Table Of Contents

Home > Faq > Linux > Red Hat / CentOS

yum command: Update / Install Packages Under Redhat Enterprise / CentOS Linux Version 5.x

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

How do I use yum command to update and patch my Red hat Enterprise Linux / CentOS Linux version 5.x server via RHN / Internet? Can I use up2date command under RHEL 5?

[1]

up2date command [2] was part of RHEL v4.x or older version. You need to use yum command to update and patch the system using RHN or Internet. Use **yum command** to install critical and non-critical security updates as well as binary packages. Login as the root user to install and update the system.

Task: Register my system with RHN

[3]

To register your system with RHN type the following command and just follow on screen instructions (CentOS user skip to next step):

```
# rhn_register
```

> ⚠ **WARNING!** These examples only works with RHEL / CentOS Linux version 5.x or above. For RHEL 4.x and older version use up2date command [2].

Task: Display list of updated software (security fix)

Type the following command at shell prompt:

```
# yum list updates
```

Task: Patch up system by applying all updates

To download and install all updates type the following command:

```
# yum update
```

Task: List all installed packages

List all installed packages, enter:

```
# rpm -qa
# yum list installed
```

Find out if httpd package installed or not, enter:

```
# rpm -qa | grep httpd*
# yum list installed httpd
```

Task: Check for and update specified packages

```
# yum update {package-name-1}
```

To check for and update httpd package, enter:

```
# yum update httpd
```

Task: Search for packages by name

Search httpd and all matching perl packages, enter:

```
# yum list {package-name}
# yum list {regex}
# yum list httpd
# yum list perl*
```

Sample output:

```
Loading "installonlyn" plugin
Loading "security" plugin
Setting up repositories
Reading repository metadata in from local files
Installed Packages
perl.i386                           4:5.8.8-10.el5_0.2     installed
perl-Archive-Tar.noarch             1.30-1.fc6             installed
perl-BSD-Resource.i386              1.28-1.fc6.1           installed
perl-Compress-Zlib.i386            1.42-1.fc6             installed
perl-DBD-MySQL.i386                 3.0007-1.fc6           installed
perl-DBI.i386                       1.52-1.fc6             installed
perl-Digest-HMAC.noarch             1.01-15               installed
perl-Digest-SHA1.i386               2.11-1.2.1            installed
perl-HTML-Parser.i386               3.55-1.fc6             installed
.....
.......
..
perl-libxml-perl.noarch             0.08-1.2.1            base
perl-suidperl.i386                  4:5.8.8-10.el5_0.2     updates
```

Task: Install the specified packages [RPM(s)]

Install package called httpd:

```
# yum install {package-name-1} {package-name-2}
# yum install httpd
```

Task: Remove / Uninstall the specified packages [RPM(s)]

Remove package called httpd, enter:

```
# yum remove {package-name-1} {package-name-2}
# yum remove httpd
```

Task: Display the list of available packages

```
# yum list all
```

Task: Display list of group software

Type the following command:

```
# yum grouplist
```

Output:

```
Installed Groups:
    Engineering and Scientific
    MySQL Database
    Editors
    System Tools
    Text-based Internet
    Legacy Network Server
```

```
      DNS Name Server
      Dialup Networking Support
      FTP Server
      Network Servers
      Legacy Software Development
      Legacy Software Support
      Development Libraries
      Graphics
      Web Server
      Ruby
      Printing Support
      Mail Server
      Server Configuration Tools
      PostgreSQL Database
   Available Groups:
      Office/Productivity
      Administration Tools
      Beagle
      Development Tools
      GNOME Software Development
      X Software Development
      Virtualization
      GNOME Desktop Environment
      Authoring and Publishing
      Mono
      Games and Entertainment
      XFCE-4.4
      Tomboy
      Java
      Java Development
      Emacs
      X Window System
      Windows File Server
      KDE Software Development
      KDE (K Desktop Environment)
      Horde
      Sound and Video
      FreeNX and NX
      News Server
      Yum Utilities
      Graphical Internet
   Done
```

Task: Install all the default packages by group

Install all 'Development Tools' group packages, enter:

```
# yum groupinstall "Development Tools"
```

Task: Update all the default packages by group

Update all 'Development Tools' group packages, enter:

```
# yum groupupdate "Development Tools"
```

Task: Remove all packages in a group

Remove all 'Development Tools' group packages, enter:

```
# yum groupremove "Development Tools"
```

Task: Install particular architecture package

If you are using 64 bit RHEL version it is possible to install 32 packages:

```
# yum install {package-name}.{architecture}
# yum install mysql.i386
```

Task: Display packages not installed via official RHN subscribed repos

Show all packages not available via subscribed channels or repositories i.e show packages installed via other repos:

```
# yum list extras
```

Sample output:

```
Loading "installonlyn" plugin
Loading "security" plugin
Setting up repositories
Reading repository metadata in from local files
Extra Packages
DenyHosts.noarch                       2.6-python2.4           installed
VMwareTools.i386                       6532-44356              installed
john.i386                              1.7.0.2-3.el5.rf        installed
kernel.i686                            2.6.18-8.1.15.el5       installed
kernel-devel.i686                      2.6.18-8.1.15.el5       installed
lighttpd.i386                          1.4.18-1.el5.rf         installed
lighttpd-fastcgi.i386                  1.4.18-1.el5.rf         installed
psad.i386                              2.1-1                   installed
rssh.i386                              2.3.2-1.2.el5.rf        installed
```

Task: Display what package provides the file

You can easily find out what RPM package provides the file. For example find out what provides the /etc/passwd file:

```
# yum whatprovides /etc/passwd
```

Sample output:

```
Loading "installonlyn" plugin
Loading "security" plugin
Setting up repositories
Reading repository metadata in from local files

setup.noarch                           2.5.58-1.el5            base
Matched from:
/etc/passwd

setup.noarch                           2.5.58-1.el5            installed
Matched from:
/etc/passwd
```

You can use same command to list packages that satisfy dependencies:

```
# yum whatprovides {dependency-1} {dependency-2}
```

Refer yum command man page for more information:

```
# man yum
```

Article printed from Frequently Asked Questions About Linux / UNIX: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/**

URL to article: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/rhel-centos-fedora-linux-yum-command-howto/**

URLs in this post:

[1] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/category/redhat-and-friends/**
[2] up2date command: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-use-up2date-command/**
[3] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/category/centos/**