

Installing OPAM

This tutorial is a complement to the [Quick Install](#) tutorial and provides complements on how to install OPAM directly from sources. This is *not* the recommended way of installing OPAM.

Installing OPAM from source

Prerequisites:

- ocaml (at least 3.12.1)
- curl or wget
- git (optional, to use the git backend)
- rsync (optional, to use the rsync backend)

Obtaining OPAM

Download the latest stable version of OPAM [here](#).

If you want to try the development (unstable) version of OPAM, clone the git repository: `git clone git://github.com/ocaml/opam.git`. Please keep in mind that this version may not work as expected.

Compiling OPAM

To compile opam (binaries will be installed in `/usr/local/bin`), simply run:

```
./configure  
make
```

To have OPAM installed in a specific location, please do

```
./configure --prefix=/the/opam/path  
make
```

This will fetch the necessary archives if they are not already downloaded and then build OPAM. If you just want to get the necessary dependencies without compiling the project, run `make clone`.

BSD systems On *BSD systems, you need to use `gmake` instead of `make`. Moreover, the default path for installing the manual pages needs to be changed:

```
./configure --mandir /usr/local/man  
gmake
```

Installing OPAM

To install opam simply run:

```
sudo make install
```

OPAM will be installed under `$prefix`, that is under `/usr/local` if you did not specify a prefix in the configure phase, or whatever location you specified.

Initializing OPAM

Before using OPAM, you need to initialize its state. Start by doing:

```
opam init
eval `opam config env`
```

This will:

- Create OPAM configuration files in `~/.opam`
- Add the default remote repository at URL `http://opam.ocaml.org` using opam's HTTP repository backend.
- Update your local environment to be able to use OPAM packages and compilers.

It is recommended that you add `eval `opam config env`` in the configuration file of your shell (most likely `~/.bashrc` or `~/.profile`).

To learn more about these two commands, try `opam init --help` and `opam config --help`.

Uninstalling OPAM

To uninstall OPAM, simply run:

```
$ make uninstall
```

at the root of the sources. Or you can simply remove OPAM binaries, manual pages and state:

```
$ rm -rf $(opam config var root)
$ rm -f $(which opam) $(which opam-admin)
```