

# Could not open lock file /var/lib/dpkg/lock-frontent - open (2: No such file or directory) [duplicate]

Asked 6 years, 4 months ago Modified 3 years, 2 months ago Viewed 17k times



3



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[Permission denied, are you root?](#) (7 answers)

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I am trying to run `sudo apt-get upgrade` but it is showing the below error message:

```
E: Could not open lock file /var/lib/dpkg/lock-frontent - open (2: No such file or directory)
E: Unable to acquire the dpkg frontend lock (/var/lib/dpkg/lock-frontent), are you root?
```

Here are the solutions I have tried :

1. I have tried, "sudo apt-get update"
2. I have also tried to delete the locked files using the commands:

```
sudo rm -r /var/lib/dpkg/lock-frontent
sudo rm -rf /var/lib/dpkg/lock
```

but it is showing the error that "no so such file or directory".

3. I tried to kill all the running process using the command:

```
ps aux | grep -i apt
sudo kill -9 <process id>
sudo killall apt apt-get
```

How can I solve this issue?

16.04

apt

updates

dpkg

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edited May 9, 2019 at 7:36



Kufy

18.2k ● 26 ● 72 ● 111

asked May 9, 2019 at 7:27



Subhanshu Kumar

Subh 31 ● 1 ● 1 ● 2

What is the output of `ls -l /var/lib/dpkg/` ? Looks like something is missing. – Kufly May 9, 2019 at 7:40

it is showing the error message: `ls: cannot access '/var/lib/dpkg/': No such file or directory`  
– Subhanshu Kumar May 9, 2019 at 7:47

Oh sorry for the typo. It's `ls -l /var/lib/dpkg/.` – Kufly May 9, 2019 at 7:50 

same error message .. : `ls: cannot access '/var/lib/dpkg/': No such file or directory` – Subhanshu Kumar May 9, 2019 at 7:51

2 Try this `sudo mkdir -p /var/lib/dpkg/{alternatives,info,parts,triggers,updates}; sudo touch /var/lib/dpkg/status; sudo apt install dpkg` – Kufly May 9, 2019 at 8:56

## 2 Answers

Sorted by: Highest score (default) 



The right solution is pasted below, run the below commands and it should fix the problem.

1

```
sudo mkdir -p /var/lib/dpkg/{alternatives,info,parts,triggers,updates}
```

```
sudo cp /var/backups/dpkg.status.0 /var/lib/dpkg/status
```

```
apt-get download dpkg
```

```
sudo dpkg -i dpkg*.deb
```

```
apt-get download base-files
```

```
sudo dpkg -i base-files*.deb
```

```
sudo apt-get update
```

```
sudo apt-get check
```

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edited Jun 15, 2021 at 10:02

answered Jun 15, 2021 at 9:56



Soren A

7,190 ● 2 ● 22 ● 37



Suhas R

11 ● 1

it worked perfectly, should be an accepted answer – Alexander Kozachenko Feb 26, 2024 at 19:59



You most likely have another process that is using the package manager.

0

Close any other terminal instances and any GUI package managers. If you are not sure which process/program currently has those privileges, a reboot should fix the problem.



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answered May 9, 2019 at 8:12



Caleb

41 ● 1 ● 1 ● 4

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