



Android Multilib Build Cheat Sheet

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Android Multilib Build Cheat Sheet

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AOSP Build Configurations

- 32-bit and 64-bit only builds
 - Android build for a single target cpu arch i.e. either 32-bit or 64-bit.
- Multilib builds
 - Android build for two target cpu archs e.g. 64-bit primary and 32-bit secondary, or 32-bit primary and 64-bit secondary.

32-bit and 64-bit only builds

- 32-bit only build
 - Target support 32-bit applications only
 - Build 32-bit Android binaries to run on 32-bit targets
 - Generate huge interest even on 64-bit targets
- 64-bit only build
 - Target support 64-bit applications only
 - Build 64-bit Android binaries to run on 64-bit targets
 - Build not yet ready for a day to day use. Builds successfully but doesn't boot up. Last tried booting on stock android-5.1.0_r1.

Multilib builds

- Multi-target build configuration for 64-bit targets
- Support building binaries for two target cpu archs in the same build, with a primary and a secondary arch configuration.
- Target can support both 32-bit and 64-bit applications

Multilib builds

- 64-bit Primary and 32-bit Secondary (aka 64_32)
 - 64-bit arch is configured as the Primary arch and 32-bit as Secondary
 - 64-bit is the default target for modules if not configured otherwise locally
 - system_server will run as a 64-bit process
- 32-bit Primary and 64-bit Secondary (aka 32_64)
 - Build configuration contrary to 64bit Primary and 32bit Secondary
 - Theoretically possible, traces still available in AOSP
([system/core/rootdir/init.zygote32_64.rc](#))
 - Configuration might have been dropped somewhere in the development cycle. Build is broken for stock android-5.1.0_r1

art/build/Android.common.mk:42: *** Do not know what to do with this multi-target configuration!. Stop.



Multilib builds

- Zygoter configuration

- Primary and Secondary zygotes
 - Multilib builds run two zygoter processes
 - Primary zygoter and Secondary zygoter
 - To support both 64bit and 32bit applications
- Starting Lollipop, zygoter init config is not part of [init.rc](#) anymore.
 - [init.rc](#) include [init.\\${ro.zygoter}.rc](#) at runtime which initialize zygotes
 - Enable/Select Multilib zygoter in product config:

```
PRODUCT_DEFAULT_PROPERTY_OVERRIDES += ro.zygoter=zygoter64_32  
PRODUCT_COPY_FILES += system/core/rootdir/init.zygoter64_32.rc:root/init.zygoter64_32.rc
```

Multilib builds

- Dissecting `/init.zygote64_32.rc`:

```
service zygote /system/bin/app_process64 -Xzygote /system/bin --zygote --start-system-server --socket-name=zygote
class main
socket zygote stream 660 root system
onrestart write /sys/android_power/request_state wake
onrestart write /sys/power/state on
onrestart restart media
onrestart restart netd
```

“service zygote” → `/system/bin/app_process64` → Primary Zygote

“--start-system-server” → `system_server` → 64-bit process

```
service zygote_secondary /system/bin/app_process32 -Xzygote /system/bin --zygote --socket-name=zygote_secondary
class main
socket zygote_secondary stream 660 root system
onrestart restart zygote
```

“service zygote_secondary” → `/system/bin/app_process32` → Secondary Zygote



How to do a Multilib build?

- Multilib platform configuration
 - Configure target archs and abis
 - Application/Executables support
 - Custom toolchains
- Building Multilib modules
 - Local build flags
 - Building arch specific modules
 - Binary installation path
 - Handling pre-built modules
 - Dex-preopt and generated sources

Multilib Platform Configuration

- Configure target CPU archs and ABIs in [BoardConfig.mk](#)
 - Primary arch:
 - TARGET_ARCH and TARGET_CPU_* variables defined as usual

```
TARGET_ARCH := arm64
TARGET_ARCH_VARIANT := armv8-a
TARGET_CPU_VARIANT := generic
TARGET_CPU_ABI := arm64-v8a
```
 - Secondary arch:
 - Android build system uses TARGET_2ND_* variables to set up an additional compilation environment for the secondary arch

```
TARGET_2ND_ARCH := arm
TARGET_2ND_ARCH_VARIANT := armv7-a-neon
TARGET_2ND_CPU_VARIANT := cortex-a15
TARGET_2ND_CPU_ABI := armeabi-v7a
TARGET_2ND_CPU_ABI2 := armeabi
```

Multilib Platform Configuration

- Application/Executables Support
 - To build 32-bit executables and apps by default, set `TARGET_PREFER_32_BIT := true`
 - Set `TARGET_SUPPORTS_32_BIT_APPS` and `TARGET_SUPPORTS_64_BIT_APPS` to choose which native libraries to build for an app.
 - If both are set, it will build 64-bit apps unless `TARGET_PREFER_32_BIT` is set or it is overridden by module-specific local variables in [Android.mk](#)
 - If only one is set, it will only build apps that work on that particular arch.
 - If neither is set it will fall back to only building 32bit apps unless overridden by [Android.mk](#) config.

Multilib Platform Configuration

- Set Custom Toolchains

- Set `TARGET_GCC_VERSION_EXP`, if you are using a common GCC toolchain version for both the archs.
 - For example, to use custom 4.9-linaro toolchains to build both 32-bit and 64-bit binaries, set:

```
TARGET_GCC_VERSION_EXP := 4.9-linaro
```

The build system in this case will pick both 32-bit and 64-bit custom 4.9-linaro toolchains from default prebuilts toolchain path

i.e. [prebuilts/gcc/linux-x86/arm/arm-linux-androideabi-4.9-linaro](#) and [prebuilts/gcc/linux-x86/aarch64/aarch64-linux-android-4.9-linaro](#).

Multilib Platform Configuration

- Set `TARGET_TOOLCHAIN_ROOT` and `2ND_TARGET_TOOLCHAIN_ROOT` to use different toolchain versions for 64-bit and 32-bit binaries.
 - For example, set custom 4.9-linaro toolchain for primary arch and stock 4.9 toolchain for secondary arch:

```
TARGET_TOOLCHAIN_ROOT := prebuilts/gcc/linux-x86/arm/arm-linux-androideabi-4.9-linaro
2ND_TARGET_TOOLCHAIN_ROOT := prebuilts/gcc/linux-x86/arm/arm-linux-androideabi-4.9
```

Building Multilib Modules

- Building an Android module with Multilib support
 - Module names in product configuration, `PRODUCT_PACKAGES`, together with the dependency graph decides what binaries will be built and installed to the system image.
 - For libraries pulled in by dependency, a 32-bit library is only installed if it's required by a 32-bit library or executable. The same is true for 64-bit libraries.
 - For executables, by default the build system builds only the 64-bit version, but this build rule can be overridden by `TARGET_PREFER_32_BIT` or `LOCAL_32_BIT_ONLY` module-scoped local variable.

Note: Module names on the make command line cover only the 64-bit version build. For example, after running “`lunch aosp_arm64-eng`”, “`make libc`” builds only the 64-bit libc. To build the 32-bit libc, you need to run “`make libc_32`”.

Building Multilib Modules

- Module definition in [Android.mk](#)

Set `LOCAL_MULTILIB` to build for 64-bit and/or 32-bit archs. It overrides the global `TARGET_PREFER_32_BIT`.

- `LOCAL_MULTILIB := first`, build module for the first arch (64-bit on a 64-bit target, 32-bit on a 32-bit target). Same as `LOCAL_NO_2ND_ARCH := true`
- `LOCAL_MULTILIB := 32`, build only 32-bit, same as `LOCAL_32_BIT_ONLY := true`
- `LOCAL_MULTILIB := 64`, build only 64-bit.
- `LOCAL_MULTILIB := both`, build for both architectures on a Multilib target.
- `LOCAL_MULTILIB := ""`, build depends on other global or `LOCAL_*` module-scoped variables.

Building Multilib Modules

- Local build variables:

To set up a custom local build env, use the `LOCAL_*` variables.

- Set an arch-specific variable, `LOCAL_*` variable with a target arch suffix i.e. `LOCAL_*_$(TARGET_ARCH)` and `LOCAL_*_$(TARGET_2ND_ARCH)`.

- For example:

```
LOCAL_CFLAGS_arm64 += -DARCH_ARM64_HAVE_NEON
LOCAL_SRC_FILES_arm := xyz_arm.c
```

- Or set `LOCAL_*` variable with a `_32` or `_64` suffix based on whether to build for 32-bit or 64-bit, independent of target arch.

- For example:

```
LOCAL_CFLAGS_64 += -DARCH_GENERIC_HAVE_ABC
LOCAL_SRC_FILES_32 += xyz_generic.c
```

Note: Not all `LOCAL_*` variables support arch/target specific variants.

Refer to [build/core/clear_vars.mk](#) for an up-to-date list.



Building Multilib Modules

- Building for specific arch(s):

To drive an arch-specific build, use the following variables.

- `LOCAL_MODULE_TARGET_ARCH` and `LOCAL_MODULE_UNSUPPORTED_TARGET_ARCH` specifies that a module can or cannot be built for one or more architectures.

```
LOCAL_MODULE_TARGET_ARCH := "arm arm64 x86_64"
```

```
LOCAL_MODULE_UNSUPPORTED_TARGET_ARCH := "arm arm64 .."
```

- `LOCAL_MODULE_TARGET_ARCH_WARN` and `LOCAL_MODULE_UNSUPPORTED_TARGET_ARCH_WARN` are same, but warn that the arch is not supported, which is useful for modules that are critical but not yet working.

Building Multilib Modules

○ Installation Path:

- Libraries: `/system/lib` always host 32-bit libraries, and `/system/lib64` 64-bit libraries.
- Executables: If you build an executable as both 32-bit and 64-bit, then either set `LOCAL_MODULE_STEM_{32,64}` to distinguish the installed file name, or set `LOCAL_MODULE_PATH_{32,64}` to distinguish the install path.
- In multilib builds the install location depends on the CPU target. Set `LOCAL_MODULE_RELATIVE_PATH` to set the install location instead of `LOCAL_MODULE_PATH`.
 - For example, HALs will generally use: `LOCAL_MODULE_RELATIVE_PATH := hw`

Building Multilib Modules

- Handling pre-built Multilib modules:
 - Set `LOCAL_SRC_FILES_$(ARCH_SUFFIX)` to point to arch specific prebuilt binaries, similarly `LOCAL_SRC_FILES_{32,64}` can be used for arch independent target binaries.
 - `$(TARGET_ARCH)` and `$(TARGET_2ND_ARCH)` can't be used reliably to tell the build system what arch the prebuilt binary is targeted for. Use `LOCAL_MODULE{,_UNSUPPORTED}_TARGET_ARCH` local variables instead.
 - All the build rules for Multilib executables hold true for pre-built executables as well. For example: if you don't provide `LOCAL_MODULE_STEM_{32,64}` or `LOCAL_MODULE_PATH_{32,64}`, then `_32` executable will override the `_64` executable in `/system/bin`.

Building Multilib Modules

- Dex-preopt:
 - By default Multilib build generate both 32-bit and 64-bit odex files for the boot image and any Java libraries.
 - For APKs, by default odex files are generated only for the primary 64-bit arch.
 - If the app can be launched in both 32-bit and 64-bit processes, then set `LOCAL_MULTILIB := both` to make sure both 32-bit and 64-bit odex files are generated.
 - `LOCAL_MULTILIB := both` also include both 32-bit and 64-bit JNI libraries in the build, if the app has any.

Building Multilib Modules

- Generated sources:
 - In Multilib, intermediate generated source files will be required by both 32-bit and 64-bit builds.
 - Legacy `$(local-intermediates-dir)` and `$(intermediates-dir-for)` variables do not work reliably. Use `$(local-generated-sources-dir)` and `$(generated-sources-dir-for)` instead.
 - If a source file is generated to the new dedicated directory and picked up by `LOCAL_GENERATED_SOURCES`, it is built for both 32-bit and 64-bit build.



Multilib Examples From AOSP

- `device/htc/flounder/Boardconfig.mk`
 - Device config example
- `system/core/debuggerd/Android.mk`
 - Local or Module scoped build variables example

```
TARGET_ARCH := arm64
TARGET_ARCH_VARIANT := armv8-a
TARGET_CPU_ABI := arm64-v8a
TARGET_CPU_ABI2 :=
TARGET_CPU_VARIANT := denver64

TARGET_2ND_ARCH := arm
TARGET_2ND_ARCH_VARIANT := armv7-a-neon
TARGET_2ND_CPU_ABI := armeabi-v7a
TARGET_2ND_CPU_ABI2 := armeabi
TARGET_2ND_CPU_VARIANT := denver
```

```
TARGET_USES_64_BIT_BCMHD := true
TARGET_USES_64_BIT_BINDER := true

TARGET_USES_LOGD := true
BOARD_WIDEVINE_OEMCRYPTO_LEVEL := 1

# HACK: Build apps as 64b for volantis_64_only
ifndef ($(filter ro.zygote=zygote64, $(PRODUCT_DEFAULT_PROPERTY_OVERRIDES)))
TARGET_PREFER_32_BIT_APPS :=
TARGET_SUPPORTS_32_BIT_APPS :=
TARGET_SUPPORTS_64_BIT_APPS := true
endif
```

- 64_32 device config: [Flounder device/htc/flounder/BoardConfig.mk](#)
 - Set Primary, Secondary CPUs and supported ABIs
 - TARGET_USES_64_BIT_BINDER should be set even while doing a 32-bit only build for a 64-bit arch.
 - TARGET_SUPPORTS_{64,32}_BIT_APPS, target support 64-bit applications only.

```
include $(CLEAR_VARS)

LOCAL_SRC_FILES:= \
    backtrace.cpp \
    debuggerd.cpp \
    getevent.cpp \
    tombstone.cpp \
    utility.cpp \

LOCAL_SRC_FILES_arm      := arm/machine.cpp
LOCAL_SRC_FILES_arm64   := arm64/machine.cpp
LOCAL_SRC_FILES_mips     := mips/machine.cpp
LOCAL_SRC_FILES_mips64  := mips/machine.cpp
LOCAL_SRC_FILES_x86     := x86/machine.cpp
LOCAL_SRC_FILES_x86_64  := x86_64/machine.cpp

LOCAL_CPPFLAGS := \
    -std=gnu++11 \
    -W -Wall -Wextra \
    -Wunused \
    -Werror \

ifeq ($(TARGET_IS_64_BIT),true)
LOCAL_CPPFLAGS += -DTARGET_IS_64_BIT
endif

LOCAL_SHARED_LIBRARIES := \
    libbacktrace \
    libcutils \
    liblog \
    libselinux \

LOCAL_CLANG := true

LOCAL_MODULE := debuggerd
LOCAL_MODULE_STEM_32 := debuggerd
LOCAL_MODULE_STEM_64 := debuggerd64
LOCAL_MULTILIB := both
LOCAL_ADDITIONAL_DEPENDENCIES += $(LOCAL_PATH)/Android.mk

include $(BUILD_EXECUTABLE)
```

- Multilib Android Module: debuggerd [system/core/debuggerd/Android.mk](#)
 - LOCAL_SRC_FILES, common src
 - LOCAL_SRC_FILES_*, arch specific src
 - TARGET_IS_64_BIT, true if TARGET_ARCH is 64-bit i.e. {arm64, x86_64 or mips64}.
 - LOCAL_MODULE_STEM_*, install executables at same location i.e. [/system/bin](#) with different names.
 - LOCAL_MULTILIB, build module for both the archs.

References

- AOSP changelog
- [\[android-64\] New variables and macros of make system in android 64/32-bit build](#)
- [Android Platform 64-bit Build Instructions](#)

Linaro

