

How to remove and disable BlueTooth support on Debian GNU / Linux servers

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If you **running Debian Squeeze Linux** (as server Apache, MySQL, Qmail etc.) on brand new purchased hardware with bluetooth support; you will notice default **Linux kernel will detect and load modules for Bluetooth**

This would not be a problem only if Bluetooth does not pose possible errors or (even at cases even maybe system hangs ups?). The actual reason in my case to want to **disable bluetooth on a productive Linux server operating like host** was I found out in **dmesg** produced output, some *errors related to Bluetooth*, here they are:

```
root@deb:~# dmesg|grep -i 'call trace' -A 8
[323406.744439] Call Trace:
[323406.744440] [] ? lapic_next_event+0x18/0x1d
[323406.744450] [] ? __report_bad_irq+0x30/0x7d
[323406.744453] [] ? note_interrupt+0x105/0x16e
[323406.744455] [] ? handle_fasteoi_irq+0x93/0xb5
[323406.744458] [] ? handle_irq+0x17/0x1d
[323406.744460] [] ? do_IRQ+0x57/0xb6
[323406.744463] [] ? ret_from_intr+0x0/0x11
[323406.744464]
```

I saw this error and similar ones occurring, every now and then obviously displaying something went wrongs with IRQs related to *Bluetooth Communication with Kernel* (as it keeps processing requests loaded in system memory) ...

Well anyways having the bluetooth kernel module loaded on memory just takes up few chunks of useless assigned memory.

I don't have intention to use bluetooth ever in future on these host so I decided to **completely remove bluetooth support on those Debian**.

1. Remove blueetoh support on Debian GNU / Linux

First to check info about the loaded kernel module *bluetooth.ko* and its assigned module load alias run:

```
root@deb:~# /sbin/modinfo bluetooth
filename: /lib/modules/2.6.32-5-amd64/kernel/net/bluetooth/bluetooth.ko
alias: net-pf-31
license: GPL
version: 2.15
description: Bluetooth Core ver 2.15
author: Marcel Holtmann
srcversion: 9FD5BF98FC88505DC637909
depends: rfkill
vermagic: 2.6.32-5-amd64 SMP mod_unload modversions
```

Secondly disable memory preloaded *bluetooth.ko* on the current host with cmds:

```
root@deb:~# rmmod -f bnep
root@deb:~# rmmod -f l2cap
root@deb:~# rmmod -f sco
root@deb:~# rmmod -f bluetooth
```

Default way to control if *Bluetooth* (on host support is ON or OFF) is through */etc/default/bluetooth*. Inside */etc/default/bluetooth* is a control variable:

BLUETOOTH_ENABLED=1

To shut it off change its value to 0:

BLUETOOTH_ENABLED=0

Then to permanently prevent **bluetooth.ko** from being ever in future loaded its also good idea to blacklist modules - *bnep*, *btusb*, *bluetooth*:

```
root@deb:~# echo 'blacklist bnep' >> /etc/modprobe.d/bluetooth.conf
root@deb:~# echo 'blacklist btusb' >> /etc/modprobe.d/bluetooth.conf
root@deb:~# echo 'blacklist bluetooth' >> /etc/modprobe.d/bluetooth.conf
```

Onwards re-build, current kernel initramfs:

```
root@deb:~# update-initramfs -u -k `uname -r` -v
```

```
.....
```

```
.....
```

Next update boot init scripts with *update-rc.d* to make sure **bluetooth** (service / daemon) is not started:

```
root@deb:~# update-rc.d bluetooth remove
```

```
.....
```

That's all **bluetooth** will not load up anymore on next boot and at present time will not take up

useless mem space.

2. Re-enable disabled blueetooth on Debian Linux

I've been asked in one of comments, what to do If you need to **re-enable bluetooth on your Debian Linux** at some time in future, so here are the **steps to turn back blueetooth on again**

/etc/modprobe.d/bluetooth.conf

Change variable:

BLUETOOTH_ENABLED=0

to

BLUETOOTH_ENABLED=1

Open **/etc/modprobe.d/bluetooth.conf** and remove any blacklisted modules, e.g:

'blacklist bnep'

'blacklist btusb'

&39;blacklist bluetooth'

Rebuild again kernel ramfs

```
root@deb:~# update-initramfs -u -k `uname -r` -v
```

Enjoy :)