# 312-F10 Linux Yum Command Examples – Install, Uninstall, Update Packages

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Installing, removing, and updating packages is a typical activity on Linux. Most of the Linux distributions provides some kind of package manager utility. For example, apt-get, dpkg, rpm, yum, etc.

On some Linux distributions, yum is the default package manager.

Yum stands for Yellowdog Updater Modified.

This article explains 15 most frequently used yum commands with examples.

### 1. Install a package using yum install

To install a package, do ‘yum install packagename’. This will also identify the dependencies automatically and install them.

The following example installs postgresql package.

# yum install postgresql.x86\_64

Resolving Dependencies

Install 2 Package(s)

Is this ok [y/N]: y

Package(s) data still to download: 3.0 M

(1/2): postgresql-9.0.4-5.fc15.x86\_64.rpm | 2.8 MB 00:11

(2/2): postgresql-libs-9.0.4-5.fc15.x86\_64.rpm | 203 kB 00:00

------------------------------------------------------------------

Total 241 kB/s | 3.0 MB 00:12

Running Transaction

Installing : postgresql-libs-9.0.4-5.fc15.x86\_64 1/2

Installing : postgresql-9.0.4-5.fc15.x86\_64 2/2

Complete!

By default ‘yum install’, will prompt you to accept or decline before installing the packages. If you want yum to install automatically without prompting, use -y option as shown below.

# yum -y install postgresql.x86\_64

### 2. Uninstall a package using yum remove

To remove a package (along with all its dependencies), use ‘yum remove package’ as shown below.

# yum remove postgresql.x86\_64

Resolving Dependencies

---> Package postgresql.x86\_64 0:9.0.4-5.fc15 will be erased

Is this ok [y/N]: y

Running Transaction

Erasing : postgresql-9.0.4-5.fc15.x86\_64 1/1

Removed:

postgresql.x86\_64 0:9.0.4-5.fc15

Complete!

### 3. Upgrade an existing package using yum update

If you have a older version of a package, use ‘yum update package’ to upgrade it to the latest current version. This will also identify and install all required dependencies.

# yum update postgresql.x86\_64

### 4. Search for a package to be installed using yum search

If you don’t know the exact package name to be installed, use ‘yum search keyword’, which will search all the packages that matches the ‘keyword’ and display it.

The following examples searches the yum repository for all the packages that matches the keyword ‘firefox’ and lists the available packages.

# yum search firefox

Loaded plugins: langpacks, presto, refresh-packagekit

============== N/S Matched: firefox ======================

firefox.x86\_64 : Mozilla Firefox Web browser

gnome-do-plugins-firefox.x86\_64 : gnome-do-plugins for firefox

mozilla-firetray-firefox.x86\_64 : System tray extension for firefox

mozilla-adblockplus.noarch : Adblocking extension for Mozilla Firefox

mozilla-noscript.noarch : JavaScript white list extension for Mozilla Firefox

Name and summary matches only, use "search all" for everything.

### 5. Display additional information about a package using yum info

Once you search for a package using yum search, you can use ‘yum info package’ to view additional information about the package.

The following examples displays additional information about the samba-common package.

# yum info samba-common.i686

Loaded plugins: langpacks, presto, refresh-packagekit

Available Packages

Name : samba-common

Arch : i686

Epoch : 1

Version : 3.5.11

Release : 71.fc15.1

Size : 9.9 M

Repo : updates

Summary : Files used by both Samba servers and clients

URL : http://www.samba.org/

License : GPLv3+ and LGPLv3+

Description : Samba-common provides files necessary for both the server and client

: packages of Samba.

### 6. View all available packages using yum list

The following command will list all the packages available in the yum database.

# yum list | less

### 7. List only the installed packages using yum list installed

To view all the packages that are installed on your system, execute the following yum command.

# yum list installed | less

### 8. Which package does a file belong to? – Use yum provides

Use ‘yum provides’ if you like to know which package a particular file belongs to. For example, if you like to know the name of the package that has the /etc/sysconfig/nfs file, do the following.

# yum provides /etc/sysconfig/nfs

Loaded plugins: langpacks, presto, refresh-packagekit

1:nfs-utils-1.2.3-10.fc15.x86\_64 : NFS utilities and supporting clients and

: daemons for the kernel NFS server

Repo : fedora

Matched from:

Filename : /etc/sysconfig/nfs

1:nfs-utils-1.2.4-1.fc15.x86\_64 : NFS utilities and supporting clients and

: daemons for the kernel NFS server

Repo : updates

Matched from:

Filename : /etc/sysconfig/nfs

1:nfs-utils-1.2.4-1.fc15.x86\_64 : NFS utilities and supporting clients and

: daemons for the kernel NFS server

Repo : installed

Matched from:

Other : Provides-match: /etc/sysconfig/nfs

### 9. List available software groups using yum grouplist

In yum, several related packages are grouped together in a specific group. Instead of searching and installing all the individual packages that belongs to a specific function, you can simply install the group, which will install all the packages that belongs to the group.

To view all the available software groups execute ‘yum grouplist’ as shown below. The output is listed in three groups–Installed Groups, Installed Language Groups and Available Groups.

# yum grouplist

Installed Groups:

Administration Tools

Base

Design Suite

....

Installed Language Groups:

Arabic Support [ar]

Armenian Support [hy]

Bengali Support [bn]

....

Available Groups:

Authoring and Publishing

Books and Guides

Clustering

DNS Name Server

Development Libraries

Development Tools

Directory Server

Dogtag Certificate System

...

### 10. Install a specific software group using yum groupinstall

To install specific software group, use groupinstall option as shown below. In the following example, ‘DNS Name Server’ group contains bind and bind-chroot.

# yum groupinstall 'DNS Name Server'

Dependencies Resolved

Install 2 Package(s)

Is this ok [y/N]: y

Package(s) data still to download: 3.6 M

(1/2): bind-9.8.0-9.P4.fc15.x86\_64.rpm | 3.6 MB 00:15

(2/2): bind-chroot-9.8.0-9.P4.fc15.x86\_64.rpm | 69 kB 00:00

-----------------------------------------------------------------

Total 235 kB/s | 3.6 MB 00:15

Installed:

bind-chroot.x86\_64 32:9.8.0-9.P4.fc15

Dependency Installed:

bind.x86\_64 32:9.8.0-9.P4.fc15

Complete!

Note: You can also [install MySQL database using yum groupinstall](https://www.thegeekstuff.com/2010/04/yum-groupinstall-mysql-database/) as we discussed earlier.

### 11. Upgrade an existing software group using groupupdate

If you’ve already installed a software group using yum groupinstall, and would like to upgrade it to the latest version, use ‘yum groupupdate’ as shown below.

# yum groupupdate 'Graphical Internet'

Dependencies Resolved

Upgrade 5 Package(s)

Is this ok [y/N]: y

Running Transaction

Updating : evolution-data-server-3.0.2-1.fc15.x86\_64 1/10

Updating : evolution-3.0.2-3.fc15.x86\_64 2/10

Updating : evolution-NetworkManager-3.0.2-3.fc15.x86\_64 3/10

Updating : evolution-help-3.0.2-3.fc15.noarch 4/10

Updating : empathy-3.0.2-3.fc15.x86\_64 5/10

Cleanup : evolution-NetworkManager-3.0.1-1.fc15.x86\_64 6/10

Cleanup : evolution-help-3.0.1-1.fc15.noarch 7/10

Cleanup : evolution-3.0.1-1.fc15.x86\_64 8/10

Cleanup : empathy-3.0.1-3.fc15.x86\_64 9/10

Cleanup : evolution-data-server-3.0.1-1.fc15.x86\_64 10/10

Complete!

### 12. Uninstall a software group using yum groupremove

To delete an existing software group use ‘yum groupremove’ as shown below.

# yum groupremove 'DNS Name Server'

Dependencies Resolved

Remove 2 Package(s)

Is this ok [y/N]: y

Running Transaction

Erasing : 32:bind-chroot-9.8.0-9.P4.fc15.x86\_64 1/2

Erasing : 32:bind-9.8.0-9.P4.fc15.x86\_64 2/2

Complete!

### 13. Display your current yum repositories

All yum commands goes against one or more yum repositories. To view all the yum repositories that are configured in your system, do ‘yum repolist’ as shown below.

The following will display only the enabled repositories.

# yum repolist

repo id repo name status

fedora Fedora 15 - x86\_64 24,085

updates Fedora 15 - x86\_64 - Updates 5,612

To display all the repositories (both enabled and disabled), use ‘yum repolist all’.

# yum repolist all

repo id repo name status

fedora Fedora 15 - x86\_64 enabled: 24,085

fedora-debuginfo Fedora 15 - x86\_64 - Debug disabled

fedora-source Fedora 15 - Source disabled

rawhide-debuginfo Fedora - Rawhide - Debug disabled

rawhide-source Fedora - Rawhide - Source disabled

updates Fedora 15 - x86\_64 - Updates enabled: 5,612

updates-debuginfo Fedora 15 - x86\_64 - Updates - Debug disabled

updates-source Fedora 15 - Updates Source disabled

updates-testing Fedora 15 - x86\_64 - Test Updates disabled

updates-testing-debuginfo Fedora 15 - x86\_64 - Test Updates Debug disabled

updates-testing-source Fedora 15 - Test Updates Source disabled

To view only the disabled repositories, use ‘yum repositories disabled’.

### 14. Install from a disabled repositories using yum –enablerepo

By default yum installs only from the enabled repositories. For some reason if you like to install a package from a disabled repositories, use –enablerepo option in the ‘yum install’ as shown below.

# yum --enablerepo=fedora-source install vim-X11.x86\_64

Dependencies Resolved

Install 1 Package(s)

Is this ok [y/N]: y

Running Transaction

Installing : 2:vim-X11-7.3.138-1.fc15.x86\_64 1/1

Complete!

### 15. Execute yum commands interactively using Yum Shell

Yum provides the interactive shell to run multiple commands as shown below.

# yum shell

Setting up Yum Shell

> info samba.x86\_64

Available Packages

Name : samba

Arch : x86\_64

Epoch : 1

Version : 3.5.11

Release : 71.fc15.1

Size : 4.6 M

Repo : updates

Summary : Server and Client software to interoperate with Windows machines

URL : http://www.samba.org/

License : GPLv3+ and LGPLv3+

Description :

: Samba is the suite of programs by which a lot of PC-related

: machines share files, printers, and other information (such as

: lists of available files and printers). The Windows NT, OS/2, and

: Linux operating systems support this natively, and add-on packages

: can enable the same thing for DOS, Windows, VMS, UNIX of all

: kinds, MVS, and more. This package provides an SMB/CIFS server

: that can be used to provide network services to SMB/CIFS clients.

: Samba uses NetBIOS over TCP/IP (NetBT) protocols and does NOT

: need the NetBEUI (Microsoft Raw NetBIOS frame) protocol.

>

Yum can also read commands from a text file and execute it one by one. This is very helpful when you have multiple systems. Instead of executing the same command on all the systems, create a text file with those commands, and use ‘yum shell’ to execute those commands as shown below.

# cat yum\_cmd.txt

repolist

info nfs-utils-lib.x86\_64

# yum shell yum\_cmd.txt

repo id repo name status

fedora Fedora 15 - x86\_64 24,085

updates Fedora 15 - x86\_64 - Updates 5,612

Available Packages

Name : nfs-utils-lib

Arch : x86\_64

Version : 1.1.5

Release : 5.fc15

Size : 61 k

Repo : fedora

Summary : Network File System Support Library

URL : http://www.citi.umich.edu/projects/nfsv4/linux/

License : BSD

Description : Support libraries that are needed by the commands and

: daemons the nfs-utils rpm.

Leaving Shell