configured on the same physical subnet.

### *Action*

Always connect multiple Ethernet interfaces on one router system to different physical subnetworks.

## nfs mount: mount: *variable*: Device busy

### *Cause*

This message appears when the superuser attempts to NFS mount on top of an active directory. The busy device is actually the working directory of a process.

### *Action*

Determine which shell on the workstation is currently located below the mount point, and change out of that directory. Be wary of subshells (such as su shells) that could be in different working directories while the parents remain below the mount point.

## NFS mount: */variable* mounted OK

### *Cause*

While booting, the system failed to mount the directory specified after the first colon, probably because the NFS server involved was down or slow to respond. The mount ran in the background and successfully contacted the NFS server.

### *Action*

This is a purely informative message to let you know that the mount process has completed.

## NFS read failed for server *variable*

### *Cause*

This is generally a permissions problem. Perhaps a directory or file permission was changed while the client held the file open. Perhaps the filesystem's share or netgroup permissions changed. If the server were down or the network saturated, the "NFS server not responding" message would appear instead.

### *Action*

Log in to the NFS server and check the permissions of directories leading to the file. Make certain that the filesystem is shared with (exported to) the client experiencing an NFS read failure.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on NFS troubleshooting in the *NFS Administration Guide.*

## nfs_server: bad getargs for *number*/*number*

### *Cause*

This message comes from the NFS server when it gets a request with unrecognized or incorrect arguments. Typically, it means the request could not be XDR decoded properly. This can result from corruption of the packet over the network, or from an implementation bug causing the NFS client to improperly encode its arguments.

### *Action*

If this message originates from a single client, investigate that machine for NFS client software bugs. If this message appears all over a network, especially accompanied by other networking errors, investigate the network cabling and connectors.

## NFS server *variable* not responding still trying

### *Cause*

In most cases this very common message indicates that the system has requested a service from an NFS server that is either down or extremely slow to respond. In some cases this message indicates that the network link to this NFS server is broken, although usually that condition generates other error messages as well. In a few cases this message indicates NFS client set-up problems.

### *Action*

Check the non-responding NFS server to see whether the machine needs repair or rebooting. Encourage your user community to report such problems quickly but only once.

Should this message appear when booting a diskless client, make sure that the client's `/etc/hosts` file and the network naming service (NIS, NIS+, or other `/etc/hosts` files on the network) have been updated.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on NFS troubleshooting in the *NFS Administration Guide.*

## NFS server *variable* ok

### *Cause*

This message is the follow-up to the "NFS server not responding" error. It indicates that the NFS server is back in operation.

### *Action*

When an NFS server first comes up, it will be busy fulfilling client requests for a while. Be patient and wait for your client system to respond. Making many extraneous requests only further slows the NFS server response time.

## nfs umount: *variable*: is busy

### *Cause*

This message appears when the superuser attempts to unmount an active NFS filesystem. The busy point is the working directory of a process.

### *Action*

Determine which shell (or process) on the workstation is currently located in the remotely mounted filesystem, and change (`cd`) out of that directory. Be wary of subshells (such as `su` shells) that could be in different directories while the parent shells remain in the NFS filesystem.

## NFS write error on host *variable*: No space left on device.

### *Cause*

This console message indicates that an NFS-mounted partition has filled up and cannot accept writing of new data. Unfortunately, software that attempts to overwrite existing files will usually zero out all data in these files. This is particularly destructive on NFS-mounted `/home` partitions.

### *Action*

Find the user or process that is filling up the filesystem, and get the out-of-control process stopped as soon as you can. Then delete files as necessary to create more space on the filesystem (large `core` files are good candidates for deletion). Have users write any modified files to local disk if possible. If this error occurs often, redistribute directories to ease demand on this partition.

### *See Also*

For more information on disk usage, see the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “managing disk use” is a good search string.

## NFS write failed for server *variable*: RPC: Timed out

### *Cause*

This error can occur when a file system is soft-mounted, and server or network response time lags. Any data written to the server during this period could be corrupted.

### *Action*

If you intend to write on a filesystem, never specify the soft mount option. Use the default hard mount for all the filesystems that are mounted read-write.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on NFS troubleshooting in the *NFS Administration Guide.*

# N

## NIS+ authentication failure

### *Cause*

This is a Federated Naming Service message. The operation could not be completed because the principal making the request could not be authenticated with the name service involved.

### *Action*

Run the `nisdefaults`(1) command to verify that you are identified as the correct NIS+ principal. Also check that the system has specified the correct public key source.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the authentication and authorization overview in the *NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide.*

## No buffer space available

### *Cause*

An operation on a transport endpoint or pipe was not performed because the system lacked sufficient buffer space or because a queue was full. The target system probably ran out of memory or swap space. Any data written during this condition will probably be lost.

### *Action*

To add more swap area, use the `swap -a` command on the target system. Alternatively, reconfigure the target system to have more swap space. As a general rule, wwap space should be two to three times as large as physical memory.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENOBUFS, errno=132.

## No child processes

### *Cause*

This message can appear when an application tries to communicate with cooperating process that do not exist.

### *Action*

Restart the parent process so it can create the child processes again. If that doesn't help, this could be the result of programming error; contact the vendor or author of the program for an update.

### *Technical Notes*

A `wait`(2) system call was executed by a process that had no existing or unwaited-for child processes. The child processes could have exited prematurely, or might never have been created.

The symbolic name for this error is ECHILD, errno=10.

## No default media available

### *Cause*

The volume manager issues this message if a user makes an `eject`(1) request when the drives contain no diskette or CDROM to eject.

### *Action*

Insert a diskette or CDROM. If the volume manager is confused and there actually is a diskette or CDROM in a drive, run `volcheck` to update the volume manager. If the system remains confused, try booting with the `-r` option to reconfigure devices.

## No directory! Logging in with home=/

### *Cause*

The `login`(1) program could not find the home directory listed in the password file or NIS `passwd` map, so it deposited the user in the root directory.

### *Action*

Check that the user's home directory is mounted and is owned by and accessible to that user. Perhaps the automounter tried to mount the home directory, but the NFS server did not respond quickly enough. Try listing the files in `/home/`*username*. If the NFS server responds to this request, have the user log out and log in again.

It is possible that the automounter daemon is not running. Run the `ps` command to see if `automountd` is present. If not, run the second command; if it appears to be wedged, run both these commands:

```
# /etc/init.d/autofs stop
# /etc/init.d/autofs start
```

When the automounter daemon is running, verify that the `/etc/auto_master` file has a line like this:

```
/home auto_home
```

Verify that the `/etc/auto_home` file has a line like this:

```
+auto_home
```

These entries depend on the NIS `auto_home` map.

It is also possible that the NFS server has not shared (exported) this `/home` directory, or that the NFS daemons on the server have disappeared.

### *See Also*

For more information on NFS, see the *NFS Administration Guide*.

## No message of desired type

### *Cause*

An attempt was made to receive a message of a type that does not exist on the specified message queue. See the `msgop`(2) man page for details.

### *Action*

This indicates an error in the System V IPC message facility. Generally the message queue is empty or devoid of the desired message type, while IPC_NOWAIT is set.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENOMSG, errno=35.

## No recipients specified

### *Cause*

This message comes from the `mailx`(1) command whenever a user doesn't provide an address in the To: field.

### *Action*

See the message "Recipient names must be specified" for details.

## No record locks available

### *Cause*

No more record locks are available. The system lock table is full.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENOLCK, errno=46.

Perhaps a process called `fcntl`(2) with the F_SETLK or F_SETLKW option, and the system maximum was exceeded. The system contains several different locking subsystems, including `fcntl`, the NFS lock daemon, and mail locking, all of which can produce this error.

### *Action*

Try again later, when more locks might be available.

## No route to host

### *Cause*

An operational error occurred because there was no route to the destination host, or because of status information returned by intermediate gateways or switching nodes. The returned status is not always sufficient to distinguish between a host that is down and a network that is down (See the “Network is unreachable” message.)

### *Action*

Check the network routers and switches to see if they are disallowing these packet transfers. If they are allowing all packet transfers, check network cabling and connections.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EHOSTUNREACH, errno=148.

## No shell ↵ Connection closed

### *Cause*

A user has attempted to remote login to the system, and has a valid account name and password, but the shell specified for their account is not available on that system. For example, the seventh field could request the GNU Bourne-again shell `/bin/bash`, which does not exist on standard Solaris distributions.

### *Action*

If you have a copy of the requested shell, become superuser and install the missing shell on that system. Otherwise, change the user’s password file entry (perhaps only in the NIS+ or NIS `passwd` map) to specify an available shell such as `/bin/csh` or `/bin/ksh`.

## No space left on device

### *Cause*

While writing an ordinary file or creating a directory entry, there was no free space left on the device. The disk, tape, or diskette is full of data. Any data written to that device during this condition will be lost.

### *Action*

Remove unneeded files from the hard disk or diskette until there is space for all the data you are writing. It might be advisable to move some directories onto another filesystem and create symbolic links accordingly. When a tape is full, continue on another one, use a higher density setting, or obtain a higher-capacity tape.

To create multi-volume tapes or diskettes, use the `pax`(1) or `cpio`(1) command; `tar`(1) is still limited to a single volume.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENOSPC, errno=28.

## No such device

### *Cause*

An attempt was made to apply an operation to an inappropriate device, such as writing to a nonexistent device.

### *Action*

Look in the `/devices` directory to see why this device does not exist, or why the program expects it to exist. The similar “No such device or address” message tends to indicate I/O problems with an existing device, whereas this message tends to indicate a device that does not exist at all.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENODEV, errno=19.

## No such device or address

### *Cause*

This can occur when a tape drive is off-line or when a device has been powered off or removed from the system.

### *Action*

For tape drives, make sure the device is connected, powered on, and toggled on-line (if applicable). For disk and CDROM drives, check that the device is connected and powered on.

With all SCSI devices, ensure that the target switch or dial is set to the number where the system originally mounted it. To inform the system of a change to the target device number, reboot using the `-r` (reconfigure) option.

### *Technical Notes*

This message results from I/O to a special file's subdevice that either does not exist or that exists beyond the limit of the device.

The symbolic name for this error is ENXIO, errno=6.

## No such file or directory

### *Cause*

The specified file or directory does not exist. Either the file name or path name was entered incorrectly.

### *Action*

Check the file name and path name for correctness and try again. If the specified file or directory is a symbolic link, it probably points to a nonexistent file or directory.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENOENT, errno=2.

## no such map in server's domain

### *Cause*

A user or an application tried to look up something using Network Information Services (NIS), but NIS has no corresponding database for this request.

### *Action*

Make sure the NIS map name is spelled correctly. To see a list of nicknames for the various NIS maps, run the `ypcat -x` command. To see a full list of the various NIS maps (databases), run the `ypwhich -m` command. If the NIS service were not running on the current machine, these commands would result in a "can't communicate with ypbind" message.

## No such process

### *Cause*

This process cannot be found. The process could have finished execution and disappeared, or it might still be in the system under a different numeric ID.

### *Action*

Use the `ps`(1) command to check that the process ID you're supplying is correct.

### *Technical Notes*

No process corresponds to the specified process ID (PID), light-weight process ID, or `thread_t`.

The symbolic name for this error is ESRCH, errno=3.

# N

## No such user as *variable* – cron entries not created

### *Cause*

A file exists in `/var/spool/cron/crontabs` for the specified user, but this user is not in `/etc/passwd` or the NIS `passwd` map. The system cannot create `cron` entries for nonexistent users.

### *Action*

To eliminate this message at boot time, remove the `cron` file for the nonexistent user, or rename it if the user's login name has changed. If this is a valid user, create an appropriate password entry for this name.

## Not a directory

### *Cause*

A non-directory was specified where a directory is required, such as in a path prefix or as an argument to the `chdir`(2) system call.

### *Action*

Look at a listing of all the files in the current directory and try again, specifying a directory instead of a file.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is ENOTDIR, errno=20.

## Not enough space

### *Cause*

This message indicates that the system is running many large applications simultaneously, and has run out of swap space (virtual memory). It could also indicate that applications failed without freeing pages from the swap area. Swap space is an area of disk set aside to store portions of applications and data not immediately required in memory. Any data written during this condition will probably be lost.

### *Action*

Reinstall or reconfigure the system to have more swap space. A general rule of thumb is that swap space should be two to three times as large as physical memory. Alternatively, use `mkfile`(1M) and `swap`(1M) to add more swap area. This example shows how to add 16 MB of virtual memory in the `/usr/swap` file (any filesystem with enough free space would work):

```
# mkfile 16m /usr/swap
# swap -a /usr/swap
```

To make this automatic at boot time, add the following line to the `/etc/vfstab` file:

```
/usr/swap - - swap - no -
```

### *Technical Notes*

In calling the `fork`(2), `exec`(2), `sbrk`(2), or `malloc`(3C) routine, a program asked for more memory than the system could supply. This is not a temporary condition; swap space is a system parameter.

The symbolic name for this error is ENOMEM, errno=12.

## not found

### *Cause*

This message indicates that the Bourne shell could not find the program name given as a command.

### *Action*

Check the form and spelling of the command line. If that looks correct, `echo $PATH` to see if the user's search path is correct. When communications are garbled, it is possible to unset a search path to such an extent that only built-in shell commands are available. Here is a command to reset a basic search path:

```
$ PATH=/usr/bin:/usr/ccs/bin:/usr/openwin/bin:.
```

If the search path looks correct, check the directory contents along the search path to see if programs are missing or if directories are not mounted.

## NOTICE: */variable*: out of inodes

### *Cause*

The filesystem specified after the first colon probably contains many small files, exceeding the per-filesystem limit for inodes (file information nodes).

### *Action*

If many small files were created unintentionally, removing them will resolve the problem.

Otherwise, follow these steps to increase filesystem capacity for small files. Make several backup copies of the filesystem on different tapes (for safety), then bring the machine down to single-user mode. Use the `newfs`(1M) command with the `-i` option to increase inode density for this filesystem. Here is an example:

```
# newfs -i 1024 /dev/rdsk/partition
```

Finally, restore the filesystem from a backup tape. Note that increasing the inode density slightly reduces total filesystem capacity.

## Not login shell

### *Cause*

This message results when a user tries to `logout`(1) from a shell other than the one started at login time.

### *Action*

To quit a non-login shell, use the `exit`(1) command. Continue doing so until you have logged out.

### *See Also*

For more general information on the login shell, see the section on customizing your work environment in the *Solaris Advanced User's Guide*.

## Not on system console

### *Cause*

A user tried to `login`(1) to a system as the superuser (uid=0, which is not necessarily root) from a terminal other than the console.

### *Action*

Login to that system as a normal user, then run `su`(1M) to become superuser. To allow superuser logins from any terminal, comment out the CONSOLE line in `/etc/default/login` (this is not recommended for security reasons).

## Not owner

### *Cause*

Either an ordinary user tried to do something reserved for the superuser, or the user tried to modify a file in a way restricted to the file's owner or to the superuser.

### *Action*

Switch user to root and try again.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EPERM, errno=1.

## Not supported

### *Cause*

This version of the system does not support the feature requested, although future versions of the system might provide support.

### *Action*

This is generally not a system message from the kernel, but an error returned by an application. Contact the vendor or author of the application for an update.

***Technical Notes***

The symbolic name for this error is ENOTSUP, errno=48.



## ok

***Cause***

This is the OpenBoot PROM monitor prompt. From this prompt, you can `boot` the system (from disk, CDROM, or net), or you can use the `go` command to continue where you left off.

***Action***

If you suddenly see this prompt, look at the messages above it to see if the system crashed. If no other messages appear, and you just typed Stop-A or plugged in a new keyboard, type `go` to continue. You might need to Refresh the window system from its Workspace Menu.

***Technical Notes***

Never invoke `sync` from the `ok` prompt without first running the `fsck`(1M) command, especially if the filesystem has changed.

## operation failed [error 185], unknown group error 0, *variable*

***Cause***

When you use `admintool` to add a user to a newly-created group, `admintool` issues this error.

***Action***

Apply patch 101384-05 to fix bug ID 1151837 and to provide a workaround for bug ID 1153087.

## Operation not applicable

### *Cause*

This error indicates that no system support exists for some function that the application requested.

### *Action*

Ask the system vendor for an upgrade, or contact the vendor or author of the application for an update.

### *Technical Notes*

This message indicates that no system support exists for an operation. Many modules set this error when a programming function is not yet implemented. If you are writing a program that produces this message while calling a system library, try to find and use an alternative library function. Future versions of the system might support this operation; check system release notes for further information.

The symbolic name for this error is ENOSYS, errno=89.

## out of memory

### *Cause*

Hundreds of different programs can produce this message when the system is running many large applications simultaneously. This message usually means that the system has run out of swap space (virtual memory).

### *Action*

See the message “Not enough space” for details. Any data written during this condition will probably be lost.

# P

## Panic

### *Cause*

A system panics and crashes when a program exercises an operating system bug. Although the crash might seem unfriendly to a user, the sudden stop actually safeguards the system and its data from further corruption.

Along with bringing the operating system to a stop, the panic routine copies the memory contents in use to a dump device, recording critical information about the current state of the CPU from which the panic routine was called.

Because the primary swap device is usually the default dump device, the primary swap device should be large enough to hold a complete image of memory. The system tries to reboot after the memory image is saved.

If the system does not reboot successfully, consider these possibilities:

- Catastrophic hardware failure, such as faulty memory or a crashed disk
- Major kernel configuration faults, such as a buggy device driver
- Major kernel tuning errors, such as a too-large value for *maxusers*
- Data corruption, including corruption of the operating system files
- Manual intervention is needed, as when `fsck`(1M) expects answers to its queries

### *Action*

To find out why a system crashed, you can

- look in the `/var/adm/message*` log files,
- record on paper the information displayed on the console during the crash (if you're sitting at the console at the time), or
- use the `savecore`(1M) program.

Of these methods, using the `savecore` program is the most informative. The `savecore` command transfers the system crash dump image generated by the panic routine from the dump device to a file system. The image can then be analyzed with a debugger such as `adb`(1).

### *See Also*

Correctly setting up savecore and interpreting the results can be difficult. For full information about debugging system panics, read *Panic! UNIX Sytem Crash Dump Analysis* by Chris Drake and Kimberley Brown (ISBN: 0-13-149386-8).

## PARTIALLY ALLOCATED INODE I=*number* ↵ CLEAR?

### *Cause*

During phase 1, `fsck`(1M) found that the specified inode was neither allocated nor unallocated. The reason is probably that the system crashed in the middle of a `sync`(2) or `write`(2) operation.

### *Action*

Should you answer yes to this question, “UNALLOCATED” messages might result during phase 2, if any directory entries point to this inode. If you are being careful, exit `fsck`(1M) and run `ncheck`(1M) (specifying the inode number after the `-i` option) to determine which file or directory is involved here. You might be able restore this file or directory from another system. It is also possible that `fsck` will copy this file to the `lost+found` directory in a later phase.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I.*

## passwd.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable

### *Cause*

This is the first of three messages that an NIS+ client prints when it cannot locate an NIS+ server on the network.

### *Action*

See the message “hosts.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable” for details.

## Password does not decrypt secret key for unix.uid@*variable*

### *Cause*

This message appears at login time when a user's password is not identical to the user's `keylogin` network password. When a system is running NIS+, the login program first performs UNIX authentication, and then attempts a `keylogin`(1) for secure RPC authentication.

### *Action*

To gain credentials for secure RPC, users can run `keylogin` (after login) and type in their secret key. To stop this message from appearing at login time, users can run the `chkey -p` command and set their network password to be the same as their NIS+ password. If a user doesn't remember the network password, the system administrator should delete and re-create the user's credentials table entry so the user can establish a new network password with `chkey`.

## Permission denied

### *Cause*

An attempt was made to access a file in a way forbidden by the protection system.

### *Action*

Check the ownership and protection mode of the file (with a long listing from the `ls -l` command) to see who is allowed to access the file. Then change the file or directory permissions as needed.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EACCES, errno=13.

## Please specify a recipient.

### *Cause*

With `mailtool`, this message comes up in a dialog box whenever a user tries to deliver a message with no address in the To: field.

### *Action*

See the message “Recipient names must be specified” for details.

## Protocol not supported

### *Cause*

The requested networking protocol has not been configured into the system, or no implementation for it exists. (A protocol is a formal description of the messages to be exchanged and the rules to be followed when systems exchange information.)

### *Action*

Verify that the protocol is in the `/etc/inet/protocols` file and in the NIS protocols map, if applicable. If the protocol is not listed, and you want to permit its use, configure the protocol as documented or as required.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EPROTONOSUPPORT, errno=120.

## Protocol wrong type for socket

### *Cause*

This message indicates either application programming error, or badly configured protocols.

### *Action*

Make sure that the `/etc/protocols` file corresponds number-for-number with the NIS `protocols` map. It it does, ask the vendor or author of the application for an update.

### *Technical Notes*

A protocol was specified that does not support the semantics of the socket type requested. This amounts to a request for an unsupported type of socket. Look at the source code that made this socket request and check that it requested one of the types specified in `/usr/include/sys/socket.h`.

The symbolic name for this error is EPROTOTYPE, errno=98.



## Read error from network: Connection reset by peer

### *Cause*

This message appears when a user is remotely logged into a machine that crashes or gets rebooted during the `rlogin`(1) or `rsh`(1) session. Any data changes that were not saved are probably lost. Sometimes this message appears only when the user types something, even though the system went down hours before.

### *Action*

Try to `rlogin` again, perhaps after waiting a few minutes for the system to reboot.

## Read-only file system

### *Cause*

Files and directories on filesystems that are mounted read-only cannot be changed.

### *Action*

If you only modify these files and directories occasionally, `rlogin`(1) to the servers from which the filesystems are mounted and change the files or directories there. If you change these files and directories frequently, `mount`(1M) the filesystems read / write.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EROFS, errno=30.

## rebooting...

### *Cause*

This message appears on the console to indicate that the machine is booting, either after the superuser issued a `reboot` command, or after a system panic if the EEPROM's `watchdog-reboot?` variable is set to true.

### *Action*

Allow the machine to boot itself. In case of a system panic, look above this message for other indications of what went wrong.

## Recipient names must be specified

### *Cause*

Somebody sent mail without a valid recipient in the To: field, so `sendmail` could not deliver the mail message. Using `mail`(1), the recipient's address might have been specified using spaces or non-alphanumeric characters. The `mailtool`(1) and `mailx`(1) commands try to prevent this by issuing "Please specify a recipient" or "No recipients specified" messages instead. If there is at least one valid recipient, each invalid recipient address will generate a "User unknown" message.

### *Action*

Look in the sender's `dead.letter` file for the automatically saved message, and have the originator send it again, this time specifying a recipient.

### *See Also*

For more information about `sendmail`, see the *Mail Administration Guide.*

## Reset tty pgrp from *number* to *number*

### *Cause*

The C shell sometimes issues this message when it clears away the window process group after the user exits the window system. This can happen when the window system doesn't clean up after itself.

### *Action*

Proceed with your work. This message is purely informational.

## Resource temporarily unavailable

### *Cause*

This indicates that the `fork`(2) system call failed because the system's process table is full, or that a system call failed because of insufficient memory or swap space. It is also possible that a user is not allowed to create any more processes.

### *Action*

Simply waiting often gives the system time to free resources. However if this message occurs often on a system, reconfigure the kernel and allow more processes. To increase the size of the process table in Solaris 2.x, increase the value of `maxusers` in the `/etc/system` file. The default `maxusers` value is the amount of main memory in MB, minus 2.

If one user is not allowed to create any more processes, that user has probably exceeded the `memorysize` limit; see the `limit`(1) man page for details.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EAGAIN, errno=11.

## Result too large

### *Cause*

This is a programming error or a data input error.

### *Action*

Ask the program's author to fix this condition.

### *Technical Notes*

This indicates an attempt to evaluate a mathematical programming function at a point where its value would overflow or underflow. The value of a programming function in the math package (3M) is not representable within machine precision. This could occur after floating point overflow or underflow (either single or double precision), or after total loss of numeric significance in Bessel functions.

Note that this message can indicate "Result too small" in the case of floating point underflow.

To help pinpoint a program's math errors, use the `matherr`(3M) facility.

The symbolic name for this error is ERANGE, errno=34.

## rmdir: *variable*: Directory not empty

### *Cause*

The `rmdir`(1) command can remove empty directories, only. The directory whose name appears after the first colon in the message still contains some files or directories.

### *Action*

Use `rm`(1) instead of `rmdir`. To remove this directory and everything underneath it, use the `rm -ir` command to recursively descend the directory, being asked if you want to delete each element. To remove the directory and all its contents without being asked for approval, use the `rm -r` command.

## ROOT LOGIN /dev/console

### *Cause*

This `syslog` message indicates that someone has logged in as `root` on the system console.

### *Action*

If you have just logged in as root, don't worry. If this is not you, consider the possibility of a security breach. The best site-wide policy is for all system administrators to `su` instead of logging in as root.

## ROOT LOGIN /dev/pts/*number* FROM *variable*

### *Cause*

This `syslog` message indicates that someone has remote logged in as `root` on a pseudo-terminal from the system specified after the FROM keyword.

### *Action*

For security reasons, it is a bad idea to allow `root` logins from anywhere besides the console. To restrict superuser logins to the console, remove the comment from the CONSOLE line in `/etc/default/login`.

## rx framing error

### *Cause*

Usually this error indicates a hardware problem.

### *Action*

Check the Ethernet cabling and connectors to locate a problem.

### *Technical Notes*

A framing error occurs when the Ethernet I/O driver receives a non-integral unit of octets, such as 63 bytes and then 3 bits. (Ethernet specifies the use of octets.) Framing errors are caused by corruption of the starting or ending frame delimiters. These can be corrupted by some violation of the encoding scheme.

Framing errors are a subset of CRC errors, which are usually caused by anomalies on the physical media. An “alignment/framing error” is a type of CRC error where octet boundaries do not line up.

# S

## SCSI bus DATA IN phase parity error

### *Cause*

The most common cause of this problem is unapproved hardware. Some SCSI devices for the PC market do not meet the high I/O speed requirements for the UNIX market. Other possible causes of this problem are improper cabling or termination, and power fluctuations. Data corruption is possible but unlikely to occur, because this parity error prevents data transfer.

### *Action*

Check that all SCSI devices on the bus are Sun approved hardware. Then verify that all cables are no longer than six meters, total, and that all SCSI connections are properly terminated. If power fluctuations are occuring, invest in an uninterruptible power supply.

## SCSI transport failed: reason ’reset’

### *Cause*

This message indicates that the system sent data over the SCSI bus, but the data never reached its destination because of a SCSI bus reset. The most common cause of this condition is conflicting SCSI targets.❖ Data corruption is possible but unlikely to occur, because this failure prevents data transfer.

### *Action*

Verify that all cables are no longer than six meters, total, and that all SCSI connections are properly terminated. If power surges are a problem, acquire a surge suppressor or uninterruptible power supply.

A machine's internal disk drive is usually SCSI target 3. Make sure that external and secondary disk drives are targeted to 1, 2, or 0, and do not conflict with each other. Also make sure that tape drives are targeted to 4 or 5, and CD drives to 6, avoiding any conflict with each other or with disk drives. If the targeting of the internal disk drive is in question, power off the machine, remove all external drives, turn the power on, and from the PROM monitor run the `probe-scsi-all` or `probe-scsi` command.

If SCSI device targeting is acceptable, memory configuration could be the problem, especially for machines with the sun4c architecture. Ensure that high-capacity memory chips (such as 4MB SIMMs) are in lower banks, while lower-capacity memory chips (such as 1MB SIMMs) are in the upper banks.

Note that SPARC systems do not always support third party CDROM drives, and might generate a similar "unknown vendor" error message. Check with the CDROM vendor for specific configuration requirements.

Some third party disk drives have a read-ahead cache that interferes with Solaris device drivers. Make sure that any existing read-ahead cache facility is turned off.

### *See Also*

❖ For more information on SCSI targets, see the section on device naming conventions in the *Solaris 1.x to 2.x Transition Guide*. If you are using the AnswerBook, "scsi targets" is a good search string.

## Segmentation Fault

### *Cause*

Segmentation faults usually result from programming error. This message is usually accompanied by a core dump, except on read-only filesystems.

### *Action*

To see which program produced a `core` file, run either the `file`(1) command or the `adb`(1) command. The following examples show the output of the `file` and `adb` commands on a core file from the `dtmail` program.

```
$ file core
core: ELF 32-bit MSB core file SPARC Version 1, from ‘dtmail’
$ adb core
core file = core – program ‘dtmail’
SIGSEGV 11: segmentation violation
^D (use Control-d to quit the adb rogram)
```

Ask the vendor or author of this program for a debugged version.

### *Technical Notes*

A process has received a signal indicating that it attempted to access an area of memory that is protected or that does not exist. The two most common causes of segmentation faults are attempting to dereference a null pointer or indexing past the bounds of an array.

## sendmail[*number*]: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang reading from *variable*

### *Cause*

This is a `sendmail` message that appears on the console and in the log file `/var/adm/messages`. If this message occurs once for a particular user, it is possible that a mail message from this user ends with a partial line (having no terminating newline character). If this message appears frequently or at busy times, especially along with other networking errors, it could indicate network problems.

### *Action*

Check the user’s mail spool file to see if a message ends without a newline character. If so, talk with the user and determine how to prevent the problem from occurring again. If these messages are the result of network problems, you could try moving the mail spool directory to another machine with a faster network interface.

***Technical Notes***

During the SMTP receipt of DATA phase, a message-terminating period on a line of its own never arrived, so `sendmail` timed out and produced this error.

## setmnt: Cannot open /etc/mnttab for writing

***Cause***

The system is having problems writing to `/etc/mnttab`. It is possible that the filesystem containing `/etc` is mounted read-only, or is not mounted at all.

***Action***

Check that this file exists and is writable by root. If so, ensure that the `/etc` filesystem has been mounted, and is mounted read-write rather than read-only.

## share_nfs: /home: Operation not applicable

***Cause***

This message usually indicates that the system has a local filesystem mounted on `/home`, which is where the automounter usually mounts users' home directories.

***Action***

When a system is running the automounter, do not mount local filesystems on the `/home` directory. Mount them on another directory, such as `/disk2`, which on most systems you will have to create. You could also change the automounter `auto_home` entry, but that is a more difficult solution.

## Soft error rate (*number*%) during writing was too high

***Cause***

This message from the SCSI tape drive appears when Exabyte or DAT tapes generate too many soft (recoverable) errors. It is followed by the advisory "Please, replace tape cartridge" message. Soft errors are an indication that hard errors could soon occur, causing data corruption.

### *Action*

First clean the tape head with a cleaning tape as recommended by the manufacturer. If that doesn't work, replace the tape cartridge. You might need to replace the tape drive if the problem still occurs with new tape cartridges.

## Soft error rate (retries = *number*) during writing was too high

### *Cause*

This message from the SCSI tape drive appears when Archive tapes generate too many soft (recoverable) errors. It is followed by the advisory "Periodic head cleaning required and/or replace tape cartridge" message. Soft errors are an indication that hard errors could soon occur, causing data corruption.

### *Action*

First clean the tape head with a cleaning tape as recommended by the manufacturer. If that doesn't work, replace the tape cartridge. You might need to replace the tape drive if the problem still occurs with new tape cartridges.

## Stale NFS file handle

### *Cause*

A file or directory that was opened by an NFS client was either removed or replaced on the server.

### *Action*

If you were editing this file, write it to a local filesystem instead. Try remounting the filesystem on top of itself or shutting down any client processes that refer to stale file handles. If neither of these solutions works, reboot the system.

### *Technical Notes*

The original vnode is no longer valid. The only way to get rid of this error is to force the NFS server and client to renegotiate file handles.

The symbolic name for this error is ESTALE, errno=151.

## statd: cannot talk to statd at *variable*

### *Cause*

This message comes from the NFS status monitor daemon `statd`, which provides crash recovery services for the NFS lock daemon `lockd`. The message indicates that `statd` has left old references in the `/var/statmon/sm` and `/var/statmon/sm.bak` directories. After a user has removed or modified a host in the `hosts` database, `statd` might not properly purge files in these directories, which results in its trying to communicate with a nonexistent host.

### *Action*

Remove the file named *variable* (where *variable* is the hostname) from both the `/var/statmon/sm` and `/var/statmon/sm.bak` directories. Then kill the `statd` daemon and restart it. If that doesn't get rid of the message, kill and restart `lockd` as well. If that doesn't work, reboot the machine at your convenience.

## stty: TCGETS: Operation not supported on socket

### *Cause*

This message results when a user tries to remote copy with `rcp`(1) or remote shell with `rsh`(1) from one machine to another, but has an `stty`(1) command in the remote `.cshrc` file. This error results in failure of the `rcp` or `rsh` command.

### *Action*

The solution is to move the `stty` command to the user's `.login` (or equivalent) file. Alternatively, execute the `stty` command in `.cshrc` only when the shell is interactive. Here is a test to do just that:

```
if ($?prompt) stty ...
```

### *Technical Notes*

The `rcp` and `rsh` commands make a connection using sockets, which do not support `stty`'s TCGETS `ioctl`.

## su: No shell

### *Cause*

This message indicates that someone changed the default login shell for `root` to a program missing from the system. For example, the final colon-separated field in `/etc/passwd` could have been changed from `/sbin/sh` to `/usr/bin/bash`, which does not exist in that location. Possibly an extra space was appended at the end of line. The outcome is that you cannot login as `root` or switch user to `root`, and so cannot directly fix this problem.

### *Action*

The only solution is to reboot the system from another source, then edit the password file to correct this problem. Invoke `sync`(1M) several times, then halt the machine by typing `Stop-A` or by pressing the reset button. Reboot single-user from CDROM, the net, or diskette, such as by typing `boot cdrom -s` at the `ok` prompt.

After the system comes up and gives you a # prompt, mount the device corresponding to the original / partition somewhere, such as with a `mount`(1M) command similar to the one below. Then run an editor on the newly-mounted system password file (use `ed`(1) if terminal support is lacking):

```
# mount /dev/dsk/c0t3d0s0 /mnt
# ed /mnt/etc/passwd
```

Use the editor to change the password file's `root` entry to call an existing shell, such as `/usr/bin/csh` or `/usr/bin/ksh`.

### *Technical Notes*

To keep the "No shell" problem from happening, habitually use `admintool` or `/usr/ucb/vipw` to edit the password file. These tools make it difficult to change password entries in ways that make the system unusable.

## su: 'su root' failed for *variable* on /dev/pts/*number*

### *Cause*

The user specified after "for" tried to become superuser, but typed the wrong password.

### *Action*

If the user is supposed to know the `root` password, wait to see if the correct password is supplied. If the user is not supposed to know the `root` password, ask why he or she is attempting to become superuser.

## su: 'su root' succeeded for *variable* on /dev/pts/*number*

### *Cause*

The user specified after "for" just became superuser by typing the `root` password.

### *Action*

If the user is supposed to know the `root` password, this message is purely informational. If the user is not supposed to know the `root` password, change this password immediately and ask how the user learned it.

## syncing file systems...

### *Cause*

This indicates that the kernel is updating the super-blocks before taking the system down, to ensure filesystem integrity. This message appears after a `halt`(1M) or `reboot`(1M) command. It can also appear after a system panic, in which case the system might contain corrupted data.

### *Action*

If you just halted or rebooted the machine, don't worry – this message is normal. In case of a system panic, look up the panic messages that appear above this one. Your system vendor might be able to help diagnose the problem. So that you can describe the panic to the vendor, either leave your system in its panicked state or be sure that you can reproduce the problem.

### *Technical Notes*

Numbers that sometimes display after the three dots in the message show the count of dirty pages that are being written out. Numbers in brackets show an estimate of the number of busy buffers in the system.

### syslog service starting.

***Cause***

During system reboot, this message might appear and the boot seems to hang. After starting `syslogd`(1M) service, the system runs `/etc/rc2.d/S75cron`, which in turn calls `ps`(1). Sometimes after an abrupt system crash `/dev/bd.off` becomes a link to nowhere, causing the `ps` command to hang indefinitely.

***Action***

Reboot single user (for example with `boot -s`) and run `ls -l /dev/bd*` to see if this is the problem. If so, remove `/dev/bd.off`, then run `bdconfig off` or reboot with the `-r` (reconfigure) option.

This is the most commonly reported situation that causes `ps` to hang.

## T

### tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory

***Cause***

The default tape device `/dev/rmt/0`, or possibly the device specified by the TAPE environment variable, is not currently connected to the system, is not configured, or its hardware symbolic link is broken.

***Action***

List the files in the `/dev/rmt` directory to see which tape devices are currently configured. If none are configured, ensure that a tape device is correctly attached to the system, and reboot with the `-r` option to reconfigure devices.

If tape devices other than `/dev/rmt/0` are configured, you could specify one of them after the `-f` option of `tar`(1).

## tar: directory checksum error

### *Cause*

This error message from `tar`(1) indicates that the checksum of the directory and the files it has read from tape does not match the checksum advertised in the header block. Usually this indicates the wrong blocking factor, although it could indicate corrupt data on tape.

### *Action*

To resolve this problem, make certain that the blocking factor you specify on the command line (after `-b`) matches the blocking factor originally specified. If in doubt, leave out the block size and let `tar` determine it automatically. If that doesn't help, tape data could be corrupted.

## tar: tape write error

### *Cause*

A physical write error has occurred on the `tar`(1) output file, which is usually a tape, although it could be a diskette or disk file. Look on the system console, where the device driver should provide the actual error condition. This might be a write-protected tape, a physical I/O error, an end-of-tape condition, or a File too large limitation.

### *Action*

In the case of write-protected tapes, enable the write switch. For physical I/O errors, the best course of action is to replace the tape with a new one. For end-of-tape conditions, try using a higher density if the device supports one, or use `cpio`(1) or `pax`(1) for their multi-volume support., When encountering File too large limitations, use the parent shell's `limit`(1) or `ulimit` facility to increase the maximum file size.

### *See Also*

For more information on tar tapes, see the section on copying UFS files in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

### Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded.

***Cause***

This message appears at the beginning of a `cmdtool`(1) session after 100,000 characters have gone by in the scrolling window. Clicking on the top rectangle of the scrollbar might display this message. No data were lost, but the user cannot scroll back before this wraparound point.

***Action***

To increase the maximum size of the Command Tool log file, use `cmdtool` with the `-M` option, specifying more than 100,000 bytes.

### THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY:

***Cause***

At boot time the `/etc/rcS` script runs the `fsck`(1M) command to check the integrity of filesystems marked “fsck” in `/etc/vfstab`. If `fsck` cannot repair a filesystem automatically, it interrupts the boot procedure and produces this message. When `fsck` gets into this state, it cannot repair filesystems without losing one or more files, so it wants to defer this responsibility to you, the administrator. Data corruption has probably already occurred.

***Action***

First run `fsck -n` on the filesystem, to see how many and what type of problems exist. Then run `fsck` again to repair the filesystem. If you have a backup of the filesystem, you can generally answer “y” to all the `fsck` questions. It’s a good idea to keep a record of all problematic files and inode numbers for later reference. To run `fsck` yourself, specify options as recommended by the boot script. For example:

```
# fsck /dev/rdsk/c0t4d0s0
```

Usually, files lost during `fsck` repair were created just before a crash or power outage, and cannot be recovered. If important files are lost, you can recover them from backup tapes.

If you don’t have a backup, ask an expert to run `fsck` for you.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I.*

## The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device is turned off.

### *Cause*

This message appears near the beginning of rebooting, immediately after a "Boot device: ..." message, and then the system hangs. The problem is conflicting SCSI targets for a non-boot device. Having an external device turned off is unlikely to cause this problem.

### *Action*

See the message "Boot device: /iommu/sbus/variable/variable/sd@3,0" for a solution.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the section on halting and booting in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I.*

## THE SYSTEM IS BEING SHUT DOWN NOW !!!

### *Cause*

This message means the system is going down immediately and it's too late to save any changes.

### *Action*

This message is often preceded by messages telling you that the system is going down in 15 minutes, 10 minutes, and so on. When you see these initial broadcast shutdown messages, save all your work, send any e-mail you're working on, and close your files. Fortunately `vi` sessions are automatically saved for later recovery, but many other applications have no crash protection mechanism. Data loss is likely.

### *See Also*

For more information on shutting down the system, see the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “halting the system” is a good search string.

## The system will be shut down in *number* minutes

### *Cause*

This message from the system `shutdown`(1M) script informs you that the superuser is taking down the system.

### *Action*

Save all changes now or your work will be lost. Write out any files you were changing, send any e-mail messages you were composing, and close your files.

### *See Also*

For more information on shutting down the system, see the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “halting the system” is a good search string.

## This mail file has been changed by another mail reader.

### *Cause*

This message appears in a pop-up dialog box whenever you start `mailtool`(1) while another mail reader has the inbox locked. A question follows: “Do you wish to ask that mail reader to save the changes?” You are given three choices.

### *Action*

If you choose “Save Changes” `mailtool` will request the other mail reader to relinquish its lock and write out any changes it has made to your inbox. If you choose “Ignore” `mailtool` will read your inbox without locking it. If you choose “Cancel” `mailtool` will exit.

## Timeout waiting for ARP/RARP packet

### *Cause*

This problem can occur while booting from the net, and indicates a network connection problem.

### *Action*

Make sure the Ethernet cable is connected to the network. Check that this system has an entry in the NIS `ethers` map or locally on the boot server. Then check the IP address of the server and the client to make sure they are on the same subnet. Local `/etc/hosts` files must agree with each other and with the NIS `hosts` map.

If those are not causing the problem, go to the system's PROM monitor `ok` prompt and run `test net` to test the network connection. (On older PROM monitors, use `test-net` instead.) If the network test fails, check the Ethernet port, card, fuse, and cable, replacing them if necessary. Also check the twisted pair port to make sure it is patched to the correct subnet.

### *See Also*

For more information on packets, see *SPARC: Installing Solaris Software on the Desktop*. If you are using the AnswerBook, "ARP/RARP" is a good search string.

## Too many links

### *Cause*

An attempt was made to create more than the maximum number of hard links (LINK_MAX, by default 32767) to a file. Because each subdirectory is a link to its parent directory, the same error results from trying to create too many subdirectories.

### *Action*

Check to see why there are so many links to the same file. To get more than the maximum number of hard links, use symbolic links instead.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EMLINK, errno=31.

## Too many open files

### *Cause*

A process has too many files open at once. The system imposes a per-process soft limit on open files, OPEN_MAX (usually 64), which can be increased, and a per-process hard limit (usually 1024), which cannot be increased.

### *Action*

You can control the soft limit from the shell. In the C shell, use the `limit` command to increase the number of `descriptors`. In the Bourne or Korn shells, use the `ulimit` command with the `-n` option to increase the number of file descriptors.

If the window system refuses to start new applications because of this error, increase the open file limit in your login shell before starting the window system.

### *Technical Notes*

The symbolic name for this error is EMFILE, errno=24.

# U

## umount: warning: */variable* not in mnttab

### *Cause*

This message results when the superuser attempts to unmount a filesystem that is not mounted. Note that subdirectories of filesystems, such as `/var`, cannot be unmounted.

### *Action*

Run the `mount`(1M) or `df`(1M) command to see what filesystems are mounted. If you really want to unmount one of them, specify the existing mount point.

# U

## Unable to install/attach driver '*variable*'

### *Cause*

These messages appear in `/var/adm/messages` at boot time, when the system tries to load drivers for devices the machine does not have.

### *Action*

Despite the alarmist tone, this message is intended as purely informational. You probably don't want all these device drivers, because they make your system kernel larger, requiring more memory.

## undefined control

### *Cause*

This message, prefaced by the file name and line number involved, is from the C preprocessor `/usr/ccs/lib/cpp`, and indicates a line starting with a sharp (#) but not followed by a valid keyword such as `define` or `include`.

### *Action*

A piece of software might be running the C preprocessor on an initialization file that you thought was interpreted by a shell. In most shells, the sharp (#) indicates a comment. The C preprocessor considers comments to be anything between /* and */ delimiters.

## Unmatched '

### *Cause*

This message from the C shell `csh`(1) indicates that a user typed a command containing a backquote symbol (‘) without a closeing backquote. Similar messages result from an unmatched single quote (’) or an unmatched double quote (“). Other shells generally give a continuation prompt when a command line contains an unmatched quote symbol.

### *Action*

Correct the command line and try again. To continue typing on another line, give the C shell a backslash right before the newline.

## UNREF FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t ↵ CLEAR?

### *Cause*

During phase 4, `fsck`(1M) discovered that the specified file was orphaned because the inode had no record of its pathname. In other words, the file was not connected into any directory.

### *Action*

Answer yes to reconnect the file into the `lost+found` directory. Then contact the file's owner to ask whether they want it back, and where they want you to place it.

### *See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

## Use "logout" to logout.

### *Cause*

This C shell message might come as a surprise to Bourne or Korn shell users accustomed to logging out with a Control-d.

### *Action*

When `ignoreeof` is set, the C shell requires users to logout by typing `logout` or `exit`. Write any modified files to disk before exiting.

## /usr/openwin/bin/xinit: connection to X server lost

### *Cause*

This means that the `xinit`(1) program, which sets up X11 resources and starts a window manager, failed to locate the X server process. Perhaps the user interrupted window system startup, or exited abnormally from OpenWindows (for example, by killing processes or by rebooting). It is possible that the X server crashed. Data loss is possible in some cases. Depending on process timing, this message might be normal when OpenWindows exits during a system reboot.

### *Action*

The only solution is to exit and restart OpenWindows. You do not need to reboot the system unless it hangs and fails to give you a console prompt. To exit OpenWindows, select Workspace->Exit. To restart OpenWindows, type `openwin` at the system prompt.



## Value too large for defined data type

### *Cause*

The user ID or group ID of an IPC object or file system object was too large to be stored in an appropriate member of the caller-provided structure.

### *Action*

Run the application on a newer system, or ask the program's author to fix this condition.

### *Technical Notes*

This error occurs only on systems that support a larger range of user or group ID values than a declared member structure can support. This condition usually occurs because the IPC or file system object resides on a remote machine with a larger value of type `uid_t`, `off_t`, or `gid_t` than that of the local system.

The symbolic name for this error is EOVERFLOW, errno=79.

## W

### WARNING: Clock gained *number* days – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE!

***Cause***

Each workstation contains an internal clock powered by a rechargeable battery. After the system is halted and turned off, the internal clock continues to keep time. When the system is powered on and reboots, the system notices that the internal clock has gained time since the workstation was halted.

***Action***

In most cases, especially if the power has been off for less than a month, the internal clock keeps the correct time, and you do not have to reset the date. Use the `date`(1) command to check the date and time on your system. If the date or time is wrong, become superuser and use the `date`(1) command to reset them.

### WARNING: No network locking on *variable*: contact admin to install server change

***Cause***

The Solaris 2.x `mount`(1M) command issues this message whenever it mounts a filesystem that doesn't have NFS locking, such as a standard SunOS 4.1.x exported filesytem. Data loss is possible in applications that depend on locking.

***Action***

On the remote SunOS 4.1.x system, install the appropriate `rpc.lockd` jumbo patch to implement NFS locking. For SunOS 4.1.4, install patch #102264; for SunOS 4.1.3, install patch #100075; for earlier 4.1 releases, install patch #101817.

## WARNING: processor level 4 interrupt not serviced

### *Cause*

This message is basically a diagnostic from the SCSI driver. Especially on machines with the sun4c architecture, it can appear on the console every 10 minutes or so.

### *Action*

To reduce the frequency of this message, add this line near the bottom of the `/etc/system` file and reboot:

```
set esp:esp_use_poll_loop=0
```

### *Technical Notes*

You might also see this message repeatedly after manually removing a CD when it was busy. Don't do this! To get the system back to normal, reboot the system with the `-r` (reconfigure) option.

## WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space limit exceeded

### *Cause*

The system swap area (virtual memory) has filled up. You need to reduce swap space consumption by killing some processes or possibly by rebooting the system.

### *Action*

See the message "Not enough space" for information about increasing swap space.

## WARNING: TOD clock not initialized – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE!

### *Cause*

This message indicates that the Time Of Day (TOD) clock reads zero, so its time is the beginning of the UNIX epoch: midnight 31 December 1969. On a brand-new system, the manufacturer might have neglected to initialize the system clock. On older systems it is more likely that the rechargeable battery has run out and requires replacement.

### *Action*

First replace the battery according to the manufacturer's instructions. Then become superuser and use the `date`(1) command to set the time and date. On SPARC systems the clock is powered by the same battery as the NVRAM, so a dead battery also causes loss of the machine's Ethernet address and host ID, which are more serious problems for networked systems.

## WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck

### *Cause*

This message comes at boot time from the `/etc/rcS` script whenever it gets a bad return code from `fsck`(1) after checking a filesystem. The message recommends an `fsck` command line, and instructs you to exit the shell when done to continue booting. Then the script places the system in single-user mode so `fsck` can be run effectively.

### *Action*

For information about repairing UFS filesystems, see the message "/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY; RUN fsck MANUALLY."

For information about repairing non-UFS filesystems, see the message "THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY:"

## Watchdog Reset

### *Cause*

This fatal error usually indicates some kind of hardware problem. Data corruption on the system is possible.

### *Action*

Look for some other message that might help diagnose the problem. By itself, a watchdog reset doesn't provide enough information; because traps are disabled, all information has been lost. If all that appears on the console is an `ok` prompt, issue the PROM command below to view the final messages that occurred just before system failure:

```
ok f8002010 wector p
```

Yes, that word is `wector`, not `vector`.

The result is a display of messages similar to those produced by the `dmesg`(1M) command. These messages can be useful in finding the cause of system failure.

### *Technical Notes*

This message doesn't come from the kernel, but from the OpenBoot PROM monitor, a piece of Forth software that gives you the `ok` prompt before you boot UNIX. If the CPU detects a trap when traps are disabled (an unrecoverable error), it signals a watchdog. The OpenBoot PROM monitor detects the watchdog, issues this message, and brings down the system.

## Watchdog Reset, Rebooting.

### *Action*

See the message "Watchdog Reset" for details. This rebooting message occurs under the same conditions, but when the EEPROM's `watchdog-reboot?` variable is set to true, causing the machine to automatically reboot itself. Data corruption on the system is possible.

## Who are you?

### *Cause*

Many networking programs can print this message, including `from`(1B), `lpr`(1B), `lprm`(1B), `mailx`(1), `rdist`(1), `sendmail`(1M), `talk`(1), and `rsh`(1). The command prints this message when it cannot locate a password file entry for the current user. This might occur if a user logged in just before the superuser deleted that user's password entry, or if the network naming service fails for a user who has no entry in the local password file.

### *Action*

If a user's password file entry was accidentally deleted, restore it from backups or from another password file. If a user's login name or user ID was changed, ask that user to logout and login again. If the network naming service failed, check the NIS server(s) and repair or reboot as necessary.

### *Technical Notes*

There is a known problem (bug 1138025) with starting hundreds of `rsh` processes on another machine. This message appears because `rsh` hangs while binding to a reserved port, and responds too slowly to interact with the network naming service.

## Window Underflow

### *Cause*

This message often occurs at boot time, sometimes along with a "Watchdog Reset" error. It comes from the OpenBoot PROM monitor, which was passed a processor trap from the hardware. This error indicates that some program tried to access a SPARC register window that wasn't accessible from the processor.

### *Action*

On some system architectures, specifically sun4c, the problem could be that different capacity memory chips are mixed together. Someone might have placed 1MB SIMMs in the same bank with 4MB SIMMs. If this is so, rearrange

the memory chips. Make sure to put higher-capacity SIMMs in the first bank(s), and lower-capacity SIMMs in the remaining bank(s); never mix different capacity SIMMs in the same bank.

The problem could also be that cache memory on the motherboard has gone bad and needs replacement. If main memory is installed correctly, try swapping the motherboard.

### *Technical Notes*

The best way to isolate the problem is to look at the %pc register to see where it got its arguments from, and why the arguments were bad. If you can reproduce the condition causing this message, your system vendor might be able to help diagnose the problem.



## X connection to *variable*:0.0 broken (explicit kill or server shutdown).

### *Cause*

This means that the client has lost its connection to the X server. The “0.0” represents the display device, which is usually the console. This message can appear when a user is running an X application on a remote system with the DISPLAY set back to the original system and the remote system’s X server disappears, perhaps because someone exited X windows or rebooted the machine. It sometimes appears locally when a user exits the window system. Data loss is possible if applications were killed before saving files.

### *Action*

Try to run the application again in a few minutes after the system has rebooted and the window system is running.

## xinit: not found

### *Cause*

OpenWindows was probably not installed properly, and the `openwin`(1) program could not find `xinit`(1) to start up the X windows system. If the user is running another version of X windows, such as the MIT X11 distribution, the `startx` program serves the same function as `xinit`.

### *Action*

Check the PATH environment variable to make sure it contains the appropriate X windows install directory. Verify that `xinit` is in this directory as an executable program.

## XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on X server "*variable*:0.0"

### *Cause*

This means that I/O with the X server has been broken. The “0.0” represents the display device, which is usually the console. This message can appear when a user is running Display PostScript applications and the X server disappears or the client is shut down. Data loss is possible if applications disappeared before saving files.

### *Action*

Try to run the application again in a few minutes after the system has rebooted and the window system is running.

## Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server

### *Action*

See the message “Xlib: connection to "variable:0.0" refused by server” for details.

## Xlib: connection to "*variable*:0.0" refused by server

### *Cause*

This message is immediately followed by the "Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server" message. These messages indicate that an X windows application tried to run on the X server specified inside double quotes, which did not allow the request. The "0.0" represents the display device, which is usually the console. If no server name appears, the superuser probably tried to run an X application on the current machine in an X session that was owned by somebody else.

### *Action*

To allow this client to connect to the X server, run `xhost` +*clientname* on the X server system. Only the owner of the current X session (who is not necessarily the superuser) is allowed to run the `xhost` command. If somebody else is running X windows on the server, ask them to log out and then start your own X session on that server; remote X connections are usually allowed for the same user ID.

## xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient on X server "*variable*:0.0"

### *Cause*

This means that `xterm`(1) has lost its connection to the X server. The "0.0" represents the display device, which is usually the console. This message can appear when a user is running `xterm` and the X server disappears or the client gets shut down. Data loss is possible if applications were killed before saving files.

### *Action*

Try to run the terminal emulator again in a few minutes after the system has rebooted and the window system is running.

### XView warning: Cannot load font set '*variable*' (Font Package)

#### *Cause*

This message from the XView library warns that a requested font is not installed on the X server. Often multiple warnings appear about the same font. The set of available fonts can vary from release to release.

#### *Action*

To see which fonts are available on the X server, run the `xlsfonts`(1) program. Then specify another font name that you see in the output of `xlsfonts`. Sometimes it is possible to locate a similar font from a different vendor.

#### *Technical Notes*

There are two packages of X windows fonts: the common but not required fonts (SUNWxwcft), and the optional fonts (SUNWxwoft). Run `pkginfo`(1) to see if both these packages are installed, and add them to the system as you wish.



### ypbind[*number*]: NIS server for domain "*variable*" OK

#### *Cause*

This message appears after an "NIS server not responding" message to indicate that `ypbind`(1M is able to communicate with an NIS server again.

#### *Action*

Proceed with your work. This message is purely informational.

## ypbind[*number*]: NIS server not responding for domain "*variable*"; still trying

### *Cause*

This means that the NIS client daemon `ypbind`(1M) cannot communicate with an NIS server for the specified domain. This message appears when a workstation running the NIS naming service has become disconnected from the network, or when NIS servers are down or extremely slow to respond.

### *Action*

If other NIS clients are behaving normally, check the Ethernet cabling on the workstation that is getting this message. On SPARC machines, disconnected network cabling also produces a series of “no carrier” messages. On x86 machines, the above message might be your only indication that network cabling is disconnected.

If many NIS clients on the network are giving this message, go to the NIS server in question and reboot or repair as necessary. To locate the NIS server for a domain, run the `ypwhich`(1) command. When the server machine comes back in operation, NIS clients give an “NIS server for domain OK” message.

### *See Also*

For more information about `ypbind`, see the section on administering secure NFS in the *NFS Administration Guide.*

## ypwhich: can’t communicate with ypbind

### *Cause*

This message from the `ypwhich`(1) command indicates that the NIS binder process `ypbind`(1M) is not running on the local machine.

### *Action*

If the system is not configured to use NIS, this message is normal and expected. Configure the system to use NIS if necessary.

If the system is configured to use NIS, but the `ypbind` process is not running, invoke the following command to start it up:

```
# /usr/lib/netsvc/yp/ypbind -broadcast
```

# Z

## zs*number*: silo overflow

### *Cause*

This message means that the Zilog 8530 character input silo (or serial port FIFO) overflowed before it could be serviced. The zs(4S) driver, which talks to a Zilog Z8530 chip, is reporting that the FIFO (holding about two characters) has been overrun. The number after zs shows which serial port experienced an overflow:

```
zs0 - tty serial port 0 (/dev/ttya)
zs1 - tty serial port 1 (/dev/ttyb)
zs2 - keyboard port (/dev/kbd)
zs3 - mouse port (/dev/mouse)
```

### *Action*

Silo overflows indicate that data in the respective serial port FIFO has been lost. However, consequences of silo overflows might be negligible if the overflows occur infrequently, if data loss is not catastrophic, or if data can be recovered or reproduced. For example, although a silo overflow on the mouse driver (zs3) indicates that the system could not process mouse events quickly enough, the user can perform mouse motions again. Similarly, lost data from a silo overflow on a serial port with a modem connection transferring data using uucp(1C) will be recovered when uucp discovers the loss of data and requests retransmission of the corrupted packet.

Frequent silo overflow messages can indicate a zs hardware FIFO problem, a serial driver software problem, or abnormal data or system activity. For example, the system ignores interrupts during system panics, so mouse and keyboard activity result in silo overflows.

If the serial ports experiencing silo overflows are not being used, a silo overflow could indicate the onset of a hardware problem.

### *Technical Notes*

Another type of silo overflow is one that occurs during reboot when an HDLC line is connected to any of the terminal ports. For example, an X.25 network could be sending frames before the kernel has been told to expect them. Such overflow messages can be ignored.

# *Permuted Index* 3

## *How to Use this Index*

This permuted index provides an alphabetized list of words (except variables) in all error messages documented in this book. Pick an important word from the message you see, and look it up in the listing below. Then read backwards to the first word on the line, and look up that word in the *Error Messages* chapter, or turn to the page number that appears at the end of line.

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I can't read your attachments. What mailer are you using? **52**
This mail file has been changed by another mail reader. **115**
sendmail[*number*]: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang reading from *variable* **105**
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automountd[*number*]: server *variable* not responding 17
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WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck 123
/dev/rdsk/*variable*: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY; RUN fsck MANUALLY. 37
rx framing error 102
FREE BLK COUNT(S) WRONG IN SUPERBLK ↵ SALVAGE? 48
ERROR [SCCS/s.*variable*]: 'SCCS/p.*variable*' nonexistent (ut4) 41
ERROR [SCCS/s.*variable*]: 'SCCS/p.*variable*' nonexistent (ut4) 41
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SCSI bus DATA IN phase parity error 103
The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device is turned off. 114
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