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How To Download a RPM Package Using yum Command Without Installing On Linux

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Q. I would like to only download the packages via yum and not install/update them. How do I download a RPM package using yum command under CentOS Enterprise Linux server 5.x or RHEL 5.x systems?



[1]

A. You need to install plugin called **yum-downloadonly**. This plugin adds a **--downloadonly** flag to yum so that yum will only download the packages and not install/update them. Following options supported by this plugin:

[a] **--downloadonly** : don't update, just download a rpm file

[b] **--downloadonlydir=/path/to/dir** : specifies an alternate directory to store packages such as /tmp

Please note following instructions are only tested on CentOS server but should work with RHN and RHEL without any problem.

How do I install yum-downloadonly plugin?

Type the following command to install plugin, enter:

```
# yum install yum-downloadonly
```

Sample output:

```
Loading "fastestmirror" plugin
Loading "security" plugin
Loading mirror speeds from cached hostfile
 * base: centos.mirrors.tds.net
 * updates: mirror.myriadnetwork.com
 * addons: mirrors.gigenet.com
 * extras: holmes.umflint.edu
Setting up Install Process
Parsing package install arguments
Resolving Dependencies
--> Running transaction check
---> Package yum-downloadonly.noarch 0:1.1.10-9.el5.centos set to be updated
--> Finished Dependency Resolution

Dependencies Resolved

=====
Package                        Arch      Version              Repository            Size
=====
Installing:
yum-downloadonly              noarch    1.1.10-9.el5.centos  base                  9.0 k

Transaction Summary
=====
Install      1 Package(s)
Update      0 Package(s)
Remove      0 Package(s)

Total download size: 9.0 k
Is this ok [y/N]: y
Downloading Packages:
(1/1): yum-downloadonly-1 100% |=====| 9.0 kB    00:00
Running rpm_check_debug
Running Transaction Test
Finished Transaction Test
Transaction Test Succeeded
Running Transaction
```

```
Installing: yum-downloadonly ##### [1/1]
```

```
Installed: yum-downloadonly.noarch 0:1.1.10-9.el5.centos
Complete!
```

How do I download a RPM package only from RHN or CentOS mirror, without installing it?

Download httpd package but don't install/update, enter:

```
# yum update httpd -y --downloadonly
```

By default package will be downloaded and stored in /var/cache/yum/ directory. But, you can specify an alternate directory to store packages such as /opt, enter:

```
# yum update httpd -y --downloadonly --downloadaddir=/opt
```

Sample output:

```
yum install httpd -y --downloadonly
Loading "downloadonly" plugin
Loading "fastestmirror" plugin
Loading "security" plugin
Loading mirror speeds from cached hostfile
 * base: centos.mirrors.mypsh.com
 * updates: mirror.steadfast.net
 * addons: mirrors.gigenet.com
 * extras: holmes.umflint.edu
Setting up Install Process
Parsing package install arguments
Resolving Dependencies
--> Running transaction check
--> Package httpd.i386 0:2.2.3-11.el5_1.centos.3 set to be updated
filelists.xml.gz      100% |=====| 2.8 MB    00:03
filelists.xml.gz      100% |=====| 681 kB    00:11
filelists.xml.gz      100% |=====| 122 kB    00:00
filelists.xml.gz      100% |=====| 150 B     00:00
--> Finished Dependency Resolution
```

Dependencies Resolved

```
=====
Package                Arch      Version                      Repository    Size
=====
Installing:
httpd                  i386      2.2.3-11.el5_1.centos.3     base
```

Transaction Summary

```
=====
Install      1 Package(s)
Update       0 Package(s)
Remove       0 Package(s)
```

Total download size: 1.1 M

Downloading Packages:

```
(1/1): httpd-2.2.3-11.el5 100% |=====| 1.1 MB    00:01
```

exiting because --downloadonly specified

To see downloaded file, enter:

```
# ls -l /opt/*.rpm
```

Sample output:

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 1116426 Jan 17 03:36 /opt/httpd-2.2.3-11.el5_1.centos.3.  
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 83452 Oct 2 2007 /opt/lighttpd-fastcgi-1.4.18-1.el5.  
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 635045 Oct 20 2007 /opt/psad-2.1-1.i386.rpm
```

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