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# up2date command to update Redhat enterprise Linux (RHEL) howto

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Q. How do I use up2date command to update Redhat enterprise Linux server via RHN?

[1]

A. For Redhat enterprise Linux operating systems, you need to get updates from RHN [2] via Redhat Network Satellite/proxy servers (usually used by big hosting/ISPs or large RHEL installation setups) to install critical and non-critical security updates as well as binary packages.

## Task: Register my system with RHN

To register your system with RHN type the following command and just follow on screen instructions:

```
# up2date --register
```

> ⚠ **WARNING!** These examples only works with RHEL version 2.x, 3.x and 4.x only. RHEL version 5.x comes with yum utility [3] to update and install packages.

## Task: Display list of updated software (security fix)

Type the following command at shell prompt:
```
# up2date -l
```

## Task: Patch up system by applying all updates

To download all update type the following command:
```
# up2date -u
```

## Task: Forcefully update or patching

Sometime you need to forcefully apply updates. By default RHN does not install new kernel, so you need to run updates using following command:
```
# up2date -uf
```

## Task: Install new software/rpm

Use up2date command to install new RPM from RHN:
```
# up2date httpd
```

## Task: Update installed software

To fix latest bugs or to apply a patch use up2date command as follows for php package:
```
# up2date php
```

## Task: Download source RPM files

Download source packages only but don't install:
```
# up2date -d --src Package-Name
```

### Task: Display the list of available packages

```
# up2date --showall
# up2date --showall | grep httpd
```

### Task: Install particular architecture package

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

```
# up2date --arch=i386 mysql
```

Above command will install mysql 32 bit version instead of 64 bit version.

### 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:

```
# up2date --whatprovides "/etc/passwd"
```

Output:

```
setup-2.5.37-1.3.noarch
```

It queries the RHN servers to resolve the comma separated list of dependencies. It will return a list of packages that will satisfy these dependencies.

### Task: Display list of group software

Option --show-groups displays all the component groups that are installable via up2date command. This is good to install entire [4] set of software such as development environment.

```
# up2date --show-groups
```

Output:

```
Administration Tools
Arabic Support
Assamese Support
Authoring and Publishing
GNOME
GNOME Desktop Environment
GNOME Software Development
Games and Entertainment
Windows File Server
Workstation Common
X Software Development
X Window System
XEmacs
```

To install group X Software Development just type the command:

```
# up2date -i "@ X Software Development "
```

Read man page of up2date command for more information:

```
man up2date
```

URL to article: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-use-up2date-command/**

URLs in this post:

[1] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/redhat-and-friends/**

[2] RHN: **http://www.redhat.com/rhn/**

[3] yum utility: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/rhel-centos-fedora-linux-yum-command-howto/**

[4] install entire: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/vmware-redhat-amd-64-bit-error-correct-version-libraries.html**