Managing Vim Plugins

Third Party Plugin Managers

- vim-plug
- Vundle
- NeoBundle
- Pathogen

Required for Vim version 7 and earlier.

How to Find Plugins

Search using Google.com or VimAwesome.com.

VimAwesome

AWESOME VIM PLUGINS
from
ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

- 🚩 Language
- ••• Completion
- </> Code display
- ↗ Integrations

🔍 Search

Tip: use `/` to search, `J`/`K` to navigate, `N`/`P` to flip pages

19462 PLUGINS

fugitive.vim *by* TIM POPE   47185 👤   14774 ⭐
fugitive.vim: A Git wrapper so awesome, it should be illegal

surround.vim *by* TIM POPE   34226 👤   9772 ⭐
surround.vim: quoting/parenthesizing made simple

The NERD tree *by* MARTY GRENFELL   27440 👤   15847 ⭐
A tree explorer plugin for vim.

How to Install Plugins

Plugins are typically hosted on GitHub.com.

You'll need Git on your system for Vim 8.

```
dnf install git        # RedHat, etc.
apt install git        # Debian, etc.
https://git-scm.com/   # Windows.
```

```
git clone https://github.com/plugin-path
```

Vim 8 Packages / Plugins

Plugin support is built into Vim.

Functionality was released in 2016.

How to confirm your version of Vim:
```
vim --version
vim
```

Where Packages Are Stored

{packpath}/pack/{package-name}

Examples:

/home/jason/.vim/pack/git-plugins

/home/jason/.vim/pack/vendor

/home/jason/.vim/pack/myplugins

C:\Users\jason\vimfiles\pack\git-plugins

Where Packages Are Stored

{packpath}/pack/{package-name}/start/{plugin-name}

{packpath}/pack/{package-name}/opt/{plugin-name}

Examples:

/home/jason/.vim/pack/vendor/start/nerdtree

/home/jason/.vim/pack/vendor/opt/ctrlp

/home/jason/.vim/pack/myplugins/start/nerdtree

Loading Optional Plugins

:packadd {plugin-directory-name}

Example:

    :packadd vim-fugitive

This searches for "pack/*/opt/vim-fugitive" in the packpath.

Example: ~/.vim/pack/git-plugins/opt/vim-fugitive

Summary

- Plugins add functionality to Vim.

- Search for plugins or use VimAwesome.com.

- Packages group plugins together.

- To autoload a plugin, place it in "start/".
  ```
  {packpath}/pack/{package-name}/start/{plugin-name}
  ```

- To manually load a plugin, place it in "opt/".
  ```
  {packpath}/pack/{package-name}/opt/{plugin-name}
  ```

Summary

- Plugins are typically installed using git:

  ```
  git clone https://github.com/plugin-path
  ```

- Remove a plugin by deleting its directory.