

# Creating Symbolic Links to Disk Mountpoints for HomeArchiver

## Overview

*HomeArchiver* will not recognize MOUTHPATH when it contains whitespace (blanks).

**If the volume label on a disk contains whitespace (blanks) then an SBC Staff person must create a symbolic link to the volume label under /media and the user must substitute the new link name for the volume label in the MOUTHPATH when using HomerArchiver.**

The process of creating a symbolic link is described below.

## Procedure

1. **LOGIN TO THE SBC LINUX WORKSTATION WHERE THE DISK IS MOUNTED AS SBC STAFF**
  - a. **open a terminal window and use the "su" command to login using the appropriate username for the beamline resource either "idstaff" or "bmstaff". (-l below is a lower case letter L as in the word "local"):**  
(Linux command: `su -l idstaff` )
  - b. **change to the /media directory:**  
(Linux command: `cd /media` )
  
2. **IDENTIFY THE CURRENT MOUTHPATH TO THE DISK. List the local file systems and identify the directory where the disk is mounted (there should be a new directory listed that was not there before the disk was attached). Use the Linux command below (the last flag is a lower case letter L as in the word "local"):**  
(Linux command: `df -hTl` )
  

Notice that the full Linux path to the disk is listed under the column to the far right (the column header is labeled "Mounted on"). I call this the **MOUTHPATH**. Assume for this procedure that it is `"/media/My Book"`

  
3. **CREATE THE SYMBOLIC LINK. Use the "ln" command to create a symbolic link by first specifying the name that DOES contain whitespace followed by a NEW NAME that DOES NOT contain whitespace. CAUTION: On the command line use Tab-Completion to enter the name that has whitespace so that it will be properly "escaped" (it places backslashes before whitespace) for the Linux command:**  
(Linux command: `ln -s My\ Book MyBook` )

4. **IDENTIFY THE NEW MOUNTPATH TO THE DISK. A LONG LISTING of the /media directory will verify that the new symbolic link has been created and that it points (the -> symbols) to the original name. Use the Linux command below (the last flag is a lower case letter L as in the word "local"):**  
(Linux command: `ls -axl` )
5. **USE THE SYMBOLIC LINK NAME WITH HOMEARCHIVER.** Instruct the user that they must substitute the new link name for the volume label in the MOUNTPATH when using HomerArchiver. Use for example: /media/MyBook
6. **WARNING: Remember to logout of the "idstaff" terminal!**