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RHEL / CentOS: yum Lists / Installs Only Security Updates

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How do I only list or install only security updates under RHEL 5.x or CentOS Linux server? How do I find out security updates descriptions such as CVE, bugs, issued date and type for each patch?



[1]

You can easily find out security patches related information using yum-security plugin. This plugin adds the options --security, --cve, --bz and --advisory flags to yum and the list-security and info-security commands. The options make it possible to limit list/upgrade of packages to specific security relevant ones. The commands give you the security information.



[3]



[2]

Install Plugin

Type the following command:

```
# yum install yum-security
```

How Do I Display Available Security Updates?

Type the following command:

```
# yum list-security
```

Sample Outputs:

```
Loaded plugins: rhnplugin, security
RHSA-2009:1148-1 security httpd-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.x86_64
RHSA-2009:1148-1 security httpd-devel-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.i386
RHSA-2009:1148-1 security httpd-manual-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.x86_64
RHSA-2009:1148-1 security mod_ssl-1:2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.x86_64
list-security done
```

To list all updates that are security relevant, and get a return code on whether there are security updates use:

```
# yum --security check-update
```

To get a list of all BZs that are fixed for packages you have installed use:

```
# yum list-security bugzillas
```

To get the information on advisory RHSA-2009:1148-1 use:

```
# yum info-security RHSA-2009:1148-1
```

Sample Outputs:

```
Loaded plugins: rhnplugin, security

=====
RHSA-2009:1148
=====
Update ID : RHSA-2009:1148-1
Release :
Type : security
Status : final
Issued : 2009-07-08 23:00:00
```

```
Bugs : 509125 - None
: 509375 - None
CVEs : CVE-2009-1890
: CVE-2009-1891
Description : Important: httpd security update \The Apache HTTP Server is a
: popular Web server. A denial of service flaw was
: found in the Apache mod_proxy module when it was
: used as a reverse proxy. A remote attacker could
: use this flaw to force a proxy process to consume
: large amounts of CPU time. (CVE-2009-1890) A
: denial of service flaw was found in the Apache
: mod_deflate module. This module continued to
: compress large files until compression was
: complete, even if the network connection that
: requested the content was closed before
: compression completed. This would cause
: mod_deflate to consume large amounts of CPU if
: mod_deflate was enabled for a large file.
: (CVE-2009-1891) All httpd users should upgrade to
: these updated packages, which contain backported
: patches to correct these issues. After installing
: the updated packages, the httpd daemon must be
: restarted for the update to take effect.
Files : mod_ssl-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.x86_64.rpm
: httpd-devel-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.i386.rpm
: httpd-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.x86_64.rpm
: httpd-devel-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.x86_64.rpm
: httpd-manual-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.x86_64.rpm
: mod_ssl-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.i386.rpm
: httpd-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.i386.rpm
: httpd-manual-2.2.3-22.el5_3.2.i386.rpm
info-security done
```

To get an info list of the latest packages which contain fixes for Bugzilla 3595; CVE # CVE-2009-1890 and advisories RHSA-2009:1148-1, use:

```
# yum --bz 3595 --cve CVE-2009-1890 --advisory RHSA-2009:1148-1 info updates
```

How Do I Install All The Security Updates Only?

Type the following command to download and install all the available security updates:

```
# yum update --security
```

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