

# Pkg.jl

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## **Part I**

### **1. Introduction**

Welcome to the documentation for Pkg, Julia's package manager. The documentation covers many things, for example managing package installations, developing packages, working with package registries and more.

Throughout the manual the REPL interface to Pkg, the Pkg REPL mode, is used in the examples. There is also a functional API, which is preferred when not working interactively. This API is documented in the [API Reference](#) section.

# Chapter 1

## Background and Design

Unlike traditional package managers, which install and manage a single global set of packages, Pkg is designed around “environments”: independent sets of packages that can be local to an individual project or shared and selected by name. The exact set of packages and versions in an environment is captured in a manifest file which can be checked into a project repository and tracked in version control, significantly improving reproducibility of projects. If you’ve ever tried to run code you haven’t used in a while only to find that you can’t get anything to work because you’ve updated or uninstalled some of the packages your project was using, you’ll understand the motivation for this approach. In Pkg, since each project maintains its own independent set of package versions, you’ll never have this problem again. Moreover, if you check out a project on a new system, you can simply materialize the environment described by its manifest file and immediately be up and running with a known-good set of dependencies.

Since environments are managed and updated independently from each other, “dependency hell” is significantly alleviated in Pkg. If you want to use the latest and greatest version of some package in a new project but you’re stuck on an older version in a different project, that’s no problem – since they have separate environments they can just use different versions, which are both installed at the same time in different locations on your system. The location of each package version is canonical, so when environments use the same versions of packages, they can share installations, avoiding unnecessary duplication of the package. Old package versions that are no longer used by any environments are periodically “garbage collected” by the package manager.

Pkg’s approach to local environments may be familiar to people who have used Python’s `virtualenv` or Ruby’s `bundler`. In Julia, instead of hacking the language’s code loading mechanisms to support environments, we have the benefit that Julia natively understands them. In addition, Julia environments are “stackable”: you can overlay one environment with another and thereby have access to additional packages outside of the primary environment. This makes it easy to work on a project, which provides the primary environment, while still having access from the REPL to all your usual dev tools like profilers, debuggers, and so on, just by having an environment including these dev tools later in the load path.

Last but not least, Pkg is designed to support federated package registries. This means that it allows multiple registries managed by different parties to interact seamlessly. In particular, this includes private registries which can live behind corporate firewalls. You can install and update your own packages from a private registry with exactly the same tools and workflows that you use to install and manage official Julia packages. If you urgently need to apply a hotfix for a public package that’s critical to your company’s product, you can tag a private version of it in your company’s internal registry and get a fix to your developers and ops teams quickly and easily without having to wait for an upstream patch to be accepted and published. Once an official fix is published, however, you can just upgrade your dependencies and you’ll be back on an official release again.

## **Part II**

### **2. Getting Started**

What follows is a quick overview of the basic features of Pkg. It should help new users become familiar with basic Pkg features such as adding and removing packages and working with environments.

**Note**

Some Pkg output is omitted in this section in order to keep this basic guide focused. This will help maintain a good pace and not get bogged down in details. If you require more details, refer to subsequent sections of the Pkg manual.

**Note**

This guide uses the Pkg REPL to execute Pkg commands. For non-interactive use, we recommend the Pkg API. The Pkg API is fully documented in the [API Reference](#) section of the Pkg documentation.

## Chapter 2

### Basic Usage

Pkg comes with a REPL. Enter the Pkg REPL by pressing ] from the Julia REPL. To get back to the Julia REPL, press Ctrl+C or backspace (when the REPL cursor is at the beginning of the input).

Upon entering the Pkg REPL, you should see the following prompt:

```
(@v1.9) pkg>
```

To add a package, use add:

```
(@v1.9) pkg> add Example
Resolving package versions...
Installed Example - v0.5.3
  Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.9/Project.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.3
  Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.9/Manifest.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.3
```

After the package is installed, it can be loaded into the Julia session:

```
julia> import Example
julia> Example.hello("friend")
"Hello, friend"
```

We can also specify multiple packages at once to install:

```
(@v1.9) pkg> add JSON StaticArrays
```

The status command (or the shorter st command) can be used to see installed packages.

```
(@v1.9) pkg> st
Status `~/.julia/environments/v1.6/Project.toml`
[7876af07] Example v0.5.3
[682c06a0] JSON v0.21.3
[90137ffa] StaticArrays v1.5.9
```

**Note**

Some Pkg REPL commands have a short and a long version of the command, for example `status` and `st`.

To remove packages, use `rm` (or `remove`):

```
(@v1.9) pkg> rm JSON StaticArrays
```

Use `up` (or `update`) to update the installed packages

```
(@v1.9) pkg> up
```

If you have been following this guide it is likely that the packages installed are at the latest version so `up` will not do anything. Below we show the status output in the case where we deliberately have installed an old version of the `Example` package and then upgrade it:

```
(@v1.9) pkg> st
Status `~/.julia/environments/v1.9/Project.toml`
^ [7876af07] Example v0.5.1
Info Packages marked with ^ have new versions available and may be upgradable.

(@v1.9) pkg> up
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.9/Project.toml`
[7876af07] ⌘ Example v0.5.1 => v0.5.3
```

We can see that the status output tells us that there is a newer version available and that `up` upgrades the package.

For more information about managing packages, see the [Managing Packages](#) section of the documentation.

## Chapter 3

# Getting Started with Environments

Up to this point, we have covered basic package management: adding, updating, and removing packages.

You may have noticed the (@v1.9) in the REPL prompt. This lets us know that v1.9 is the **active environment**. Different environments can have different totally different packages and versions installed from another environment. The active environment is the environment that will be modified by Pkg commands such as add, rm and update.

Let's set up a new environment so we may experiment. To set the active environment, use activate:

```
(@v1.9) pkg> activate tutorial  
[ Info: activating new environment at `~/tutorial/Project.toml`.
```

Pkg lets us know we are creating a new environment and that this environment will be stored in the ~/tutorial directory. The path to the environment is created relative to the current working directory of the REPL.

Pkg has also updated the REPL prompt in order to reflect the new active environment:

```
(tutorial) pkg>
```

We can ask for information about the active environment by using status:

```
(tutorial) pkg> status  
Status `~/tutorial/Project.toml`  
(empty environment)
```

~/tutorial/Project.toml is the location of the active environment's **project file**. A project file is a [TOML](#) file where Pkg stores the packages that have been explicitly installed. Notice this new environment is empty. Let us add some packages and observe:

```
(tutorial) pkg> add Example JSON  
...  
(tutorial) pkg> status  
Status `~/tutorial/Project.toml`  
[7876af07] Example v0.5.3  
[682c06a0] JSON v0.21.3
```

We can see that the tutorial environment now contains Example and JSON.

**Note**

If you have the same package (at the same version) installed in multiple environments, the package will only be downloaded and stored on the hard drive once. This makes environments very lightweight and effectively free to create. Using only the default environment with a huge number of packages in it is a common beginners mistake in Julia. Learning how to use environments effectively will improve your experience with Julia packages.

For more information about environments, see the [Working with Environments](#) section of the documentation.

## **Chapter 4**

### **Asking for Help**

If you are ever stuck, you can ask Pkg for help:

```
(@v1.9) pkg> ?
```

You should see a list of available commands along with short descriptions. You can ask for more detailed help by specifying a command:

```
(@v1.9) pkg> ?develop
```

This guide should help you get started with Pkg. Pkg has much more to offer in terms of powerful package management, read the full manual to learn more!

## **Part III**

### **3. Managing Packages**

## Chapter 5

# Adding packages

There are two ways of adding packages, either using the `add` command or the `dev` command. The most frequently used is `add` and its usage is described first.

### 5.1 Adding registered packages

In the Pkg REPL, packages can be added with the `add` command followed by the name of the package, for example:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> add JSON
Installing known registries into `~/`
Resolving package versions...
Installed Parsers - v2.4.0
Installed JSON —— v0.21.3
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`
[682c06a0] + JSON v0.21.3
Updating `~/environments/v1.9/Manifest.toml`
[682c06a0] + JSON v0.21.3
[69de0a69] + Parsers v2.4.0
[ade2ca70] + Dates
[a63ad114] + Mmap
[de0858da] + Printf
[4ec0a83e] + Unicode
Precompiling environment...
2 dependencies successfully precompiled in 2 seconds
```

Here we added the package `JSON` to the current environment (which is the default `@v1.8` environment). In this example, we are using a fresh Julia installation, and this is our first time adding a package using Pkg. By default, Pkg installs the General registry and uses this registry to look up packages requested for inclusion in the current environment. The status update shows a short form of the package UUID to the left, then the package name, and the version. Finally, the newly installed packages are "precompiled".

It is possible to add multiple packages in one command as `pkg> add A B C`.

The status output contains the packages you have added yourself, in this case, `JSON`:

```
(@v1.11) pkg> st
Status `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`
[682c06a0] JSON v0.21.3
```

The manifest status shows all the packages in the environment, including recursive dependencies:

```
(@v1.11) pkg> st -m
Status `~/environments/v1.9/Manifest.toml`
[682c06a0] JSON v0.21.3
[69de0a69] Parsers v2.4.0
[ade2ca70] Dates
[a63ad114] Mmap
[de0858da] Printf
[4ec0a83e] Unicode
```

Since standard libraries (e.g. Dates) are shipped with Julia, they do not have a version.

To specify that you want a particular version (or set of versions) of a package, use the `compat` command. For example, to require any patch release of the v0.21 series of JSON after v0.21.4, call `compat JSON 0.21.4`:

```
(@1.11) pkg> compat JSON 0.21.4
  Compat entry set:
  JSON = "0.21.4"
    Resolve checking for compliance with the new compat rules...
      Error empty intersection between JSON@0.21.3 and project compatibility 0.21.4 - 0.21
      Suggestion Call `update` to attempt to meet the compatibility requirements.

(@1.11) pkg> update
  Updating registry at `~/.julia/registries/General.toml`
  Updating `~/.julia/environments/1.11/Project.toml`
[682c06a0] ↑ JSON v0.21.3 → v0.21.4
  Updating `~/.julia/environments/1.11/Manifest.toml`
[682c06a0] ↑ JSON v0.21.3 → v0.21.4
```

See the section on [Compatibility](#) for more on using the `compat` system.

After a package is added to the project, it can be loaded in Julia:

```
julia> using JSON

julia> JSON.json(Dict("foo" => [1, "bar"])) |> print
{"foo": [1, "bar"]}
```

### Note

Only packages that have been added with `add` can be loaded (which are packages that are shown when using `st` in the Pkg REPL). Packages that are pulled in only as dependencies (for example the `Parsers` package above) can not be loaded.

A specific version of a package can be installed by appending a version after a @ symbol to the package name:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> add JSON@0.21.1
  Resolving package versions...
  Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`
^ [682c06a0] + JSON v0.21.1
  Updating `~/environments/v1.9/Manifest.toml`
```

```

^ [682c06a0] + JSON v0.21.1
≈ [69de0a69] + Parsers v1.1.2
[ade2ca70] + Dates
[a63ad114] + Mmap
[de0858da] + Printf
[4ec0a83e] + Unicode
    Info Packages marked with ^ and ≈ have new versions available, but those with ≈ are
    ↵ restricted by compatibility constraints from upgrading. To see why use `status --outdated -m`
```

As seen above, Pkg gives some information when a package is not installed at its latest version.

If not all three numbers are given for the version, for example, 0.21, then the latest registered version of 0.21.x would be installed.

If a branch (or a certain commit) of Example has a hotfix that is not yet included in a registered version, we can explicitly track that branch (or commit) by appending #branchname (or #commitSHA1) to the package name:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> add Example#master
  Cloning git-repo `https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git`
  Resolving package versions...
    Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.4 `https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git#master`
    Updating `~/.environments/v1.9/Manifest.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.4 `https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git#master`
```

The status output now shows that we are tracking the master branch of Example. When updating packages, updates are pulled from that branch.

#### Note

If we would specify a commit id instead of a branch name, e.g. add Example#025cf7e, then we would effectively "pin" the package to that commit. This is because the commit id always points to the same thing unlike a branch, which may be updated.

To go back to tracking the registry version of Example, the command free is used:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> free Example
  Resolving package versions...
  Installed Example - v0.5.3
    Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`
[7876af07] ~ Example v0.5.4 `https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git#master` ⇒ v0.5.3
    Updating `~/.environments/v1.9/Manifest.toml`
[7876af07] ~ Example v0.5.4 `https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git#master` ⇒ v0.5.3
```

## 5.2 Adding unregistered packages

If a package is not in a registry, it can be added by specifying a URL to the Git repository:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> add https://github.com/fredrikekre/ImportMacros.jl
  Cloning git-repo `https://github.com/fredrikekre/ImportMacros.jl`
  Resolving package versions...
```

```
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`  
[92a963f6] + ImportMacros v1.0.0 `https://github.com/fredrikekre/ImportMacros.jl#master`  
Updating `~/.environments/v1.9/Manifest.toml`  
[92a963f6] + ImportMacros v1.0.0 `https://github.com/fredrikekre/ImportMacros.jl#master`
```

The dependencies of the unregistered package (here `MacroTools`) got installed. For unregistered packages, we could have given a branch name (or commit SHA1) to track using `#`, just like for registered packages.

If you want to add a package using the SSH-based git protocol, you have to use quotes because the URL contains a `@`. For example,

```
(@v1.8) pkg> add "git@github.com:fredrikekre/ImportMacros.jl.git"  
  Cloning git-repo `git@github.com:fredrikekre/ImportMacros.jl.git`  
  Updating registry at `~/.julia/registries/General`  
  Resolving package versions...  
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1/Project.toml`  
[92a963f6] + ImportMacros v1.0.0 `git@github.com:fredrikekre/ImportMacros.jl.git#master`  
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1/Manifest.toml`  
[92a963f6] + ImportMacros v1.0.0 `git@github.com:fredrikekre/ImportMacros.jl.git#master`
```

### Adding a package in a subdirectory of a repository

If the package you want to add by URL is not in the root of the repository, then you need pass that subdirectory using `..`. For instance, to add the `SnoopCompileCore` package in the `SnoopCompile` repository:

```
pkg> add https://github.com/timholy/SnoopCompile.jl.git:SnoopCompileCore  
  Cloning git-repo `https://github.com/timholy/SnoopCompile.jl.git`  
  Resolving package versions...  
  Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`  
[e2b509da] + SnoopCompileCore v2.9.0  
→ `https://github.com/timholy/SnoopCompile.jl.git:SnoopCompileCore#master`  
  Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Manifest.toml`  
[e2b509da] + SnoopCompileCore v2.9.0  
→ `https://github.com/timholy/SnoopCompile.jl.git:SnoopCompileCore#master`  
[9e88b42a] + Serialization
```

### 5.3 Adding a local package

Instead of giving a URL of a git repo to add we could instead have given a local path **to a git repo**. This works similar to adding a URL. The local repository will be tracked (at some branch) and updates from that local repo are pulled when packages are updated.

#### Warning

Note that tracking a package through `add` is distinct from `develop` (which is described in the next section). When using `add` on a local git repository, changes to files in the local package repository will not immediately be reflected when loading that package. The changes would have to be committed and the packages updated in order to pull in the changes. In the majority of cases, you want to use `develop` on a local path, **not add**.

## 5.4 Developing packages

By only using add your environment always has a "reproducible state", in other words, as long as the repositories and registries used are still accessible it is possible to retrieve the exact state of all the dependencies in the environment. This has the advantage that you can send your environment (`Project.toml` and `Manifest.toml`) to someone else and they can `Pkg.instantiate` that environment in the same state as you had it locally. However, when you are developing a package, it is more convenient to load packages at their current state at some path. For this reason, the `dev` command exists.

Let's try to dev a registered package:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> dev Example
Updating git-repo `https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git`
Resolving package versions...
  Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.4 `~/.julia/dev/Example`
  Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Manifest.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.4 `~/.julia/dev/Example`
```

The `dev` command fetches a full clone of the package to `~/.julia/dev/` (the path can be changed by setting the environment variable `JULIA_PKG_DEVDIR`, the default being `joinpath(DEPOT_PATH[1], "dev")`). When importing `Example` Julia will now import it from `~/.julia/dev/Example` and whatever local changes have been made to the files in that path are consequently reflected in the code loaded. When we used `add` we said that we tracked the package repository; we here say that we track the path itself. Note the package manager will never touch any of the files at a tracked path. It is therefore up to you to pull updates, change branches, etc. If we try to `dev` a package at some branch that already exists at `~/.julia/dev/` the package manager will simply re-use the existing path. If `dev` is used on a local path, that path to that package is recorded and used when loading that package. The path will be recorded relative to the project file, unless it is given as an absolute path.

Let's try modify the file at `~/.julia/dev/Example/src/Example.jl` and add a simple function:

```
plusone(x::Int) = x + 1
```

Now we can go back to the Julia REPL and load the package and run the new function:

```
julia> import Example
[ Info: Precompiling Example [7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a]

julia> Example.plusone(1)
2
```

### Warning

A package can only be loaded once per Julia session. If you have run `import Example` in the current Julia session, you will have to restart Julia to see the changes to `Example`. `Revise.jl` can make this process significantly more pleasant, but setting it up is beyond the scope of this guide.

To stop tracking a path and use the registered version again, use `free`:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> free Example
Resolving package versions...
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`
[7876af07] ~ Example v0.5.4 `~/.julia/dev/Example` => v0.5.3
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Manifest.toml`
[7876af07] ~ Example v0.5.4 `~/.julia/dev/Example` => v0.5.3
```

It should be pointed out that by using dev your project is now inherently stateful. Its state depends on the current content of the files at the path and the manifest cannot be "instantiated" by someone else without knowing the exact content of all the packages that are tracking a path.

Note that if you add a dependency to a package that tracks a local path, the Manifest (which contains the whole dependency graph) will become out of sync with the actual dependency graph. This means that the package will not be able to load that dependency since it is not recorded in the Manifest. To synchronize the Manifest, use the REPL command `resolve`.

In addition to absolute paths, add and dev can accept relative paths to packages. In this case, the relative path from the active project to the package is stored. This approach is useful when the relative location of tracked dependencies is more important than their absolute location. For example, the tracked dependencies can be stored inside of the active project directory. The whole directory can be moved and Pkg will still be able to find the dependencies because their path relative to the active project is preserved even though their absolute path has changed.

## **Chapter 6**

### **Removing packages**

Packages can be removed from the current project by using `pkg> rm Package`. This will only remove packages that exist in the project; to remove a package that only exists as a dependency use `pkg> rm --manifest DepPackage`. Note that this will remove all packages that (recursively) depend on `DepPackage`.

## Chapter 7

### Updating packages

When new versions of packages are released, it is a good idea to update. Simply calling up will try to update all the dependencies of the project to the latest compatible version. Sometimes this is not what you want. You can specify a subset of the dependencies to upgrade by giving them as arguments to up, e.g:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> up Example
```

This will only allow Example do upgrade. If you also want to allow dependencies of Example to upgrade (with the exception of packages that are in the project) you can pass the --preserve=direct flag.

```
(@v1.8) pkg> up --preserve=direct Example
```

And if you also want to allow dependencies of Example that are also in the project to upgrade, you can use --preserve=none:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> up --preserve=none Example
```

## Chapter 8

### Pinning a package

A pinned package will never be updated. A package can be pinned using `pin`, for example:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> pin Example
Resolving package versions...
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`
[7876af07] ~ Example v0.5.3 => v0.5.3
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Manifest.toml`
[7876af07] ~ Example v0.5.3 => v0.5.3
```

Note the `pin` symbol `~` showing that the package is pinned. Removing the pin is done using `free`

```
(@v1.8) pkg> free Example
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Project.toml`
[7876af07] ~ Example v0.5.3 => v0.5.3
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.8/Manifest.toml`
[7876af07] ~ Example v0.5.3 => v0.5.3
```

## **Chapter 9**

### **Testing packages**

The tests for a package can be run using `test` command:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> test Example  
...  
Testing Example  
Testing Example tests passed
```

## Chapter 10

### Building packages

The build step of a package is automatically run when a package is first installed. The output of the build process is directed to a file. To explicitly run the build step for a package, the `build` command is used:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> build IJulia
Building Conda → `~/.julia/scratchspaces/44cfe95a-1eb2-52ea-b672-
↪ e2afdf69b78f/6e47d11ea2776bc5627421d59cdcc1296c058071/build.log`
Building IJulia → `~/.julia/scratchspaces/44cfe95a-1eb2-52ea-b672-
↪ e2afdf69b78f/98ab633acb0fe071b671f6c1785c46cd70bb86bd/build.log`

julia> print(read(joinpath(homedir(), ".julia/scratchspaces/44cfe95a-1eb2-52ea-b672-
↪ e2afdf69b78f/98ab633acb0fe071b671f6c1785c46cd70bb86bd/build.log"),
↪ String))
[ Info: Installing Julia kernelspec in /home/kc/.local/share/jupyter/kernels/julia-1.8
```

## Chapter 11

# Interpreting and resolving version conflicts

An environment consists of a set of mutually-compatible packages. Sometimes, you can find yourself in a situation in which two packages you'd like to use simultaneously have incompatible requirements. In such cases you'll get an "Unsatisfiable requirements" error:

```
pkg> add A
Unsatisfiable requirements detected for package D [756980fe]:
D [756980fe] log:
├─possible versions are: 0.1.0 - 0.2.1 or uninstalled
├─restricted by compatibility requirements with B [f4259836] to versions: 0.1.0
| └─B [f4259836] log:
|   ├─possible versions are: 1.0.0 or uninstalled
|   └─restricted to versions * by an explicit requirement, leaving only versions: 1.0.0
└─restricted by compatibility requirements with C [c99a7cb2] to versions: 0.2.0 – no versions left
  └─C [c99a7cb2] log:
    ├─possible versions are: 0.1.0 - 0.2.0 or uninstalled
    └─restricted by compatibility requirements with A [29c70717] to versions: 0.2.0
      └─A [29c70717] log:
        ├─possible versions are: 1.0.0 or uninstalled
        └─restricted to versions * by an explicit requirement, leaving only versions: 1.0.0
```

This message means that a package named D has a version conflict. Even if you have never added D directly, this kind of error can arise if D is required by other packages that you are trying to use.

### Note

When tackling these conflicts, first consider that the bigger a project gets, the more likely this is to happen. Using targeted projects for a given task is highly recommended, and removing unused dependencies is a good first step when hitting these issues. For instance, a common pitfall is having more than a few packages in your default (i.e. (@1.8)) environment, and using that as an environment for all tasks you're using julia for. It's better to create a dedicated project for the task you're working on, and keep the dependencies there minimal. To read more see [Working with Environments](#)

The error message has a lot of crucial information. It may be easiest to interpret piecewise:

```
Unsatisfiable requirements detected for package D [756980fe]:
D [756980fe] log:
├─possible versions are: [0.1.0, 0.2.0-0.2.1] or uninstalled
```

means that D has three released versions, v0.1.0, v0.2.0, and v0.2.1. You also have the option of not having it installed at all. Each of these options might have different implications for the set of other packages that can be installed.

Crucially, notice the stroke characters (vertical and horizontal lines) and their indentation. Together, these connect messages to specific packages. For instance the right stroke of `|—` indicates that the message to its right (possible versions...) is connected to the package pointed to by its vertical stroke (D). This same principle applies to the next line:

```
|—restricted by compatibility requirements with B [f4259836] to versions: 0.1.0
```

The vertical stroke here is also aligned under D, and thus this message is in reference to D. Specifically, there's some other package B that depends on version v0.1.0 of D. Notice that this is not the newest version of D.

Next comes some information about B:

```
| |—B [f4259836] log:  
| |—possible versions are: 1.0.0 or uninstalled  
| |—restricted to versions * by an explicit requirement, leaving only versions 1.0.0
```

The two lines below the first have a vertical stroke that aligns with B, and thus they provide information about B. They tell you that B has just one release, v1.0.0. You've not specified a particular version of B (restricted to versions \* means that any version will do), but the explicit requirement means that you've asked for B to be part of your environment, for example by `pkg> add B`. You might have asked for B previously, and the requirement is still active.

The conflict becomes clear with the line

```
|—restricted by compatibility requirements with C [c99a7cb2] to versions: 0.2.0 – no versions left
```

Here again, the vertical stroke aligns with D: this means that D is also required by another package, C. C requires v0.2.0 of D, and this conflicts with B's need for v0.1.0 of D. This explains the conflict.

But wait, you might ask, what is C and why do I need it at all? The next few lines introduce the problem:

```
|—C [c99a7cb2] log:  
|—possible versions are: [0.1.0-0.1.1, 0.2.0] or uninstalled  
|—restricted by compatibility requirements with A [29c70717] to versions: 0.2.0
```

These provide more information about C, revealing that it has 3 released versions: v0.1.0, v0.1.1, and v0.2.0. Moreover, C is required by another package A. Indeed, A's requirements are such that we need v0.2.0 of C. A's origin is revealed on the next lines:

```
|—A [29c70717] log:  
|—possible versions are: 1.0.0 or uninstalled  
|—restricted to versions * by an explicit requirement, leaving only versions 1.0.0
```

So we can see that A was explicitly required, and in this case, it's because we were trying to add it to our environment.

In summary, we explicitly asked to use A and B, but this gave a conflict for D. The reason was that B and C require conflicting versions of D. Even though C isn't something we asked for explicitly, it was needed by A.

To fix such errors, you have a number of options:

- try [updating your packages](#). It's possible the developers of these packages have recently released new versions that are mutually compatible.
- remove either A or B from your environment. Perhaps B is left over from something you were previously working on, and you don't need it anymore. If you don't need A and B at the same time, this is the easiest way to fix the problem.
- try reporting your conflict. In this case, we were able to deduce that B requires an outdated version of D. You could thus report an issue in the development repository of B.jl asking for an updated version.
- try fixing the problem yourself. This becomes easier once you understand Project.toml files and how they declare their compatibility requirements. We'll return to this example in [Fixing conflicts](#).

## Chapter 12

# Garbage collecting old, unused packages

As packages are updated and projects are deleted, installed package versions and artifacts that were once used will inevitably become old and not used from any existing project. Pkg keeps a log of all projects used so it can go through the log and see exactly which projects still exist and what packages/artifacts those projects used. If a package or artifact is not marked as used by any project, it is added to a list of orphaned packages. Packages and artifacts that are in the orphan list for 30 days without being used again are deleted from the system on the next garbage collection. This timing is configurable via the `collect_delay` keyword argument to `Pkg.gc()`. A value of 0 will cause anything currently not in use to be collected immediately, skipping the orphans list entirely; If you are short on disk space and want to clean out as many unused packages and artifacts as possible, you may want to try this, but if you need these versions again, you will have to download them again. To run a typical garbage collection with default arguments, simply use the `gc` command at the `pkg>` REPL:

```
(@v1.8) pkg> gc
  Active manifests at:
    `~/BinaryProvider/Manifest.toml`
    ...
    `~/Compat.jl/Manifest.toml`
  Active artifacts:
    `~/src/MyProject/Artifacts.toml`

  Deleted ~/.julia/packages/BenchmarkTools/1cAj: 146.302 KiB
  Deleted ~/.julia/packages/Cassette/BXVB: 795.557 KiB
  ...
  Deleted `~/.julia/artifacts/e44cdf2579a92ad5cbacd1cddb7414c8b9d2e24e` (152.253 KiB)
  Deleted `~/.julia/artifacts/f2df5266567842bbb8a06acca56bcabf813cd73f` (21.536 MiB)

  Deleted 36 package installations (113.205 MiB)
  Deleted 15 artifact installations (20.759 GiB)
```

Note that only packages in `~/.julia/packages` are deleted.

## **Chapter 13**

### **Offline Mode**

In offline mode, Pkg tries to do as much as possible without connecting to internet. For example, when adding a package Pkg only considers versions that are already downloaded in version resolution.

To work in offline mode use `import Pkg; Pkg.offline(true)` or set the environment variable `JULIA_PKG_OFFLINE` to "true".

## Chapter 14

### Pkg client/server

When you add a new registered package, usually three things would happen:

1. update registries,
2. download the source code of the package,
3. if not available, download [artifacts](#) required by the package.

The [General](#) registry and most packages in it are developed on GitHub, while the artifacts data are hosted on various platforms. When the network connection to GitHub and AWS S3 is not stable, it is usually not a good experience to install or update packages. Fortunately, the pkg client/server feature improves the experience in the sense that:

1. If set, the pkg client would first try to download data from the pkg server,
2. if that fails, then it falls back to downloading from the original sources (e.g., GitHub).

By default, the client makes upto 8 concurrent requests to the server. This can be set by the environment variable `JULIA_PKG_CONCURRENT_DOWNLOADS`.

Since Julia 1.5, <https://pkg.julialang.org> provided by the JuliaLang organization is used as the default pkg server. In most cases, this should be transparent, but users can still set/unset a pkg server upstream via the environment variable `JULIA_PKG_SERVER`.

```
# manually set it to some pkg server
julia> ENV["JULIA_PKG_SERVER"] = "pkg.julialang.org"
"pkg.julialang.org"

# unset to always download data from original sources
julia> ENV["JULIA_PKG_SERVER"] = ""
""
```

For clarification, some sources are not provided by Pkg server

- packages/registries fetched via git
  - ]add <https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git>

- ]add Example#v0.5.3 (Note that this is different from ]add Example@0.5.3)
  - ]registry add <https://github.com/JuliaRegistries/General.git>, including registries installed by Julia before 1.4.
- artifacts without download info
    - [TestImages](#)

**Note**

If you have a new registry installed via pkg server, then it's impossible for old Julia versions to update the registry because Julia before 1.4 doesn't know how to fetch new data. Hence, for users that frequently switch between multiple Julia versions, it is recommended to still use git-controlled registries.

For the deployment of pkg server, please refer to [PkgServer.jl](#).

## **Part IV**

### **4. Working with Environment**

The following discusses Pkg's interaction with environments. For more on the role environments play in code loading, including the "stack" of environments from which code can be loaded, see [this section in the Julia manual](#).

## Chapter 15

### Creating your own environments

So far we have added packages to the default environment at `~/.julia/environments/v1.9`. It is however easy to create other, independent, projects. This approach has the benefit of allowing you to check in a `Project.toml`, and even a `Manifest.toml` if you wish, into version control (e.g. git) alongside your code. It should be pointed out that when two projects use the same package at the same version, the content of this package is not duplicated. In order to create a new project, create a directory for it and then activate that directory to make it the "active project", which package operations manipulate:

```
(@v1.9) pkg> activate MyProject
Activating new environment at `~/MyProject/Project.toml`

(MyProject) pkg> st
Status `~/MyProject/Project.toml` (empty project)
```

Note that the REPL prompt changes when the new project is activated. Until a package is added, there are no files in this environment and the directory to the environment might not even be created:

```
julia> isdir("MyProject")
false

(MyProject) pkg> add Example
  Resolving package versions...
  Installed Example - v0.5.3
    Updating `~/MyProject/Project.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.3
    Updating `~~/MyProject/Manifest.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.3
  Precompiling environment...
  1 dependency successfully precompiled in 2 seconds

julia> readdir("MyProject")
2-element Vector{String}:
"Manifest.toml"
"Project.toml"

julia> print(read(joinpath("MyProject", "Project.toml"), String))
[deps]
Example = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"
```

```
julia> print(read(joinpath("MyProject", "Manifest.toml"), String))  
# This file is machine-generated - editing it directly is not advised  
  
julia_version = "1.9.4"  
manifest_format = "2.0"  
project_hash = "2calc6c58cb30e79e021fb54e5626c96d05d5fdc"  
  
[[deps.Example]]  
git-tree-sha1 = "46e44e869b4d90b96bd8ed1fdcf32244fddfb6cc"  
uuid = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"  
version = "0.5.3"
```

This new environment is completely separate from the one we used earlier. See [Project.toml](#) and [Manifest.toml](#) for a more detailed explanation.

## Chapter 16

# Using someone else's project

Simply clone their project using e.g. `git clone`, `cd` to the project directory and call

```
shell> git clone https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git
Cloning into 'Example.jl'...
...
(@v1.9) pkg> activate Example.jl
Activating project at `~/Example.jl`

(Example) pkg> instantiate
  No Changes to `~/Example.jl/Project.toml`
  No Changes to `~/Example.jl/Manifest.toml`
```

If the project contains a manifest, this will install the packages in the same state that is given by that manifest. Otherwise, it will resolve the latest versions of the dependencies compatible with the project.

Note that `activate` by itself does not install missing dependencies. If you only have a `Project.toml`, a `Manifest.toml` must be generated by "resolving" the environment, then any missing packages must be installed and precompiled. `instantiate` does all this for you.

If you already have a resolved `Manifest.toml`, then you will still need to ensure that the packages are installed and with the correct versions. Again `instantiate` does this for you.

In short, `instantiate` is your friend to make sure an environment is ready to use. If there's nothing to do, `instantiate` does nothing.

### Specifying project on startup

Instead of using `activate` from within Julia, you can specify the project on startup using the `--project=<path>` flag. For example, to run a script from the command line using the environment in the current directory you can run

```
$ julia --project=. myscript.jl
```

## Chapter 17

# Temporary environments

Temporary environments make it easy to start an environment from a blank slate to test a package or set of packages, and have Pkg automatically delete the environment when you're done. For instance, when writing a bug report, you may want to test your minimal reproducible example in a 'clean' environment to ensure it's actually reproducible as written. You might also want a scratch space to try out a new package, or a sandbox to resolve version conflicts between several incompatible packages.

```
(@v1.9) pkg> activate --temp # requires Julia 1.5 or later
Activating new environment at
→ `~/var/folders/34/km3mmt5930gc4pzqld08jvjw0000gn/T/jl_a3legx/Project.toml`

(jl_a3legx) pkg> add Example
Updating registry at `~/.julia/registries/General`
Resolving package versions...
Updating `/private/var/folders/34/km3mmt5930gc4pzqld08jvjw0000gn/T/jl_a3legx/Project.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.3
Updating `/private/var/folders/34/km3mmt5930gc4pzqld08jvjw0000gn/T/jl_a3legx/Manifest.toml`
[7876af07] + Example v0.5.3
```

## Chapter 18

# Shared environments

A "shared" environment is simply an environment that exists in `~/.julia/environments`. The default v1.9 environment is therefore a shared environment:

```
(@v1.9) pkg> st
Status `~/.julia/environments/v1.9/Project.toml`
```

Shared environments can be activated with the `--shared` flag to activate:

```
(@v1.9) pkg> activate --shared mysharedenv
Activating project at `~/.julia/environments/mysharedenv`  

(@mysharedenv) pkg>
```

Shared environments have a @ before their name in the Pkg REPL prompt.

## Chapter 19

# Environment Precompilation

Before a package can be imported, Julia will "precompile" the source code into an intermediate more efficient cache on disc. This precompilation can be triggered via code loading if the un-imported package is new or has changed since the last cache

```
julia> using Example  
[ Info: Precompiling Example [7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a]
```

or using Pkg's precompile option, which can precompile the entire environment, or a given dependency, and do so in parallel, which can be significantly faster than the code-load route above.

```
(@v1.9) pkg> precompile  
Precompiling environment...  
23 dependencies successfully precompiled in 36 seconds
```

However, neither of these should be routinely required thanks to Pkg's automatic precompilation.

### 19.1 Automatic Precompilation

By default, any package that is added to a project or updated in a Pkg action will be automatically precompiled, along with its dependencies.

```
(@v1.9) pkg> add Images  
Resolving package versions...  
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.9/Project.toml`  
[916415d5] + Images v0.25.2  
Updating `~/.julia/environments/v1.9/Manifest.toml`  
...  
Precompiling environment...  
Progress [=====] 45/97  
✓ NaNMath  
✓ IntervalSets  
● CoordinateTransformations  
● ArnoldiMethod  
● IntegralArrays  
● RegionTrees  
● ChangesOfVariables  
● PaddedViews
```

The exception is the `develop` command, which neither builds nor precompiles the package. When that happens is left up to the user to decide.

If a given package version errors during auto-precompilation, Pkg will remember for the following times it automatically tries and will skip that package with a brief warning. Manual precompilation can be used to force these packages to be retried, as `pkg> precompile` will always retry all packages.

To disable the auto-precompilation, set `ENV["JULIA_PKG_PRECOMPILE_AUTO"] = 0`.

The indicators next to the package names displayed during precompilation indicate the status of that package's precompilation.

- [⌚, ⚖, ⚑, ⚒] Animated "clock" characters indicate that the package is currently being precompiled.
- ✓ A green checkmark indicates that the package has been successfully precompiled (after which that package will disappear from the list). If the checkmark is yellow it means that the package is currently loaded so the session will need to be restarted to access the version that was just precompiled.
- ? A question mark character indicates that a `PrecompilableError` was thrown, indicating that precompilation was disallowed, i.e. `__precompile__(false)` in that package.
- ✗ A cross indicates that the package failed to precompile.

## 19.2 Precompiling new versions of loaded packages

If a package that has been updated is already loaded in the session, the precompilation process will go ahead and precompile the new version, and any packages that depend on it, but will note that the package cannot be used until session restart.

## **Part V**

### **5. Creating Packages**

## Chapter 20

# Generating files for a package

### Note

The [PkgTemplates](#) package offers an easy, repeatable, and customizable way to generate the files for a new package. It can also generate files needed for Documentation, CI, etc. We recommend that you use PkgTemplates for creating new packages instead of using the minimal `pkg> generate` functionality described below.

To generate the bare minimum files for a new package, use `pkg> generate`.

```
(@v1.8) pkg> generate HelloWorld
```

This creates a new project `HelloWorld` in a subdirectory by the same name, with the following files (visualized with the external `tree` command):

```
shell> tree HelloWorld/
HelloWorld/
├── Project.toml
└── src
    └── HelloWorld.jl

2 directories, 2 files
```

The `Project.toml` file contains the name of the package, its unique UUID, its version, the authors and potential dependencies:

```
name = "HelloWorld"
uuid = "b4cd1eb8-1e24-11e8-3319-93036a3eb9f3"
version = "0.1.0"
authors = ["Some One <someone@email.com>"]

[deps]
```

The content of `src/HelloWorld.jl` is:

```
module HelloWorld

greet() = print("Hello World!")

end # module
```

We can now activate the project by using the path to the directory where it is installed, and load the package:

```
pkg> activate ./HelloWorld

julia> import HelloWorld

julia> HelloWorld.greet()
Hello World!
```

For the rest of the tutorial we enter inside the directory of the project, for convenience:

```
julia> cd("HelloWorld")
```

## Chapter 21

# Adding dependencies to the project

Let's say we want to use the standard library package Random and the registered package JSON in our project. We simply add these packages (note how the prompt now shows the name of the newly generated project, since we activated it):

```
(HelloWorld) pkg> add Random JSON
  Resolving package versions...
    Updating `~/HelloWorld/Project.toml`
[682c06a0] + JSON v0.21.3
[9a3f8284] + Random
    Updating `~/HelloWorld/Manifest.toml`
[682c06a0] + JSON v0.21.3
[69de0a69] + Parsers v2.4.0
[a8e2ca70] + Dates
...
```

Both Random and JSON got added to the project's Project.toml file, and the resulting dependencies got added to the Manifest.toml file. The resolver has installed each package with the highest possible version, while still respecting the compatibility that each package enforces on its dependencies.

We can now use both Random and JSON in our project. Changing src/HelloWorld.jl to

```
module HelloWorld

import Random
import JSON

greet() = print("Hello World!")
greet_alien() = print("Hello ", Random.randstring(8))

end # module
```

and reloading the package, the new greet\_alien function that uses Random can be called:

```
julia> HelloWorld.greet_alien()
Hello aT157rHV
```

## Chapter 22

# Defining a public API

If you want your package to be useful to other packages and you want folks to be able to easily update to newer version of your package when they come out, it is important to document what behavior will stay consistent across updates.

Unless you note otherwise, the public API of your package is defined as all the behavior you describe about public symbols. A public symbol is a symbol that is exported from your package with the `export` keyword or marked as public with the `public` keyword. When you change the behavior of something that was previously public so that the new version no longer conforms to the specifications provided in the old version, you should adjust your package version number according to [Julia's variant on SemVer](#). If you would like to include a symbol in your public API without exporting it into the global namespace of folks who call using `YourPackage`, you should mark that symbol as public with `public that_symbol`. Symbols marked as public with the `public` keyword are just as public as those marked as public with the `export` keyword, but when folks call using `YourPackage`, they will still have to qualify access to those symbols with `YourPackage.that_symbol`.

Let's say we would like our `greet` function to be part of the public API, but not the `greet_alien` function. We could write the following and release it as version 1.0.0.

```
module HelloWorld

export greet

import Random
import JSON

"Writes a friendly message."
greet() = print("Hello World!")

"Greet an alien by a randomly generated name."
greet_alien() = print("Hello ", Random.randstring(8))

end # module
```

Then, if we change `greet` to

```
"Writes a friendly message that is exactly three words long."
greet() = print("Hello Lovely World!")
```

We would release the new version as 1.1.0. This is not breaking because the new implementation conforms to the old documentation, but it does add a new feature, that the message must be three words long.

Later, we may wish to change `greet_alien` to

```
"Greet an alien by the name of \"Zork\"."  
greet_alien() = print("Hello Zork")
```

And also export it by changing

```
export greet
```

to

```
export greet, greet_alien
```

We should release this new version as `1.2.0` because it adds a new feature `greet_alien` to the public API. Even though `greet_alien` was documented before and the new version does not conform to the old documentation, this is not breaking because the old documentation was not attached to a symbol that was exported at the time so that documentation does not apply across released versions.

However, if we now wish to change `greet` to

```
"Writes a friendly message that is exactly four words long."  
greet() = print("Hello very lovely world")
```

we would need to release the new version as `2.0.0`. In version `1.1.0`, we specified that the greeting would be three words long, and because `greet` was exported, that description also applies to all future versions until the next breaking release. Because this new version does not conform to the old specification, it must be tagged as a breaking change.

Please note that version numbers are free and unlimited. It is okay to use lots of them (e.g. version `6.62.8`).

## Chapter 23

### Adding a build step to the package

The build step is executed the first time a package is installed or when explicitly invoked with `build`. A package is built by executing the file `deps/build.jl`.

```
julia> mkpath("deps");

julia> write("deps/build.jl",
           """
           println("I am being built...")
           """);

(HelloWorld) pkg> build
Building HelloWorld → `deps/build.log`
Resolving package versions...

julia> print(readchomp("deps/build.log"))
I am being built...
```

If the build step fails, the output of the build step is printed to the console

```
julia> write("deps/build.jl",
           """
           error("Ooops")
           """);

(HelloWorld) pkg> build
Building HelloWorld → `~/HelloWorld/deps/build.log`
ERROR: Error building `HelloWorld`:
ERROR: LoadError: Ooops
Stacktrace:
[1] error(s::String)
    @ Base ./error.jl:35
[2] top-level scope
    @ ~/HelloWorld/deps/build.jl:1
[3] include(fname::String)
    @ Base.MainInclude ./client.jl:476
[4] top-level scope
    @ none:5
in expression starting at /home/kc/HelloWorld/deps/build.jl:1
```

**Warning**

A build step should generally not create or modify any files in the package directory. If you need to store some files from the build step, use the [Scratch.jl](#) package.

## Chapter 24

# Adding tests to the package

When a package is tested the file `test/runtests.jl` is executed:

```
julia> mkpath("test");

julia> write("test/runtests.jl",
           """
           println("Testing...")
           """);

(HelloWorld) pkg> test
    Testing HelloWorld
    Resolving package versions...
Testing...
    Testing HelloWorld tests passed
```

Tests are run in a new Julia process, where the package itself, and any test-specific dependencies, are available, see below.

### Warning

Tests should generally not create or modify any files in the package directory. If you need to store some files from the build step, use the `Scratch.jl` package.

### 24.1 Test-specific dependencies

There are two ways of adding test-specific dependencies (dependencies that are not dependencies of the package but will still be available to load when the package is tested).

#### target based test specific dependencies

Using this method of adding test-specific dependencies, the packages are added under an `[extras]` section and to a test target, e.g. to add Markdown and Test as test dependencies, add the following to the `Project.toml` file:

```
[extras]
Markdown = "d6f4376e-aef5-505a-96c1-9c027394607a"
```

```
Test = "8dfed614-e22c-5e08-85e1-65c5234f0b40"

[targets]
test = ["Markdown", "Test"]
```

Note that the only supported targets are test and build, the latter of which (not recommended) can be used for any deps/build.jl scripts.

### Alternative approach: test/Project.toml file test specific dependencies

#### Note

The exact interaction between Project.toml, test/Project.toml and their corresponding Manifest.tomls are not fully worked out and may be subject to change in future versions. The older method of adding test-specific dependencies, described in the previous section, will therefore be supported throughout all Julia 1.X releases.

In Julia 1.2 and later test dependencies can be declared in test/Project.toml. When running tests, Pkg will automatically merge this and the package Projects to create the test environment.

#### Note

If no test/Project.toml exists Pkg will use the target based test specific dependencies.

To add a test-specific dependency, i.e. a dependency that is available only when testing, it is thus enough to add this dependency to the test/Project.toml project. This can be done from the Pkg REPL by activating this environment, and then use add as one normally does. Let's add the Test standard library as a test dependency:

```
(HelloWorld) pkg> activate ./test
[ Info: activating environment at `~/HelloWorld/test/Project.toml`.

(test) pkg> add Test
Resolving package versions...
Updating `~/HelloWorld/test/Project.toml`
[8dfed614] + Test
Updating `~/HelloWorld/test/Manifest.toml`
[...]
```

We can now use Test in the test script and we can see that it gets installed when testing:

```
julia> write("test/runtests.jl",
           """
           using Test
           @test 1 == 1
           """);

(test) pkg> activate .

(HelloWorld) pkg> test
Testing HelloWorld
Resolving package versions...
```

```
Updating `/var/folders/64/76tk_g152sg6c6t0b4nkn1vw0000gn/T/tmpPzUPPw/Project.toml`  
[d8327f2a] + HelloWorld v0.1.0 [`~/.julia/dev/Pkg/HelloWorld`]  
[8dfed614] + Test  
Updating `/var/folders/64/76tk_g152sg6c6t0b4nkn1vw0000gn/T/tmpPzUPPw/Manifest.toml`  
[d8327f2a] + HelloWorld v0.1.0 [`~/.julia/dev/Pkg/HelloWorld`]  
Testing HelloWorld tests passed```
```

## **Chapter 25**

### **Compatibility on dependencies**

Every dependency should in general have a compatibility constraint on it. This is an important topic so there is a separate chapter about it: [Compatibility](#).

## Chapter 26

# Weak dependencies

### Note

This is a somewhat advanced usage of Pkg which can be skipped for people new to Julia and Julia packages.

### Compat

The described feature requires Julia 1.9+.

A weak dependency is a dependency that will not automatically install when the package is installed but you can still control what versions of that package are allowed to be installed by setting compatibility on it. These are listed in the project file under the [weakdeps] section:

```
[weakdeps]
SomePackage = "b3785f31-9d33-4cdf-bc73-f646780f1739"

[compat]
SomePackage = "1.2"
```

The current usage of this is almost solely limited to "extensions" which is described in the next section.

## Chapter 27

# Conditional loading of code in packages (Extensions)

### Note

This is a somewhat advanced usage of Pkg which can be skipped for people new to Julia and Julia packages.

### Compat

The described feature requires Julia 1.9+.

Sometimes one wants to make two or more packages work well together, but may be reluctant (perhaps due to increased load times) to make one an unconditional dependency of the other. A package extension is a module in a file (similar to a package) that is automatically loaded when some other set of packages are loaded into the Julia session. This is very similar to functionality that the external package [Requires.jl](#) provides, but which is now available directly through Julia, and provides added benefits such as being able to precompile the extension.

### 27.1 Code structure

A useful application of extensions could be for a plotting package that should be able to plot objects from a wide variety of different Julia packages. Adding all those different Julia packages as dependencies of the plotting package could be expensive since they would end up getting loaded even if they were never used. Instead, the code required to plot objects for specific packages can be put into separate files (extensions) and these are loaded only when the packages that define the type(s) we want to plot are loaded.

Below is an example of how the code can be structured for a use case in which a Plotting package wants to be able to display objects defined in the external package Contour. The file and folder structure shown below is found in the Plotting package.

Project.toml:

```
name = "Plotting"
version = "0.1.0"
uuid = "..."

[weakdeps]
```

```
Contour = "d38c429a-6771-53c6-b99e-75d170b6e991"

[extensions]
# name of extension to the left
# extension dependencies required to load the extension to the right
# use a list for multiple extension dependencies
ContourExt = "Contour"

[compat]
Contour = "0.6.2"
```

src/Plotting.jl:

```
module Plotting

function plot(x::Vector)
    # Some functionality for plotting a vector here
end

end # module
```

ext/ContourExt.jl (can also be in ext/ContourExt/ContourExt.jl):

```
module ContourExt # Should be same name as the file (just like a normal package)

using Plotting, Contour

function Plotting.plot(c::Contour.ContourCollection)
    # Some functionality for plotting a contour here
end

end # module
```

Extensions can have arbitrary names (here ContourExt), following the format of this example is likely a good idea for extensions with a single dependency. In Pkg output, extension names are always shown together with their parent package name.

### Compat

Often you will put the extension dependencies into the test target so they are loaded when running e.g. `Pkg.test()`. On earlier Julia versions this requires you to also put the package in the [extras] section. This is unfortunate but the project verifier on older Julia versions will complain if this is not done.

### Note

If you use a manifest generated by a Julia version that does not know about extensions with a Julia version that does know about them, the extensions will not load. This is because the manifest lacks some information that tells Julia when it should load these packages. So make sure you use a manifest generated at least the Julia version you are using.

## 27.2 Behavior of extensions

A user that depends only on Plotting will not pay the cost of the "extension" inside the ContourExt module. It is only when the Contour package actually gets loaded that the ContourExt extension is loaded too and provides the new functionality.

In our example, the new functionality is an additional method, which we add to an existing function from the parent package Plotting. Implementing such methods is among the most standard use cases of package extensions. Within the parent package, the function to extend can even be defined with zero methods, as follows:

```
function plot end
```

### Note

If one considers ContourExt as a completely separate package, it could be argued that defining `Plotting.plot(c::Contour.ContourCollection)` is [type piracy](#) since ContourExt owns neither the function `Plotting.plot` nor the type `Contour.ContourCollection`. However, for extensions, it is ok to assume that the extension owns the functions in its parent package.

In other situations, one may need to define new symbols in the extension (types, structs, functions, etc.) instead of reusing those from the parent package. Such symbols are created in a separate module corresponding to the extension, namely ContourExt, and thus not in Plotting itself. If extension symbols are needed in the parent package, one must call `Base.get_extension` to retrieve them. Here is an example showing how a custom type defined in ContourExt can be accessed in Plotting:

```
ext = Base.get_extension(@__MODULE__, :ContourExt)
if !isnothing(ext)
    ContourPlotType = ext.ContourPlotType
end
```

On the other hand, accessing extension symbols from a third-party package (i.e. not the parent) is not a recommended practice at the moment.

## 27.3 Backwards compatibility

This section discusses various methods for using extensions on Julia versions that support them, while simultaneously providing similar functionality on older Julia versions.

### Requires.jl

This section is relevant if you are currently using Requires.jl but want to transition to using extensions (while still having Requires be used on Julia versions that do not support extensions). This is done by making the following changes (using the example above):

- Add the following to the package file. This makes it so that Requires.jl loads and inserts the callback only when extensions are not supported

```
# This symbol is only defined on Julia versions that support extensions
if !isdefined(Base, :get_extension)
    using Requires
end

@static if !isdefined(Base, :get_extension)
    function __init__()
        @require Contour = "d38c429a-6771-53c6-b99e-75d170b6e991" include("../ext/ContourExt.jl")
    end
end
```

or if you have other things in your `__init__()` function:

```
if !isdefined(Base, :get_extension)
    using Requires
end

function __init__()
    # Other init functionality here

    @static if !isdefined(Base, :get_extension)
        @require Contour = "d38c429a-6771-53c6-b99e-75d170b6e991"
        ↳ include("../ext/ContourExt.jl")
    end
end
```

- Make the following change in the conditionally-loaded code in `ContourExt.jl`:

```
isdefined(Base, :get_extension) ? (using Contour) : (using ..Contour)
```

- Add `Requires` to `[weakdeps]` in your `Project.toml` file, so that it is listed in both `[deps]` and `[weakdeps]`. Julia 1.9+ knows to not install it as a regular dependency, whereas earlier versions will consider it a dependency.

The package should now work with `Requires.jl` on Julia versions before extensions were introduced and with extensions on more recent Julia versions.

### Transition from normal dependency to extension

This section is relevant if you have a normal dependency that you want to transition be an extension (while still having the dependency be a normal dependency on Julia versions that do not support extensions). This is done by making the following changes (using the example above):

- Make sure that the package is **both** in the `[deps]` and `[weakdeps]` section. Newer Julia versions will ignore dependencies in `[deps]` that are also in `[weakdeps]`.
- Add the following to your main package file (typically at the bottom):

```
if !isdefined(Base, :get_extension)
    include("../ext/ContourExt.jl")
end
```

### **Using an extension while supporting older Julia versions**

In the case where one wants to use an extension (without worrying about the feature of the extension being available on older Julia versions) while still supporting older Julia versions the packages under [weakdeps] should be duplicated into [extras]. This is an unfortunate duplication, but without doing this the project verifier under older Julia versions will throw an error if it finds packages under [compat] that is not listed in [extras].

## Chapter 28

# Package naming rules

Package names should be sensible to most Julia users, even to those who are not domain experts. The following rules apply to the General registry but may be useful for other package registries as well.

Since the General registry belongs to the entire community, people may have opinions about your package name when you publish it, especially if it's ambiguous or can be confused with something other than what it is. Usually, you will then get suggestions for a new name that may fit your package better.

1. Avoid jargon. In particular, avoid acronyms unless there is minimal possibility of confusion.
  - It's ok to say USA if you're talking about the USA.
  - It's not ok to say PMA, even if you're talking about positive mental attitude.
2. Avoid using Julia in your package name or prefixing it with Ju.
  - It is usually clear from context and to your users that the package is a Julia package.
  - Package names already have a .jl extension, which communicates to users that `Package.jl` is a Julia package.
  - Having Julia in the name can imply that the package is connected to, or endorsed by, contributors to the Julia language itself.
3. Packages that provide most of their functionality in association with a new type should have pluralized names.
  - `DataFrames` provides the `DataFrame` type.
  - `BloomFilters` provides the `BloomFilter` type.
  - In contrast, `JuliaParser` provides no new type, but instead new functionality in the `JuliaParser.parse()` function.
4. Err on the side of clarity, even if clarity seems long-winded to you.
  - `RandomMatrices` is a less ambiguous name than `RndMat` or `RMT`, even though the latter are shorter.
5. A less systematic name may suit a package that implements one of several possible approaches to its domain.
  - Julia does not have a single comprehensive plotting package. Instead, `Gadfly`, `PyPlot`, `Winston` and other packages each implement a unique approach based on a particular design philosophy.

- In contrast, `SortingAlgorithms` provides a consistent interface to use many well-established sorting algorithms.
6. Packages that wrap external libraries or programs can be named after those libraries or programs.
    - `CPLEX.jl` wraps the CPLEX library, which can be identified easily in a web search.
    - `MATLAB.jl` provides an interface to call the MATLAB engine from within Julia.
  7. Avoid naming a package closely to an existing package
    - `Websocket` is too close to `WebSockets` and can be confusing to users. Rather use a new name such as `SimpleWebsockets`.
  8. Avoid using a distinctive name that is already in use in a well known, unrelated project.
    - Don't use the names `Tkinter.jl`, `TkinterGUI.jl`, etc. for a package that is unrelated to the popular `tkinter` python package, even if it provides bindings to `Tcl/Tk`. A package name of `Tkinter.jl` would only be appropriate if the package used Python's library to accomplish its work or was spearheaded by the same community of developers.
    - It's okay to name a package `HTTP.jl` even though it is unrelated to the popular rust crate `http` because in most usages the name "http" refers to the hypertext transfer protocol, not to the `http` rust crate.
    - It's okay to name a package `OpenSSL.jl` if it provides an interface to the OpenSSL library, even without explicit affiliation with the creators of the OpenSSL (provided there's no copyright or trademark infringement etc.)

## **Chapter 29**

### **Registering packages**

Once a package is ready it can be registered with the [General Registry](#) (see also the [FAQ](#)). Currently, packages are submitted via [Registrar](#). In addition to Registrar, [TagBot](#) helps manage the process of tagging releases.

## Chapter 30

# Best Practices

Packages should avoid mutating their own state (writing to files within their package directory). Packages should, in general, not assume that they are located in a writable location (e.g. if installed as part of a system-wide depot) or even a stable one (e.g. if they are bundled into a system image by `PackageCompiler.jl`). To support the various use cases in the Julia package ecosystem, the Pkg developers have created a number of auxiliary packages and techniques to help package authors create self-contained, immutable, and relocatable packages:

- `Artifacts` can be used to bundle chunks of data alongside your package, or even allow them to be downloaded on-demand. Prefer artifacts over attempting to open a file via a path such as `joinpath(@__DIR__, "data", "my_dataset.csv")` as this is non-relocatable. Once your package has been precompiled, the result of `@__DIR__` will have been baked into your precompiled package data, and if you attempt to distribute this package, it will attempt to load files at the wrong location. Artifacts can be bundled and accessed easily using the `artifact"name"` string macro.
- `Scratch.jl` provides the notion of "scratch spaces", mutable containers of data for packages. Scratch spaces are designed for data caches that are completely managed by a package and should be removed when the package itself is uninstalled. For important user-generated data, packages should continue to write out to a user-specified path that is not managed by Julia or Pkg.
- `Preferences.jl` allows packages to read and write preferences to the top-level `Project.toml`. These preferences can be read at runtime or compile-time, to enable or disable different aspects of package behavior. Packages previously would write out files to their own package directories to record options set by the user or environment, but this is highly discouraged now that Preferences is available.

## **Part VI**

### **6. Compatibility**

Compatibility refers to the ability to restrict the versions of the dependencies that your project is compatible with. If the compatibility for a dependency is not given, the project is assumed to be compatible with all versions of that dependency.

Compatibility for a dependency is entered in the `Project.toml` file as for example:

```
[compat]
julia = "1.6"
Example = "0.5"
```

After a compatibility entry is put into the project file, `up` can be used to apply it.

The format of the version specifier is described in detail below.

**Info**

Use the command `compat` to edit the `compat` entries in the `Pkg` REPL, or manually edit the project file.

**Info**

The rules below apply to the `Project.toml` file; for registries, see [Registry Compat.toml](#).

**Info**

Note that registration into Julia's General Registry requires each dependency to have a `[compat]` entry with an upper bound.

## Chapter 31

### Version specifier format

Similar to other package managers, the Julia package manager respects [semantic versioning](#) (semver), with an exception for leading zeros. As an example, a version specifier given as e.g. 1.2.3 is therefore assumed to be compatible with the versions [1.2.3 - 2.0.0) where ) is a non-inclusive upper bound. More specifically, a version specifier is either given as a **caret specifier**, e.g. ^1.2.3 or as a **tilde specifier**, e.g. ~1.2.3. Caret specifiers are the default and hence 1.2.3 == ^1.2.3. The difference between a caret and tilde is described in the next section. The union of multiple version specifiers can be formed by comma separating individual version specifiers, e.g.

```
[compat]
Example = "1.2, 2"
```

will result in [1.2.0, 3.0.0). Note leading zeros are treated differently, e.g. Example = "0.2, 1" would only result in [0.2.0 - 0.3.0) ∪ [1.0.0 - 2.0.0). See the next section for more information on versions with leading zeros.

#### 31.1 Behavior of versions with leading zeros (0.0.x and 0.x.y)

While the semver specification says that all versions with a major version of 0 (versions before 1.0.0) are incompatible with each other, we have decided to only apply that for when both the major and minor versions are zero. In other words, 0.0.1 and 0.0.2 are considered incompatible. A pre-1.0 version with non-zero minor version (0.a.b with a != 0) is considered compatible with versions with the same minor version and smaller or equal patch versions (0.a.c with c <= b); i.e., the versions 0.2.2 and 0.2.3 are compatible with 0.2.1 and 0.2.0. Versions with a major version of 0 and different minor versions are not considered compatible, so the version 0.3.0 might have breaking changes from 0.2.0. To that end, the [compat] entry:

```
[compat]
Example = "0.0.1"
```

results in a versionbound on Example as [0.0.1, 0.0.2) (which is equivalent to only the version 0.0.1), while the [compat] entry:

```
[compat]
Example = "0.2.1"
```

results in a versionbound on Example as [0.2.1, 0.3.0).

In particular, a package may set `version = "0.2.4"` when it has feature additions compared to 0.2.3 as long as it remains backward compatible with 0.2.0. See also [The version field](#).

### 31.2 Caret specifiers

A caret (^) specifier allows upgrade that would be compatible according to semver. This is the default behavior if no specifier is used. An updated dependency is considered compatible if the new version does not modify the left-most non zero digit in the version specifier.

Some examples are shown below.

```
[compat]
PkgA = "^1.2.3" # [1.2.3, 2.0.0)
PkgB = "^1.2"    # [1.2.0, 2.0.0)
PkgC = "^1"      # [1.0.0, 2.0.0)
PkgD = "^0.2.3" # [0.2.3, 0.3.0)
PkgE = "^0.0.3" # [0.0.3, 0.0.4)
PkgF = "^0.0"   # [0.0.0, 0.1.0)
PkgG = "^0"     # [0.0.0, 1.0.0)
```

### 31.3 Tilde specifiers

A tilde specifier provides more limited upgrade possibilities. When specifying major, minor and patch versions, or when specifying major and minor versions, only the patch version is allowed to change. If you only specify a major version, then both minor and patch versions are allowed to be upgraded (~1 is thus equivalent to ^1). For example:

```
[compat]
PkgA = "~1.2.3" # [1.2.3, 1.3.0)
PkgB = "~1.2"    # [1.2.0, 1.3.0)
PkgC = "~1"      # [1.0.0, 2.0.0)
PkgD = "~0.2.3" # [0.2.3, 0.3.0)
PkgE = "~0.0.3" # [0.0.3, 0.0.4)
PkgF = "~0.0"   # [0.0.0, 0.1.0)
PkgG = "~0"     # [0.0.0, 1.0.0)
```

For all versions with a major version of 0 the tilde and caret specifiers are equivalent.

### 31.4 Equality specifier

Equality can be used to specify exact versions:

```
[compat]
PkgA = "=1.2.3"          # [1.2.3, 1.2.3]
PkgA = "=0.10.1, =0.10.3" # 0.10.1 or 0.10.3
```

### 31.5 Inequality specifiers

Inequalities can also be used to specify version ranges:

```
[compat]
PkgB = ">= 1.2.3" # [1.2.3, ∞)
PkgC = "≥ 1.2.3" # [1.2.3, ∞)
PkgD = "< 1.2.3" # [0.0.0, 1.2.3) = [0.0.0, 1.2.2]
```

### 31.6 Hyphen specifiers

Hyphen syntax can also be used to specify version ranges. Make sure that you have a space on both sides of the hyphen.

```
[compat]
PkgA = "1.2.3 - 4.5.6" # [1.2.3, 4.5.6]
PkgA = "0.2.3 - 4.5.6" # [0.2.3, 4.5.6]
```

Any unspecified trailing numbers in the first end-point are considered to be zero:

```
[compat]
PkgA = "1.2 - 4.5.6" # [1.2.0, 4.5.6]
PkgA = "1 - 4.5.6" # [1.0.0, 4.5.6]
PkgA = "0.2 - 4.5.6" # [0.2.0, 4.5.6]
PkgA = "0.2 - 0.5.6" # [0.2.0, 0.5.6]
```

Any unspecified trailing numbers in the second end-point will be considered to be wildcards:

```
[compat]
PkgA = "1.2.3 - 4.5" # 1.2.3 - 4.5.* = [1.2.3, 4.6.0)
PkgA = "1.2.3 - 4" # 1.2.3 - 4.*.* = [1.2.3, 5.0.0)
PkgA = "1.2 - 4.5" # 1.2.0 - 4.5.* = [1.2.0, 4.6.0)
PkgA = "1.2 - 4" # 1.2.0 - 4.*.* = [1.2.0, 5.0.0)
PkgA = "1 - 4.5" # 1.0.0 - 4.5.* = [1.0.0, 4.6.0)
PkgA = "1 - 4" # 1.0.0 - 4.*.* = [1.0.0, 5.0.0)
PkgA = "0.2.3 - 4.5" # 0.2.3 - 4.5.* = [0.2.3, 4.6.0)
PkgA = "0.2.3 - 4" # 0.2.3 - 4.*.* = [0.2.3, 5.0.0)
PkgA = "0.2 - 4.5" # 0.2.0 - 4.5.* = [0.2.0, 4.6.0)
PkgA = "0.2 - 4" # 0.2.0 - 4.*.* = [0.2.0, 5.0.0)
PkgA = "0.2 - 0.5" # 0.2.0 - 0.5.* = [0.2.0, 0.6.0)
PkgA = "0.2 - 0" # 0.2.0 - 0.*.* = [0.2.0, 1.0.0)
```

## Chapter 32

### Fixing conflicts

Version conflicts were introduced previously with an [example](#) of a conflict arising in a package D used by two other packages, B and C. Our analysis of the error message revealed that B is using an outdated version of D. To fix it, the first thing to try is to `pkg> dev B` so that you can modify B and its compatibility requirements. If you open its `Project.toml` file in an editor, you would probably notice something like

```
[compat]
D = "0.1"
```

Usually the first step is to modify this to something like

```
[compat]
D = "0.1, 0.2"
```

This indicates that B is compatible with both versions 0.1 and version 0.2; if you `pkg> up` this would fix the package error. However, there is one major concern you need to address first: perhaps there was an incompatible change in v0.2 of D that breaks B. Before proceeding further, you should update all packages and then run B's tests, scanning the output of `pkg> test B` to be sure that v0.2 of D is in fact being used. (It is possible that an additional dependency of D pins it to v0.1, and you wouldn't want to be misled into thinking that you had tested B on the newer version.) If the new version was used and the tests still pass, you can assume that B didn't need any further updating to accommodate v0.2 of D; you can safely submit this change as a pull request to B so that a new release is made. If instead an error is thrown, it indicates that B requires more extensive updates to be compatible with the latest version of D; those updates will need to be completed before it becomes possible to use both A and B simultaneously. You can, though, continue to use them independently of one another.

## **Part VII**

### **7. Registries**

Registries contain information about packages, such as available releases and dependencies, and where they can be downloaded. The [General registry](#) is the default one, and is installed automatically if there are no other registries installed.

## Chapter 33

# Managing registries

Registries can be added, removed and updated from either the Pkg REPL or by using the functional API. In this section we will describe the REPL interface. The registry API is documented in the [Registry API Reference](#) section.

### 33.1 Adding registries

A custom registry can be added with the `registry add` command from the Pkg REPL. Usually this will be done with a URL to the registry.

If a custom registry has been installed causing the General registry to not be automatically installed, it is easy to add it manually: be added automatically. In that case, we can simply add the General

```
pkg> registry add General
```

and now all the packages registered in General are available for e.g. adding. To see which registries are currently installed you can use the `registry status` (or `registry st`) command

```
pkg> registry st
Registry Status
[23338594] General (https://github.com/JuliaRegistries/General.git)
```

Registries are always added to the user depot, which is the first entry in `DEPOT_PATH` (cf. the [Glossary](#) section).

#### Registries from a package server

It is possible for a package server to be advertising additional available package registries. When Pkg runs with a clean Julia depot (e.g. after a fresh install), with a custom package server configured with `JULIA_PKG_SERVER`, it will automatically add all such available registries. If the depot already has some registries installed (e.g. General), the additional ones can easily be installed with the no-argument `registry add` command.

### 33.2 Removing registries

Registries can be removed with the `registry remove` (or `registry rm`) command. Here we remove the General registry

```
pkg> registry rm General
    Removing registry `General` from ~/.julia/registries/General

pkg> registry st
Registry Status
    (no registries found)
```

In case there are multiple registries named General installed you have to disambiguate with the uuid, just as when manipulating packages, e.g.

```
pkg> registry rm General=23338594-aafe-5451-b93e-139f81909106
    Removing registry `General` from ~/.julia/registries/General
```

### 33.3 Updating registries

The registry update (or registry up) command is available to update registries. Here we update the General registry:

```
pkg> registry up General
    Updating registry at `~/julia/registries/General`
    Updating git-repo `https://github.com/JuliaRegistries/General`
```

and to update all installed registries just do:

```
pkg> registry up
    Updating registry at `~/julia/registries/General`
    Updating git-repo `https://github.com/JuliaRegistries/General`
```

Registries automatically update once per session when a package operation is performed so it rarely has to be done manually.

## Chapter 34

# Registry format

In a registry, each package gets its own directory; in that directory are the following files: `Compat.toml`, `Deps.toml`, `Package.toml`, and `Versions.toml`. The formats of these files are described below.

### 34.1 Registry `Compat.toml`

The `Compat.toml` file has a series of blocks specifying version numbers, with a set of dependencies listed below. For example, part of such a file might look like this:

```
["0.8-0.8.3"]
DependencyA = "0.4-0.5"
DependencyB = "0.3-0.5"

["0.8.2-0.8.5"]
DependencyC = "0.7-0"
```

Dependencies that are unchanged across a range of versions are grouped together in these blocks. The interpretation of these ranges is given by the comment after each line below:

```
"0.7-0.8" # [0.7.0, 0.9.0)
"0.7-0"   # [0.7.0, 1.0.0)
"0.8.6-0" # [0.8.6, 1.0.0)
"0.7-*"   # [0.7.0, ∞)
```

So for this package, versions `[0.8.0, 0.8.3]` depend on versions `[0.4.0, 0.6.0)` of `DependencyA` and version `[0.3.0, 0.6.0)` of `DependencyB`. Meanwhile, it is also true that versions `[0.8.2, 0.8.5]` require specific versions of `DependencyC` (so that all three are required for versions 0.8.2 and 0.8.3).

### 34.2 Registry flavors

The default Pkg Server ([pkg.julialang.org](https://pkg.julialang.org)) offers two different "flavors" of registry.

#### Julia 1.8

Registry flavors are only available starting with Julia 1.8.

- **conservative**: suitable for most users; all packages and artifacts in this registry flavor are available from the Pkg Server, with no need to download from other sources
- **eager**: this registry offers the latest versions of packages, even if the Pkg and Storage Servers have not finished processing them; thus, some packages and artifacts may not be available from the Pkg Server, and thus may need to be downloaded from other sources (such as GitHub)

The default registry flavor is `conservative`. We recommend that most users stick to the `conservative` flavor unless they know that they need to use the `eager` flavor.

To select the `eager` flavor:

```
ENV["JULIA_PKG_SERVER_REGISTRY_PREFERENCE"] = "eager"

import Pkg

Pkg.Registry.update()
```

To select the `conservative` flavor:

```
ENV["JULIA_PKG_SERVER_REGISTRY_PREFERENCE"] = "conservative"

import Pkg

Pkg.Registry.update()
```

### 34.3 Creating and maintaining registries

Pkg only provides client facilities for registries, rather than functionality to create or maintain them. However, [Registrar.jl](#) and [LocalRegistry.jl](#) provide ways to create and update registries, and [RegistryCI.jl](#) provides automated testing and merging functionality for maintaining a registry.

## **Part VIII**

### **8. Artifacts**

Pkg can install and manage containers of data that are not Julia packages. These containers can contain platform-specific binaries, datasets, text, or any other kind of data that would be convenient to place within an immutable, life-cycled datastore. These containers, (called "Artifacts") can be created locally, hosted anywhere, and automatically downloaded and unpacked upon installation of your Julia package. This mechanism is also used to provide the binary dependencies for packages built with [BinaryBuilder.jl](#).

## Chapter 35

### Basic Usage

Pkg artifacts are declared in an `Artifacts.toml` file, which can be placed in your current directory or in the root of your package. Currently, Pkg supports downloading of tarfiles (which can be compressed) from a URL. Following is a minimal `Artifacts.toml` file which will permit the downloading of a `socrates.tar.gz` file from `github.com`. In this example, a single artifact, given the name `socrates`, is defined.

```
# a simple Artifacts.toml file
[socrates]
git-tree-sha1 = "43563e7631a7eafae1f9f8d9d332e3de44ad7239"

[[socrates.download]]
url = "https://github.com/staticfloat/small_bin/raw/master/socrates.tar.gz"
sha256 = "e65d2f13f2085f2c279830e863292312a72930fee5ba3c792b14c33ce5c5cc58"
```

If this `Artifacts.toml` file is placed in your current directory, then `socrates.tar.gz` can be downloaded, unpacked and used with `artifact"socrates"`. Since this tarball contains a folder `bin`, and a text file named `socrates` within that folder, we could access the content of that file as follows.

```
using Pkg.Artifacts

rootpath = artifact"socrates"
open(joinpath(rootpath, "bin", "socrates")) do file
    println(read(file, String))
end
```

If you have an existing tarball that is accessible via a `url`, it could also be accessed in this manner. To create the `Artifacts.toml` you must compute two hashes: the `sha256` hash of the download file, and the `git-tree-sha1` of the unpacked content. These can be computed as follows.

```
using Tar, Inflate, SHA

filename = "socrates.tar.gz"
println("sha256: ", bytes2hex(open(sha256, filename)))
println("git-tree-sha1: ", Tar.tree_hash(IOBuffer(inflate_gzip(filename))))
```

To access this artifact from within a package you create, place the `Artifacts.toml` at the root of your package, adjacent to `Project.toml`. Then, make sure to add Pkg in your `deps` and set `julia = "1.3"` or higher in your `compat` section.

## Chapter 36

### Artifacts.toml files

Pkg provides an API for working with artifacts, as well as a TOML file format for recording artifact usage in your packages, and to automate downloading of artifacts at package install time. Artifacts can always be referred to by content hash, but are typically accessed by a name that is bound to a content hash in an `Artifacts.toml` file that lives in a project's source tree.

**Note**

It is possible to use the alternate name `JuliaArtifacts.toml`, similar to how it is possible to use `JuliaProject.toml` and `JuliaManifest.toml` instead of `Project.toml` and `Manifest.toml`, respectively.

An example `Artifacts.toml` file is shown here:

```
# Example Artifacts.toml file
[socrates]
git-tree-sha1 = "43563e7631a7eafaelf9f8d9d332e3de44ad7239"
lazy = true

[[socrates.download]]
url = "https://github.com/staticfloat/small_bin/raw/master/socrates.tar.gz"
sha256 = "e65d2f13f2085f2c279830e863292312a72930fee5ba3c792b14c33ce5c5cc58"

[[socrates.download]]
url = "https://github.com/staticfloat/small_bin/raw/master/socrates.tar.bz2"
sha256 = "13fc17b97be41763b02ccb80e9d048302cec3bd3d446c2ed6e8210bddcd3ac76"

[[c_simple]]
arch = "x86_64"
git-tree-sha1 = "4bdf4556050cb55b67b211d4e78009aaec378cbc"
libc = "musl"
os = "linux"

[[c_simple.download]]
sha256 = "411d6befd49942826ea1e59041bddf7dbb72fb871bb03165bf4e164b13ab5130"
url =
    ↳ "https://github.com/JuliaBinaryWrappers/c_simple_jll.jl/releases/download/c_simple+v1.2.3+0/c_simple.v1.2.3.x86_64-linux-musl.tar.gz"

[[c_simple]]
```

```
arch = "x86_64"
git-tree-sha1 = "51264dbc770cd38aeb15f93536c29dc38c727e4c"
os = "macos"

[[c_simple.download]]
sha256 = "6c17d9e1dc95ba86ec7462637824afe7a25b8509cc51453f0eb86eda03ed4dc3"
url =
↳ "https://github.com/JuliaBinaryWrappers/c_simple_jll.jl/releases/download/c_simple+v1.2.3+0/c_simple.v1.2.3.x86_64-macos.tar.gz"

[processed_output]
git-tree-sha1 = "1c223e66f1a8e0faef9fcb9d3f2e3ce48a82200"
```

This Artifacts.toml binds three artifacts; one named `socrates`, one named `c_simple` and one named `processed_output`. The single required piece of information for an artifact is its `git-tree-sha1`. Because artifacts are addressed only by their content hash, the purpose of an Artifacts.toml file is to provide metadata about these artifacts, such as binding a human-readable name to a content hash, providing information about where an artifact may be downloaded from, or even binding a single name to multiple hashes, keyed by platform-specific constraints such as operating system or libgfortran version.

## Chapter 37

### Artifact types and properties

In the above example, the `socrates` artifact showcases a platform-independent artifact with multiple download locations. When downloading and installing the `socrates` artifact, URLs will be attempted in order until one succeeds. The `socrates` artifact is marked as `lazy`, which means that it will not be automatically downloaded when the containing package is installed, but rather will be downloaded on-demand when the package first attempts to use it.

The `c_simple` artifact showcases a platform-dependent artifact, where each entry in the `c_simple` array contains keys that help the calling package choose the appropriate download based on the particulars of the host machine. Note that each artifact contains both a `git-tree-sha1` and a `sha256` for each download entry. This is to ensure that the downloaded tarball is secure before attempting to unpack it, as well as enforcing that all tarballs must expand to the same overall tree hash.

The `processed_output` artifact contains no download stanza, and so cannot be installed. An artifact such as this would be the result of code that was previously run, generating a new artifact and binding the resultant hash to a name within this project.

## Chapter 38

# Using Artifacts

Artifacts can be manipulated using convenient APIs exposed from the `Pkg.Artifacts` namespace. As a motivating example, let us imagine that we are writing a package that needs to load the [Iris machine learning dataset](#). While we could just download the dataset during a build step into the package directory, and many packages currently do precisely this, that has some significant drawbacks:

- First, it modifies the package directory, making package installation stateful, which we want to avoid. In the future, we would like to reach the point where packages can be installed completely read-only, instead of being able to modify themselves after installation.
- Second, the downloaded data is not shared across different versions of our package. If we have three different versions of the package installed for use by various projects, then we need three different copies of the data, even if it hasn't changed between those versions. Moreover, each time we upgrade or downgrade the package unless we do something clever (and probably brittle), we have to download the data again.

With artifacts, we will instead check to see if our `iris` artifact already exists on-disk and only if it doesn't will we download and install it, after which we can bind the result into our `Artifacts.toml` file:

```
using Pkg.Artifacts

# This is the path to the Artifacts.toml we will manipulate
artifact_toml = joinpath(@__DIR__, "Artifacts.toml")

# Query the `Artifacts.toml` file for the hash bound to the name "iris"
# (returns `nothing` if no such binding exists)
iris_hash = artifact_hash("iris", artifact_toml)

# If the name was not bound, or the hash it was bound to does not exist, create it!
if iris_hash == nothing || !artifact_exists(iris_hash)
    # create_artifact() returns the content-hash of the artifact directory once we're finished
    # creating it
    iris_hash = create_artifact() do artifact_dir
        # We create the artifact by simply downloading a few files into the new artifact directory
        iris_url_base = "https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/machine-learning-databases/iris"
        download!("$(iris_url_base)/iris.data", joinpath(artifact_dir, "iris.csv"))
        download!("$(iris_url_base)/bezdekIris.data", joinpath(artifact_dir, "bezdekIris.csv"))
        download!("$(iris_url_base)/iris.names", joinpath(artifact_dir, "iris.names"))
    end
end
```

```
# Now bind that hash within our `Artifacts.toml`.  `force = true` means that if it already
# exists,
# just overwrite with the new content-hash.  Unless the source files change, we do not expect
# the content hash to change, so this should not cause unnecessary version control churn.
bind_artifact!(artifact_toml, "iris", iris_hash)
end

# Get the path of the iris dataset, either newly created or previously generated.
# this should be something like `~/.julia/artifacts/dbd04e28be047a54fbe9bf67e934be5b5e0d357a`
iris_dataset_path = artifact_path(iris_hash)
```

For the specific use case of using artifacts that were previously bound, we have the shorthand notation `artifact"name"` which will automatically search for the `Artifacts.toml` file contained within the current package, look up the given artifact by name, install it if it is not yet installed, then return the path to that given artifact. An example of this shorthand notation is given below:

```
using Pkg.Artifacts

# For this to work, an `Artifacts.toml` file must be in the current working directory
# (or in the root of the current package) and must define a mapping for the "iris"
# artifact.  If it does not exist on-disk, it will be downloaded.
iris_dataset_path = artifact"iris"
```

## Chapter 39

# The Pkg.Artifacts API

The Artifacts API is broken up into three levels: hash-aware functions, name-aware functions and utility functions.

- **Hash-aware** functions deal with content-hashes and essentially nothing else. These methods allow you to query whether an artifact exists, what its path is, verify that an artifact satisfies its content hash on-disk, etc. Hash-aware functions include: `artifact_exists()`, `artifact_path()`, `remove_artifact()`, `verify_artifact()` and `archive_artifact()`. Note that in general you should not use `remove_artifact()` and should instead use `Pkg.gc()` to cleanup artifact installations.
- **Name-aware** functions deal with bound names within an `Artifacts.toml` file, and as such, typically require both a path to an `Artifacts.toml` file as well as the artifact name. Name-aware functions include: `artifact_meta()`, `artifact_hash()`, `bind_artifact!()`, `unbind_artifact!()`, `download_artifact()` and `ensure_artifact_installed()`.
- **Utility** functions deal with miscellaneous aspects of artifact life, such as `create_artifact()`, `ensure_all_artifacts_installed()` and even the `@artifact_str` string macro.

For a full listing of docstrings and methods, see the [Artifacts Reference](#) section.

## Chapter 40

# Overriding artifact locations

It is occasionally necessary to be able to override the location and content of an artifact. A common use case is a computing environment where certain versions of a binary dependency must be used, regardless of what version of this dependency a package was published with. While a typical Julia configuration would download, unpack and link against a generic library, a system administrator may wish to disable this and instead use a library already installed on the local machine. To enable this, Pkg supports a per-depot `Overrides.toml` file placed within the `artifacts` depot directory (e.g. `~/.julia/artifacts/Overrides.toml` for the default user depot) that can override the location of an artifact either by content-hash or by package UUID and bound artifact name. Additionally, the destination location can be either an absolute path, or a replacement artifact content hash. This allows sysadmins to create their own artifacts which they can then use by overriding other packages to use the new artifact.

```
# Override single hash to an absolute path
78f35e74ff113f02274ce60dab6e92b4546ef806 = "/path/to/replacement"

# Override single hash to new artifact content-hash
683942669b4639019be7631caa28c38f3e1924fe = "d826e316b6c0d29d9ad0875af6ca63bf67ed38c3"

# Override package bindings by specifying the package UUID and bound artifact name
# For demonstration purposes we assume this package is called `Foo`
[d57dbccd-ca19-4d82-b9b8-9d660942965b]
libfoo = "/path/to/libfoo"
libbar = "683942669b4639019be7631caa28c38f3e1924fe"
```

Due to the layered nature of Pkg depots, multiple `Overrides.toml` files may be in effect at once. This allows the "inner" `Overrides.toml` files to override the overrides placed within the "outer" `Overrides.toml` files. To remove an override and re-enable default location logic for an artifact, insert an entry mapping to the empty string:

```
78f35e74ff113f02274ce60dab6e92b4546ef806 = "/path/to/new/replacement"
683942669b4639019be7631caa28c38f3e1924fe = ""

[d57dbccd-ca19-4d82-b9b8-9d660942965b]
libfoo = ""
```

If the two `Overrides.toml` snippets as given above are layered on top of each other, the end result will be mapping the content-hash `78f35e74ff113f02274ce60dab6e92b4546ef806` to `"/path/to/new/replacement"`, and mapping `Foo.libbar` to the artifact identified by the content-hash `683942669b4639019be7631caa28c38f3e1924fe`.

Note that while that hash was previously overridden, it is no longer, and therefore `Foo.libbar` will look directly at locations such as `~/julia/artifacts/683942669b4639019be7631caa28c38f3e1924fe`.

Most methods that are affected by overrides can ignore overrides by setting `honor_overrides=false` as a keyword argument within them. For UUID/name-based overrides to work, `Artifacts.toml` files must be loaded with the knowledge of the UUID of the loading package. This is deduced automatically by the `Artifacts""` string macro, however, if you are for some reason manually using the `Pkg.Artifacts` API within your package and you wish to honor overrides, you must provide the package UUID to API calls like `artifact_meta()` and `ensure_artifact_installed()` via the `pkg_uuid` keyword argument.

## Chapter 41

# Extending Platform Selection

### Julia 1.7

Pkg's extended platform selection requires at least Julia 1.7, and is considered experimental.

New in Julia 1.6, Platform objects can have extended attributes applied to them, allowing artifacts to be tagged with things such as CUDA driver version compatibility, microarchitectural compatibility, julia version compatibility and more! Note that this feature is considered experimental and may change in the future. If you as a package developer find yourself needing this feature, please get in contact with us so it can evolve for the benefit of the whole ecosystem. In order to support artifact selection at Pkg.add() time, Pkg will run the specially-named file <project\_root>/.pkg/select\_artifacts.jl, passing the current platform triplet as the first argument. This artifact selection script should print a TOML-serialized dictionary representing the artifacts that this package needs according to the given platform, and perform any inspection of the system as necessary to auto-detect platform capabilities if they are not explicitly provided by the given platform triplet. The format of the dictionary should match that returned from Artifacts.select\_downloadable\_artifacts(), and indeed most packages should simply call that function with an augmented Platform object. An example artifact selection hook definition might look like the following, split across two files:

```
# .pkg/platform_augmentation.jl
using Libdl, Base.BinaryPlatforms
function augment_platform!(p::Platform)
    # If this platform object already has a `cuda` tag set, don't augment
    if haskey(p, "cuda")
        return p
    end

    # Open libcuda explicitly, so it gets `dlclose()`'ed after we're done
    dlopen("libcuda") do lib
        # find symbol to ask for driver version; if we can't find it, just silently continue
        cuDriverGetVersion = dlsym(lib, "cuDriverGetVersion"; throw_error=false)
        if cuDriverGetVersion === nothing
            # Interrogate CUDA driver for driver version:
            driverVersion = Ref{Cint}()
            ccall(cuDriverGetVersion, UInt32, (Ptr{Cint},), driverVersion)

            # Store only the major version
            p["cuda"] = div(driverVersion, 1000)
        end
    end
end
```

```

# Return possibly-altered `Platform` object
return p
end

```

```

using TOML, Artifacts, Base.BinaryPlatforms
include("./platform_augmentation.jl")
artifacts_toml = joinpath(dirname(@__DIR__), "Artifacts.toml")

# Get "target triplet" from ARGS, if given (defaulting to the host triplet otherwise)
target_triplet = get(ARGS, 1, Base.BinaryPlatforms.host_triplet())

# Augment this platform object with any special tags we require
platform = augment_platform!(HostPlatform(parse(Platform, target_triplet)))

# Select all downloadable artifacts that match that platform
artifacts = select_downloadable_artifacts(artifacts_toml; platform)

# Output the result to `stdout` as a TOML dictionary
TOML.print(stdout, artifacts)

```

In this hook definition, our platform augmentation routine opens a system library (libcuda), searches it for a symbol to give us the CUDA driver version, then embeds the major version of that version number into the cuda property of the Platform object we are augmenting. While it is not critical for this code to actually attempt to close the loaded library (as it will most likely be opened again by the CUDA package immediately after the package operations are completed) it is best practice to make hooks as lightweight and transparent as possible, as they may be used by other Pkg utilities in the future. In your own package, you should also use augmented platform objects when using the `@artifact_str` macro, as follows:

```

include("../pkg/platform_augmentation.jl")

function __init__()
    p = augment_platform!(HostPlatform())
    global my_artifact_dir = @artifact_str("MyArtifact", p)
end

```

This ensures that the same artifact is used by your code as Pkg attempted to install.

Artifact selection hooks are only allowed to use `Base`, `Artifacts`, `Libdl`, and `TOML`. They are not allowed to use any other standard libraries, and they are not allowed to use any packages (including the package to which they belong).

## **Part IX**

### **9. Glossary**

**Project:** a source tree with a standard layout, including a `src` directory for the main body of Julia code, a `test` directory for testing the project, a `docs` directory for documentation files, and optionally a `deps` directory for a build script and its outputs. A project will typically also have a project file and may optionally have a manifest file:

- **Project file:** a file in the root directory of a project, named `Project.toml` (or `JuliaProject.toml`), describing metadata about the project, including its name, UUID (for packages), authors, license, and the names and UUIDs of packages and libraries that it depends on.
- **Manifest file:** a file in the root directory of a project, named `Manifest.toml` (or `JuliaManifest.toml`), describing a complete dependency graph and exact versions of each package and library used by a project. The file name may also be suffixed by `-v{major}.{minor}.toml` which julia will prefer if the version matches `VERS1ON`, allowing multiple environments to be maintained for different julia versions.

**Package:** a project which provides reusable functionality that can be used by other Julia projects via `import X` or using `X`. A package should have a project file with a `uuid` entry giving its package UUID. This UUID is used to identify the package in projects that depend on it.

#### Note

For legacy reasons, it is possible to load a package without a project file or UUID from the REPL or the top-level of a script. It is not possible, however, to load a package without a project file or UUID from a project with them. Once you've loaded from a project file, everything needs a project file and UUID.

**Application:** a project which provides standalone functionality not intended to be reused by other Julia projects. For example a web application or a command-line utility, or simulation/analytics code accompanying a scientific paper. An application may have a UUID but does not need one. An application may also set and change the global configurations of packages it depends on. Packages, on the other hand, may not change the global state of their dependencies since that could conflict with the configuration of the main application.

#### Note

##### Projects vs. Packages vs. Applications:

1. **Project** is an umbrella term: packages and applications are kinds of projects.
2. **Packages** should have UUIDs, applications can have UUIDs but don't need them.
3. **Applications** can provide global configuration, whereas packages cannot.

**Environment:** the combination of the top-level name map provided by a project file combined with the dependency graph and map from packages to their entry points provided by a manifest file. For more detail see the manual section on code loading.

- **Explicit environment:** an environment in the form of an explicit project file and an optional corresponding manifest file together in a directory. If the manifest file is absent then the implied dependency graph and location maps are empty.
- **Implicit environment:** an environment provided as a directory (without a project file or manifest file) containing packages with entry points of the form `X.jl`, `X.jl/src/X.jl` or `X/src/X.jl`. The top-level name map is implied by these entry points. The dependency graph is implied by the existence of project

files inside of these package directories, e.g. X.jl/Project.toml or X/Project.toml. The dependencies of the X package are the dependencies in the corresponding project file if there is one. The location map is implied by the entry points themselves.

**Registry:** a source tree with a standard layout recording metadata about a registered set of packages, the tagged versions of them which are available, and which versions of packages are compatible or incompatible with each other. A registry is indexed by package name and UUID, and has a directory for each registered package providing the following metadata about it:

- name - e.g. DataFrames
- UUID - e.g. a93c6f00-e57d-5684-b7b6-d8193f3e46c0
- repository - e.g. <https://github.com/JuliaData/DataFrames.jl.git>
- versions - a list of all registered version tags

For each registered version of a package, the following information is provided:

- its semantic version number - e.g. v1.2.3
- its git tree SHA-1 hash - e.g. 7ffb18ea3245ef98e368b02b81e8a86543a11103
- a map from names to UUIDs of dependencies
- which versions of other packages it is compatible/incompatible with

Dependencies and compatibility are stored in a compressed but human-readable format using ranges of package versions.

**Depot:** a directory on a system where various package-related resources live, including:

- environments: shared named environments (e.g. v1.0, devtools)
- clones: bare clones of package repositories
- compiled: cached compiled package images (.ji files)
- config: global configuration files (e.g. startup.jl)
- dev: default directory for package development
- logs: log files (e.g. manifest\_usage.toml, repl\_history.jl)
- packages: installed package versions
- registries: clones of registries (e.g. General)

**Load path:** a stack of environments where package identities, their dependencies, and entry points are searched for. The load path is controlled in Julia by the LOAD\_PATH global variable which is populated at startup based on the value of the JULIA\_LOAD\_PATH environment variable. The first entry is your primary environment, often the current project, while later entries provide additional packages one may want to use from the REPL or top-level scripts.

**Depot path:** a stack of depot locations where the package manager, as well as Julia's code loading mechanisms, look for registries, installed packages, named environments, repo clones, cached compiled package images, and configuration files. The depot path is controlled by the Julia DEPOT\_PATH global variable which is populated at startup based on the value of the JULIA\_DEPOT\_PATH environment variable. The first entry is the "user depot" and should be writable by and owned by the current user. The user depot is where: registries are cloned, new package versions are installed, named environments are created and updated, package repositories are cloned, newly compiled package image files are saved, log files are written, development packages are checked out by default, and global configuration data is saved. Later entries in the depot path are treated as read-only and are appropriate for registries, packages, etc. installed and managed by system administrators.

## **Part X**

### **10. Project.toml and Manifest.toml**

Two files that are central to Pkg are `Project.toml` and `Manifest.toml`. `Project.toml` and `Manifest.toml` are written in [TOML](#) (hence the `.toml` extension) and include information about dependencies, versions, package names, UUIDs etc.

**Note**

The `Project.toml` and `Manifest.toml` files are not only used by the package manager; they are also used by Julia's code loading, and determine e.g. what using `Example` should do. For more details see the section about [Code Loading](#) in the Julia manual.

## Chapter 42

# Project.toml

The project file describes the project on a high level, for example, the package/project dependencies and compatibility constraints are listed in the project file. The file entries are described below.

### 42.1 The authors field

For a package, the optional authors field is a list of strings describing the package authors, in the form NAME <EMAIL>. For example:

```
authors = ["Some One <someone@email.com>",
           "Foo Bar <foo@bar.com>"]
```

### 42.2 The name field

The name of the package/project is determined by the name field, for example:

```
name = "Example"
```

The name must be a valid [identifier](#) (a sequence of Unicode characters that does not start with a number and is neither true nor false). For packages, it is recommended to follow the [package naming rules](#). The name field is mandatory for packages.

### 42.3 The uuid field

uuid is a string with a [universally unique identifier](#) for the package/project, for example:

```
uuid = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"
```

The uuid field is mandatory for packages.

#### Note

It is recommended that `UUIDs.uuid4()` is used to generate random UUIDs.

## 42.4 The `version` field

`version` is a string with the version number for the package/project. It should consist of three numbers, major version, minor version, and patch number, separated with a `.`, for example:

```
version = "1.2.5"
```

Julia uses [Semantic Versioning](#) (SemVer) and the `version` field should follow SemVer. The basic rules are:

- Before 1.0.0, anything goes, but when you make breaking changes the minor version should be incremented.
- After 1.0.0 only make breaking changes when incrementing the major version.
- After 1.0.0 no new public API should be added without incrementing the minor version. This includes, in particular, new types, functions, methods, and method overloads, from `Base` or other packages.

See also the section on [Compatibility](#).

Note that `Pkg.jl` deviates from the SemVer specification when it comes to versions pre-1.0.0. See the section on [pre-1.0 behavior](#) for more details.

## 42.5 The `[deps]` section

All dependencies of the package/project are listed in the `[deps]` section. Each dependency is listed as a name-uuid pair, for example:

```
[deps]
Example = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"
Test = "8dfed614-e22c-5e08-85e1-65c5234f0b40"
```

Typically it is not needed to manually add entries to the `[deps]` section; this is instead handled by `Pkg` operations such as `add`.

## 42.6 The `[sources]` section

Specifying a path or repo (+ branch) for a dependency is done in the `[sources]` section. These are especially useful for controlling unregistered dependencies without having to bundle a corresponding manifest file.

```
[sources]
Example = {url = "https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl", rev = "custom_branch"}
WithinMonorepo = {url = "https://github.org/author/BigProject", subdir = "SubPackage"}
SomeDependency = {path = "deps/SomeDependency.jl"}
```

Note that this information is only used when this environment is active, i.e. it is not used if this project is a package that is being used as a dependency.

## 42.7 The [compat] section

Compatibility constraints for the dependencies listed under [deps] can be listed in the [compat] section. Example:

```
[deps]
Example = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"

[compat]
Example = "1.2"
```

The [Compatibility](#) section describes the different possible compatibility constraints in detail. It is also possible to list constraints on julia itself, although julia is not listed as a dependency in the [deps] section:

```
[compat]
julia = "1.1"
```

## Chapter 43

### Manifest.toml

The manifest file is an absolute record of the state of the packages in the environment. It includes exact information about (direct and indirect) dependencies of the project. Given a `Project.toml` + `Manifest.toml` pair, it is possible to instantiate the exact same package environment, which is very useful for reproducibility. For the details, see [Pkg.instantiate](#).

**Note**

The `Manifest.toml` file is generated and maintained by Pkg and, in general, this file should never be modified manually.

#### 43.1 Different Manifests for Different Julia versions

Starting from Julia v1.10.8, there is an option to name manifest files in the format `Manifest-v{major}.{minor}.toml`. Julia will then preferentially use the version-specific manifest file if available. For example, if both `Manifest-v1.11.toml` and `Manifest.toml` exist, Julia 1.11 will prioritize using `Manifest-v1.11.toml`. However, Julia versions 1.10, 1.12, and all others will default to using `Manifest.toml`. This feature allows for easier management of different instantiated versions of dependencies for various Julia versions. Note that there can only be one `Project.toml` file. While `Manifest-v{major}.{minor}.toml` files are not automatically created by Pkg, users can manually rename a `Manifest.toml` file to match the versioned format, and Pkg will subsequently maintain it through its operations.

#### 43.2 Manifest.toml entries

There are three top-level entries in the manifest which could look like this:

```
julia_version = "1.8.2"
manifest_format = "2.0"
project_hash = "4d9d5b552a1236d3c1171abf88d59da3aaac328a"
```

This shows the Julia version the manifest was created on, the "format" of the manifest and a hash of the project file, so that it is possible to see when the manifest is stale compared to the project file.

Each dependency has its own section in the manifest file, and its content varies depending on how the dependency was added to the environment. Every dependency section includes a combination of the following entries:

- `uuid`: the [UUID](#) for the dependency, for example `uuid = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"`.
- `deps`: a vector listing the dependencies of the dependency, for example `deps = ["Example", "JSON"]`.
- `version`: a version number, for example `version = "1.2.6"`.
- `path`: a file path to the source code, for example `path = "/home/user/Example"`.
- `repo-url`: a URL to the repository where the source code was found, for example `repo-url = "https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git"`.
- `repo-rev`: a git revision, for example a branch `repo-rev = "master"` or a commit `repo-rev = "66607a62a83cb07ab18c0b..."`.
- `git-tree-sha1`: a content hash of the source tree, for example `git-tree-sha1 = "ca3820cc4e66f473467d912c4b2b3ae5..."`.

### **Added package**

When a package is added from a package registry, for example by invoking `pkg> add Example` or with a specific version `pkg> add Example@1.2`, the resulting `Manifest.toml` entry looks like:

```
[[deps.Example]]
deps = ["DependencyA", "DependencyB"]
git-tree-sha1 = "8eb7b4d4ca487caade9ba3e85932e28ce6d6e1f8"
uuid = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"
version = "1.2.3"
```

Note, in particular, that no `repo-url` is present, since that information is included in the registry where this package was found.

### **Added package by branch**

The resulting dependency section when adding a package specified by a branch, e.g. `pkg> add Example#master` or `pkg> add https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git`, looks like:

```
[[deps.Example]]
deps = ["DependencyA", "DependencyB"]
git-tree-sha1 = "54c7a512469a38312a058ec9f429e1db1f074474"
repo-rev = "master"
repo-url = "https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git"
uuid = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"
version = "1.2.4"
```

Note that both the branch we are tracking (`master`) and the remote repository url ("`https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl`") are stored in the manifest.

### **Added package by commit**

The resulting dependency section when adding a package specified by a commit, e.g. `pkg> add Example#cf6ba6cc0be0bb5f56840188563579d67048be34` looks like:

```
[[deps.Example]]
deps = ["DependencyA", "DependencyB"]
git-tree-sha1 = "54c7a512469a38312a058ec9f429e1db1f074474"
repo-rev = "cf6ba6cc0be0bb5f56840188563579d67048be34"
repo-url = "https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl.git"
```

```
uuid = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"
version = "1.2.4"
```

The only difference from tracking a branch is the content of repo-rev.

### Developed package

The resulting dependency section when adding a package with develop, e.g. `pkg> develop Example` or `pkg> develop /path/to/local/folder/Example`, looks like:

```
[[deps.Example]]
deps = ["DependencyA", "DependencyB"]
path = "/home/user/.julia/dev/Example/"
uuid = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"
version = "1.2.4"
```

Note that the path to the source code is included, and changes made to that source tree is directly reflected.

### Pinned package

Pinned packages are also recorded in the manifest file; the resulting dependency section e.g. `pkg> add Example; pin Example` looks like:

```
[[deps.Example]]
deps = ["DependencyA", "DependencyB"]
git-tree-sha1 = "54c7a512469a38312a058ec9f429e1db1f074474"
pinned = true
uuid = "7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a"
version = "1.2.4"
```

The only difference is the addition of the `pinned = true` entry.

### Multiple packages with the same name

Julia differentiates packages based on UUID, which means that the name alone is not enough to identify a package. It is possible to have multiple packages in the same environment with the same name, but with different UUID. In such a situation the `Manifest.toml` file looks a bit different. Consider for example the situation where you have added A and B to your environment, and the `Project.toml` file looks as follows:

```
[deps]
A = "ead4f63c-334e-11e9-00e6-e7f0a5f21b60"
B = "edca9bc6-334e-11e9-3554-9595dbb4349c"
```

If A now depends on B = "f41f7b98-334e-11e9-1257-49272045fb24", i.e. another package named B there will be two different B packages in the `Manifest.toml` file. In this case, the full `Manifest.toml` file, with `git-tree-sha1` and `version` fields removed for clarity, looks like this:

```
[[deps.A]]
uuid = "ead4f63c-334e-11e9-00e6-e7f0a5f21b60"

[deps.A.deps]
B = "f41f7b98-334e-11e9-1257-49272045fb24"

[[deps.B]]
uuid = "f41f7b98-334e-11e9-1257-49272045fb24"
[[deps.B]]
uuid = "edca9bc6-334e-11e9-3554-9595dbb4349c"
```

There is now an array of the two B packages, and the [deps] section for A has been expanded to be explicit about which B package A depends on.

## **Part XI**

### **11. REPL Mode Reference**

This section describes available commands in the Pkg REPL. The Pkg REPL mode is mostly meant for interactive use, and for non-interactive use it is recommended to use the functional API, see [API Reference](#).

## Chapter 44

### package commands

```
add [--preserve=<opt>] [-w|--weak] [-e|--extra] pkg[=uuid] [@version] [#rev] ...
```

Add package pkg to the current project file. If pkg could refer to multiple different packages, specifying uuid allows you to disambiguate. @version optionally allows specifying which versions of packages to add. Version specifications are of the form @1, @1.2 or @1.2.3, allowing any version with a prefix that matches, or ranges thereof, such as @1.2-3.4.5. A git revision can be specified by #branch or #commit.

If the active environment is a package (the Project has both name and uuid fields) compat entries will be added automatically with a lower bound of the added version.

If a local path is used as an argument to add, the path needs to be a git repository. The project will then track that git repository just like it would track a remote repository online. If the package is not located at the top of the git repository, a subdirectory can be specified with path:subdir/path.

Pkg resolves the set of packages in your environment using a tiered approach. The --preserve command line option allows you to key into a specific tier in the resolve algorithm. The following table describes the command line arguments to --preserve (in order of strictness).

Argument	Description
installed	Like all except also only add versions that are already installed
all	Preserve the state of all existing dependencies (including recursive dependencies)
direct	Preserve the state of all existing direct dependencies
semver	Preserve semver-compatible versions of direct dependencies
none	Do not attempt to preserve any version information
tiered_installed	Like tiered except first try to add only installed versions
<b>tiered</b>	Use the tier that will preserve the most version information while allowing version resolution to succeed (this is the default)

Note: To make the default strategy tiered\_installed set the env var JULIA\_PKG\_PRESERVE\_TIERED\_INSTALLED to true.

After the installation of new packages the project will be precompiled. For more information see `pkg> ?precompile`.

With the `installed` strategy the newly added packages will likely already be precompiled, but if not this may be because either the combination of package versions resolved in this environment has not been resolved and precompiled before, or the precompile cache has been deleted by the LRU cache storage (see `JULIA_MAX_NUM_PRECOMPILE_FILES`).

**Examples**

```

pkg> add Example
pkg> add --preserve=all Example
pkg> add --weak Example
pkg> add --extra Example
pkg> add Example@0.5
pkg> add Example#master
pkg> add Example#c37b675
pkg> add https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl#master
pkg> add git@github.com:JuliaLang/Example.jl.git
pkg> add "git@github.com:JuliaLang/Example.jl.git"#master
pkg> add https://github.com/Company/MonoRepo:juliapkgs/Package.jl
pkg> add Example=7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a

```

```
build [-v|--verbose] pkg[=uuid] ...
```

Run the build script in deps/build.jl for pkg and all of its dependencies in depth-first recursive order. If no packages are given, run the build scripts for all packages in the manifest. The -v|--verbose option redirects build output to stdout/stderr instead of the build.log file. The startup.jl file is disabled during building unless julia is started with --startup-file=yes.

```
compat [pkg] [compat_string]
```

Edit project [compat] entries directly, or via an interactive menu by not specifying any arguments. When directly editing use tab to complete the package name and any existing compat entry. Specifying a package with a blank compat entry will remove the entry. After changing compat entries a resolve will be attempted to check whether the current environment is compliant with the new compat rules.

```
[dev|develop] [--preserve=<opt>] [--shared|--local] pkg[=uuid] ...
[dev|develop] [--preserve=<opt>] path
```

Make a package available for development. If pkg is an existing local path, that path will be recorded in the manifest and used. Otherwise, a full git clone of pkg is made. The location of the clone is controlled by the --shared (default) and --local arguments. The --shared location defaults to ~/.julia/dev, but can be controlled with the JULIA\_PKG\_DEVDIR environment variable.

When --local is given, the clone is placed in a dev folder in the current project. This is not supported for paths, only registered packages.

This operation is undone by free.

The preserve strategies offered by add are also available via the preserve argument. See add for more information.

**Examples**

```

pkg> develop Example
pkg> develop https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl
pkg> develop ~/mypackages/Example
pkg> develop --local Example

```

```
free pkg[=uuid] ...
free [--all]
```

Free pinned packages, which allows it to be upgraded or downgraded again. If the package is checked out (see help develop) then this command makes the package no longer being checked out. Specifying --all will free all dependencies (direct and indirect).

```
generate pkgnome
```

Create a minimal project called pkgnome in the current folder. For more featureful package creation, please see `PkgTemplates.jl`.

```
pin pkg[=uuid] ...
pin [--all]
```

Pin packages to given versions, or the current version if no version is specified. A pinned package has its version fixed and will not be upgraded or downgraded. A pinned package has the symbol `*` next to its version in the status list.. Specifying --all will pin all dependencies (direct and indirect).

### Examples

```
pkg> pin Example
pkg> pin Example@0.5.0
pkg> pin Example=7876af07-990d-54b4-ab0e-23690620f79a@0.5.0
pkg> pin --all
```

```
[rm|remove] [-p|--project] pkg[=uuid] ...
[rm|remove] [-p|--project] [--all]
```

Remove package `pkg` from the project file. Since the name `pkg` can only refer to one package in a project this is unambiguous, but you can specify a `uuid` anyway, and the command is ignored, with a warning, if package name and `UUID` do not match. When a package is removed from the project file, it may still remain in the manifest if it is required by some other package in the project. Project mode operation is the default, so passing `-p` or `--project` is optional unless it is preceded by the `-m` or `--manifest` options at some earlier point. All packages can be removed by passing `--all`.

```
[rm|remove] [-m|--manifest] pkg[=uuid] ...
[rm|remove] [-m|--manifest] [--all]
```

Remove package `pkg` from the manifest file. If the name `pkg` refers to multiple packages in the manifest, `uuid` disambiguates it. Removing a package from the manifest forces the removal of all packages that depend on it, as well as any no-longer-necessary manifest packages due to project package removals. All packages can be removed by passing `--all`.

```
test [--coverage] pkg[=uuid] ...
```

Run the tests for package pkg. This is done by running the file test/runtests.jl in the package directory. The option --coverage can be used to run the tests with coverage enabled. The startup.jl file is disabled during testing unless julia is started with --startup-file=yes.

```
[up|update] [-p|--project] [opts] pkg[=uuid] [@version] ...
[up|update] [-m|--manifest] [opts] pkg[=uuid] [@version] ...

opts: --major | --minor | --patch | --fixed
      --preserve=<all/direct/none>
```

Update pkg within the constraints of the indicated version specifications. These specifications are of the form @1, @1.2 or @1.2.3, allowing any version with a prefix that matches, or ranges thereof, such as @1.2-3.4.5. In --project mode, package specifications only match project packages, while in --manifest mode they match any manifest package. Bound level options force the following packages to be upgraded only within the current major, minor, patch version; if the --fixed upgrade level is given, then the following packages will not be upgraded at all.

After any package updates the project will be precompiled. For more information see `pkg> ?precompile`.

## Chapter 45

### registry commands

```
registry add reg...
```

Add package registries reg... to the user depot. Without arguments it adds known registries, i.e. the General registry and registries served by the configured package server.

#### Examples

```
pkg> registry add General  
pkg> registry add https://www.my-custom-registry.com  
pkg> registry add
```

```
registry [rm|remove] reg...
```

Remove package registries reg....

#### Examples

```
pkg> registry [rm|remove] General
```

```
registry [st|status]
```

Display information about installed registries.

#### Examples

```
pkg> registry status
```

```
registry [up|update]  
registry [up|update] reg...
```

Update package registries reg.... If no registries are specified all registries will be updated.

**Examples**

```
pkg> registry up
pkg> registry up General
```

## Chapter 46

### Other commands

```
activate
activate [--shared] path
activate --temp
activate - (activates the previously active environment)
```

Activate the environment at the given path, or use the first project found in LOAD\_PATH (ignoring "@") if no path is specified. In the latter case, for the default value of LOAD\_PATH, the result is to activate the @v#.# environment. The active environment is the environment that is modified by executing package commands. When the option --shared is given, path will be assumed to be a directory name and searched for in the environments folders of the depots in the depot stack. In case no such environment exists in any of the depots, it will be placed in the first depot of the stack. Use the --temp option to create temporary environments which are removed when the julia process is exited. Use a single - to activate the previously active environment.

```
gc [-v|--verbose] [--all]
```

Free disk space by garbage collecting packages not used for a significant time. The --all option will garbage collect all packages which can not be immediately reached from any existing project. Use verbose mode for detailed output.

```
[?|help]
```

List available commands along with short descriptions.

```
[?|help] cmd
```

If cmd is a partial command, display help for all subcommands. If cmd is a full command, display help for cmd.

```
instantiate [-v|--verbose]
instantiate [-v|--verbose] [-m|--manifest]
instantiate [-v|--verbose] [-p|--project]
```

Download all the dependencies for the current project at the version given by the project's manifest. If no manifest exists or the --project option is given, resolve and download the dependencies compatible with the project.

After packages have been installed the project will be precompiled. For more information see `pkg> ?precompile`.

```
precompile
precompile pkgs...
```

Precompile all or specified dependencies of the project in parallel. The `startup.jl` file is disabled during precompilation unless julia is started with `--startup-file=yes`.

Errors will only throw when precompiling the top-level dependencies, given that not all manifest dependencies may be loaded by the top-level dependencies on the given system.

This method is called automatically after any Pkg action that changes the manifest. Any packages that have previously errored during precompilation won't be retried in auto mode until they have changed. To disable automatic precompilation set the environment variable `JULIA_PKG_PRECOMPILE_AUTO=0`. To manually control the number of tasks used set the environment variable `JULIA_NUM_PRECOMPILE_TASKS`.

```
resolve
```

Resolve the project i.e. run package resolution and update the Manifest. This is useful in case the dependencies of developed packages have changed causing the current Manifest to be out of sync.

```
[st|status] [-d|--diff] [-o|--outdated] [pkgs...]
[st|status] [-d|--diff] [-o|--outdated] [-p|--project] [pkgs...]
[st|status] [-d|--diff] [-o|--outdated] [-m|--manifest] [pkgs...]
[st|status] [-d|--diff] [-e|--extensions] [-p|--project] [pkgs...]
[st|status] [-d|--diff] [-e|--extensions] [-m|--manifest] [pkgs...]
[st|status] [-c|--compat] [pkgs...]
```

Show the status of the current environment. Packages marked with `^` have new versions that may be installed, e.g. via `pkg> up`. Those marked with `~` have new versions available, but cannot be installed due to compatibility constraints. To see why use `pkg> status --outdated` which shows any packages that are not at their latest version and if any packages are holding them back.

Use `pkg> status --extensions` to show dependencies with extensions and what extension dependencies of those that are currently loaded.

In `--project` mode (default), the status of the project file is summarized. In `--manifest` mode the output also includes the recursive dependencies of added packages given in the manifest. If there are any packages listed as arguments the output will be limited to those packages. The `--diff` option will, if the environment is in a git repository, limit the output to the difference as compared to the last git commit. The `--compat` option alone shows project compat entries.

#### Julia 1.8

The `^` and `~` indicators were added in Julia 1.8. The `--outdated` and `--compat` options require at least Julia 1.8.

## **Part XII**

### **12. API Reference**

This section describes the functional API for interacting with Pkg.jl. It is recommended to use the functional API, rather than the Pkg REPL mode, for non-interactive usage, for example in scripts.

## **Chapter 47**

### **General API Reference**

Certain options are generally useful and can be specified in any API call. You can specify these options by setting keyword arguments.

#### **47.1 Redirecting output**

Use the `io::IOBuffer` keyword argument to redirect Pkg output. For example, `Pkg.add("Example"; io=devnull)` will discard any output produced by the `add` call.

## Chapter 48

# Package API Reference

In the Pkg REPL mode, packages (with associated version, UUID, URL etc) are parsed from strings, for example "Package#master", "Package@v0.1", "www.mypkg.com/MyPkg#my/feature".

In the functional API, it is possible to use strings as arguments for simple commands (like `Pkg.add(["PackageA", "PackageB"])`), but more complicated commands, which e.g. specify URLs or version range, require the use of a more structured format over strings. This is done by creating an instance of `PackageSpec` which is passed in to functions.

`Pkg.add` – Function.

```
Pkg.add(pkg::Union{String, Vector{String}}; preserve=PRESERVE_TIERED, target)::Symbol=:deps)
Pkg.add(pkg::Union{PackageSpec, Vector{PackageSpec}}; preserve=PRESERVE_TIERED,
        ↳ target::Symbol=:deps)
```

Add a package to the current project. This package will be available by using the `import` and `using` keywords in the Julia REPL, and if the current project is a package, also inside that package.

If the active environment is a package (the Project has both name and uuid fields) compat entries will be added automatically with a lower bound of the added version.

To add as a weak dependency (in the `[weakdeps]` field) set the kwarg `target=:weakdeps`. To add as an extra dep (in the `[extras]` field) set `target=:extras`.

### Resolution Tiers

Pkg resolves the set of packages in your environment using a tiered algorithm. The `preserve` keyword argument allows you to key into a specific tier in the resolve algorithm. The following table describes the argument values for `preserve` (in order of strictness):

#### Note

To change the default strategy to `PRESERVE_TIERED_INSTALLED` set the env var `JULIA_PKG_PRESERVE_TIERED_INSTALLED` to true.

After the installation of new packages the project will be precompiled. For more information see `pkg>?precompile`.

With the `PRESERVE_ALL_INSTALLED` strategy the newly added packages will likely already be precompiled, but if not this may be because either the combination of package versions resolved in this environment has

Value	Description
PRESERVE_ALL_INSTALLED	Like PRESERVE_ALL and only add those already installed
PRESERVE_ALL	Preserve the state of all existing dependencies (including recursive dependencies)
PRESERVE_DIRECT	Preserve the state of all existing direct dependencies
PRESERVE_SEMVER	Preserve semver-compatible versions of direct dependencies
PRESERVE_NONE	Do not attempt to preserve any version information
PRESERVE_TIERED_INSTALLED	Like PRESERVE_TIERED except PRESERVE_ALL_INSTALLED is tried first
PRESERVE_TIERED	Use the tier that will preserve the most version information while allowing version resolution to succeed (this is the default)

not been resolved and precompiled before, or the precompile cache has been deleted by the LRU cache storage (see JULIA\_MAX\_NUM\_PRECOMPILE\_FILES).

#### Julia 1.9

The PRESERVE\_TIERED\_INSTALLED and PRESERVE\_ALL\_INSTALLED strategies requires at least Julia 1.9.

#### Julia 1.11

The target kwarg requires at least Julia 1.11.

### Examples

```
Pkg.add("Example") # Add a package from registry
Pkg.add("Example", target=:weakdeps) # Add a package as a weak dependency
Pkg.add("Example", target=:extras) # Add a package to the `extras` list
Pkg.add("Example"; preserve=Pkg.PRESERVE_ALL) # Add the `Example` package and strictly preserve
    # existing dependencies
Pkg.add(name="Example", version="0.3") # Specify version; latest release in the 0.3 series
Pkg.add(name="Example", version="0.3.1") # Specify version; exact release
Pkg.add(url="https://github.com/JuliaLang/Example.jl", rev="master") # From url to remote
    # gitrepo
Pkg.add(url="/remote/mycompany/juliapackages/OurPackage") # From path to local gitrepo
Pkg.add(url="https://github.com/Company/MonoRepo", subdir="juliapkgs/Package.jl") # With subdir
```

After the installation of new packages the project will be precompiled. See more at [Environment Precompilation](#).

See also [PackageSpec](#), [Pkg.develop](#).

[source](#)

Pkg.develop – Function.

```
Pkg.develop(pkg::Union{String, Vector{String}}; io::IO=stderr, preserve=PRESERVE_TIERED,
    # installed=false)
Pkg.develop(pkgs::Union{PackageSpec, Vector{PackageSpec}}; io::IO=stderr,
    # preserve=PRESERVE_TIERED, installed=false)
```

Make a package available for development by tracking it by path. If pkg is given with only a name or by a URL, the package will be downloaded to the location specified by the environment variable JULIA\_PKG\_DEVDIR, with `joinpath(DEPOT_PATH[1], "dev")` being the default.

If pkg is given as a local path, the package at that path will be tracked.

The preserve strategies offered by `Pkg.add` are also available via the `preserve` kwarg. See [Pkg.add](#) for more information.

### Examples

```
# By name
Pkg.develop("Example")

# By url
Pkg.develop(url="https://github.com/JuliaLang/Compat.jl")

# By path
Pkg.develop(path="MyJuliaPackages/Package.jl")
```

See also [PackageSpec](#), [Pkg.add](#).

[source](#)

`Pkg.activate` – Function.

```
Pkg.activate([s::String]; shared::Bool=false, io::IO=stderr)
Pkg.activate(; temp::Bool=false, shared::Bool=false, io::IO=stderr)
```

Activate the environment at s. The active environment is the environment that is modified by executing package commands. The logic for what path is activated is as follows:

- If shared is true, the first existing environment named s from the depots in the depot stack will be activated. If no such environment exists, create and activate that environment in the first depot.
- If temp is true this will create and activate a temporary environment which will be deleted when the julia process is exited.
- If s is an existing path, then activate the environment at that path.
- If s is a package in the current project and s is tracking a path, then activate the environment at the tracked path.
- Otherwise, s is interpreted as a non-existing path, which is then activated.

If no argument is given to `activate`, then use the first project found in LOAD\_PATH (ignoring "@"). For the default value of LOAD\_PATH, the result is to activate the @v#.# environment.

### Examples

```
Pkg.activate()
Pkg.activate("local/path")
Pkg.activate("MyDependency")
Pkg.activate(; temp=true)
```

See also [LOAD\\_PATH](#).

[source](#)

Pkg.rm – Function.

```
Pkg.rm(pkg::Union{String, Vector{String}}; mode::PackageMode = PKGMODE_PROJECT)
Pkg.rm(pkg::Union{PackageSpec, Vector{PackageSpec}}; mode::PackageMode = PKGMODE_PROJECT)
```

Remove a package from the current project. If mode is equal to PKGMODE\_MANIFEST also remove it from the manifest including all recursive dependencies of pkg.

See also [PackageSpec](#), [PackageMode](#).

[source](#)

Pkg.update – Function.

```
Pkg.update(; level::UpgradeLevel=UPLEVEL_MAJOR, mode::PackageMode = PKGMODE_PROJECT,
           ↵ preserve::PreserveLevel)
Pkg.update(pkg::Union{String, Vector{String}})
Pkg.update(pkg::Union{PackageSpec, Vector{PackageSpec}})
```

If no positional argument is given, update all packages in the manifest if mode is PKGMODE\_MANIFEST and packages in both manifest and project if mode is PKGMODE\_PROJECT. If no positional argument is given, level can be used to control by how much packages are allowed to be upgraded (major, minor, patch, fixed).

If packages are given as positional arguments, the preserve argument can be used to control what other packages are allowed to update:

- PRESERVE\_ALL (default): Only allow pkg to update.
- PRESERVE\_DIRECT: Only allow pkg and indirect dependencies that are not a direct dependency in the project to update.
- PRESERVE\_NONE: Allow pkg and all its indirect dependencies to update.

After any package updates the project will be precompiled. See more at [Environment Precompilation](#).

See also [PackageSpec](#), [PackageMode](#), [UpgradeLevel](#).

[source](#)

Pkg.test – Function.

```
Pkg.test(; kwargs...)
Pkg.test(pkg::Union{String, Vector{String}}; kwargs...)
Pkg.test(pkgs::Union{PackageSpec, Vector{PackageSpec}}; kwargs...)
```

**Keyword arguments:**

- `coverage::Union{Bool, String}=false`: enable or disable generation of coverage statistics for the tested package. If a string is passed it is passed directly to `--code-coverage` in the test process so e.g. "user" will test all user code.
- `allow_reresolve::Bool=true`: allow Pkg to reresolve the package versions in the test environment
- `julia_args::Union{Cmd, Vector{String}}`: options to be passed the test process.
- `test_args::Union{Cmd, Vector{String}}`: test arguments (ARGS) available in the test process.

**Julia 1.9**

`allow_reresolve` requires at least Julia 1.9.

**Julia 1.9**

Passing a string to `coverage` requires at least Julia 1.9.

Run the tests for package `pkg`, or for the current project (which thus needs to be a package) if no positional argument is given to `Pkg.test`. A package is tested by running its `test/runtests.jl` file.

The tests are run by generating a temporary environment with only the `pkg` package and its (recursive) dependencies in it. If a manifest file exists and the `allow_reresolve` keyword argument is set to `false`, the versions in the manifest file are used. Otherwise a feasible set of packages is resolved and installed.

During the tests, test-specific dependencies are active, which are given in the project file as e.g.

```
[extras]
Test = "8dfed614-e22c-5e08-85e1-65c5234f0b40"

[targets]
test = ["Test"]
```

The tests are executed in a new process with `check-bounds=yes` and by default `startup-file=no`. If using the startup file (`~/.julia/config/startup.jl`) is desired, start julia with `--startup-file=yes`. Inlining of functions during testing can be disabled (for better coverage accuracy) by starting julia with `--inline=no`. The tests can be run as if different command line arguments were passed to julia by passing the arguments instead to the `julia_args` keyword argument, e.g.

```
Pkg.test("foo"; julia_args=["--inline"])
```

To pass some command line arguments to be used in the tests themselves, pass the arguments to the `test_args` keyword argument. These could be used to control the code being tested, or to control the tests in some way. For example, the tests could have optional additional tests:

```
if "--extended" in ARGS
    @test some_function()
end
```

which could be enabled by testing with

```
Pkg.test("foo"; test_args=["--extended"])
```

[source](#)

Pkg.build – Function.

```
Pkg.build(; verbose = false, io::IO=stderr)
Pkg.build(pkg::Union{String, Vector{String}}; verbose = false, io::IO=stderr)
Pkg.build(pkgs::Union{PackageSpec, Vector{PackageSpec}}; verbose = false, io::IO=stderr)
```

Run the build script in deps/build.jl for pkg and all of its dependencies in depth-first recursive order. If no argument is given to build, the current project is built, which thus needs to be a package. This function is called automatically on any package that gets installed for the first time. verbose = true prints the build output to stdout/stderr instead of redirecting to the build.log file.

[source](#)

Pkg.pin – Function.

```
Pkg.pin(pkg::Union{String, Vector{String}}; io::IO=stderr, all_pkgs::Bool=false)
Pkg.pin(pkgs::Union{PackageSpec, Vector{PackageSpec}}; io::IO=stderr, all_pkgs::Bool=false)
```

Pin a package to the current version (or the one given in the PackageSpec) or to a certain git revision. A pinned package is never automatically updated: if pkg is tracking a path, or a repository, those remain tracked but will not update. To get updates from the origin path or remote repository the package must first be freed.

#### Julia 1.7

The all\_pkgs kwarg was introduced in julia 1.7.

#### Examples

```
Pkg.pin("Example")
Pkg.pin(name="Example", version="0.3.1")
Pkg.pin(all_pkgs = true)
```

[source](#)

Pkg.free – Function.

```
Pkg.free(pkg::Union{String, Vector{String}}; io::IO=stderr, all_pkgs::Bool=false)
Pkg.free(pkgs::Union{PackageSpec, Vector{PackageSpec}}; io::IO=stderr, all_pkgs::Bool=false)
```

If pkg is pinned, remove the pin. If pkg is tracking a path, e.g. after [Pkg.develop](#), go back to tracking registered versions. To free all dependencies set all\_pkgs=true.

**Julia 1.7**

The `all_pkgs` kwarg was introduced in julia 1.7.

**Examples**

```
Pkg.free("Package")
Pkg.free(all_pkgs = true)
```

[source](#)

`Pkg.instantiate` – Function.

```
Pkg.instantiate(; verbose = false, io::IO=stderr)
```

If a `Manifest.toml` file exists in the active project, download all the packages declared in that manifest. Otherwise, resolve a set of feasible packages from the `Project.toml` files and install them. `verbose = true` prints the build output to `stdout/stderr` instead of redirecting to the `build.log` file. If no `Project.toml` exist in the current active project, create one with all the dependencies in the manifest and instantiate the resulting project.

After packages have been installed the project will be precompiled. See more at [Environment Precompilation](#).

[source](#)

`Pkg.resolve` – Function.

```
Pkg.resolve(; io::IO=stderr)
```

Update the current manifest with potential changes to the dependency graph from packages that are tracking a path.

[source](#)

`Pkg.gc` – Function.

```
Pkg.gc(; collect_delay::Period=Day(7), io::IO=stderr)
```

Garbage-collect package and artifact installations by sweeping over all known `Manifest.toml` and `Artifacts.toml` files, noting those that have been deleted, and then finding artifacts and packages that are thereafter not used by any other projects, marking them as "orphaned". This method will only remove orphaned objects (package versions, artifacts, and scratch spaces) that have been continually un-used for a period of `collect_delay`; which defaults to seven days.

[source](#)

`Pkg.status` – Function.

```
Pkg.status([pkgs...]; outdated::Bool=false, mode::PackageMode=PKGMODE_PROJECT, diff::Bool=false,
    ↵ compat::Bool=false, extensions::Bool=false, io::IO=stdout)
```

Print out the status of the project/manifest.

Packages marked with `^` have new versions that can be installed, e.g. via [Pkg.update](#). Those marked with `π` have new versions available, but cannot be installed due to compatibility conflicts with other packages. To see why, set the keyword argument `outdated=true`.

Setting `outdated=true` will only show packages that are not on the latest version, their maximum version and why they are not on the latest version (either due to other packages holding them back due to compatibility constraints, or due to compatibility in the project file). As an example, a status output like:

```
pkg> Pkg.status(; outdated=true)
Status `Manifest.toml`
^ [a8cc5b0e] Crayons v2.0.0 [<v3.0.0], (<v4.0.4)
π [b8a86587] NearestNeighbors v0.4.8 (<v0.4.9) [compat]
π [2ab3a3ac] LogExpFunctions v0.2.5 (<v0.3.0): SpecialFunctions
```

means that the latest version of Crayons is 4.0.4 but the latest version compatible with the `[compat]` section in the current project is 3.0.0. The latest version of NearestNeighbors is 0.4.9 but due to `compat` constraints in the project it is held back to 0.4.8. The latest version of LogExpFunctions is 0.3.0 but `SpecialFunctions` is holding it back to 0.2.5.

If `mode` is `PKGMODE_PROJECT`, print out status only about the packages that are in the project (explicitly added). If `mode` is `PKGMODE_MANIFEST`, print status also about those in the manifest (recursive dependencies). If there are any packages listed as arguments, the output will be limited to those packages.

Setting `ext=true` will show dependencies with extensions and what extension dependencies of those that are currently loaded.

Setting `diff=true` will, if the environment is in a git repository, limit the output to the difference as compared to the last git commit.

See [Pkg.project](#) and [Pkg.dependencies](#) to get the project/manifest status as a Julia object instead of printing it.

### Julia 1.8

The `^` and `π` indicators were added in Julia 1.8. The `outdated` keyword argument requires at least Julia 1.8.

[source](#)

`Pkg.compat` – Function.

```
Pkg.compat()
```

Interactively edit the `[compat]` entries within the current Project.

```
Pkg.compat(pkg::String, compat::String)
```

Set the [compat] string for the given package within the current Project.

See [Compatibility](#) for more information on the project [compat] section.

[source](#)

Pkg.compile - Function.

```
Pkg.compile(; strict::Bool=false, timing::Bool=false)
Pkg.compile(pkg; strict::Bool=false, timing::Bool=false)
Pkg.compile(pkgs; strict::Bool=false, timing::Bool=false)
```

Precompile all or specific dependencies of the project in parallel.

Set timing=true to show the duration of the precompilation of each dependency.

#### Note

Errors will only throw when precompiling the top-level dependencies, given that not all manifest dependencies may be loaded by the top-level dependencies on the given system. This can be overridden to make errors in all dependencies throw by setting the kwarg strict to true

#### Note

This method is called automatically after any Pkg action that changes the manifest. Any packages that have previously errored during precompilation won't be retried in auto mode until they have changed. To disable automatic precompilation set ENV["JULIA\_PKG\_PRECOMPILE\_AUTO"]=0. To manually control the number of tasks used set ENV["JULIA\_NUM\_PRECOMPILE\_TASKS"].

#### Julia 1.8

Specifying packages to precompile requires at least Julia 1.8.

#### Julia 1.9

Timing mode requires at least Julia 1.9.

#### Examples

```
Pkg.compile()
Pkg.compile("Foo")
Pkg.compile(["Foo", "Bar"])
```

[source](#)

Pkg.offline - Function.

```
Pkg.offline(b::Bool=true)
```

Enable (b=true) or disable (b=false) offline mode.

In offline mode Pkg tries to do as much as possible without connecting to internet. For example, when adding a package Pkg only considers versions that are already downloaded in version resolution.

To work in offline mode across Julia sessions you can set the environment variable JULIA\_PKG\_OFFLINE to "true".

[source](#)

Pkg.why – Function.

```
Pkg.why(pkg::Union{String, Vector{String}})  
Pkg.why(pkg::Union{PackageSpec, Vector{PackageSpec}})
```

Show the reason why this package is in the manifest. The output is all the different ways to reach the package through the dependency graph starting from the dependencies.

**Julia 1.9**

This function requires at least Julia 1.9.

[source](#)

Pkg.dependencies – Function.

```
Pkg.dependencies()::Dict{UUID, PackageInfo}
```

This feature is considered experimental.

Query the dependency graph of the active project. The result is a Dict that maps a package UUID to a PackageInfo struct representing the dependency (a package).

#### PackageInfo fields

[source](#)

Pkg.respect\_sysimage\_versions – Function.

```
Pkg.respect_sysimage_versions(b::Bool=true)
```

Enable (b=true) or disable (b=false) respecting versions that are in the sysimage (enabled by default).

If this option is enabled, Pkg will only install packages that have been put into the sysimage (e.g. via PackageCompiler) at the version of the package in the sysimage. Also, trying to add a package at a URL or develop a package that is in the sysimage will error.

[source](#)

Field	Description
name	The name of the package
version	The version of the package (this is Nothing for stdlibs)
tree_hash	A file hash of the package directory tree
is_direct_dep	The package is a direct dependency
is_pinned	Whether a package is pinned
is_tracking_path	Whether a package is tracking a path
is_tracking_repo	Whether a package is tracking a repository
is_tracking_registry	Whether a package is being tracked by registry i.e. not by path nor by repository
git_revision	The git revision when tracking by repository
git_source	The git source when tracking by repository
source	The directory containing the source code for that package
dependencies	The dependencies of that package as a vector of UUIDs

Pkg.project - Function.

```
Pkg.project()::ProjectInfo
```

This feature is considered experimental.

Request a ProjectInfo struct which contains information about the active project.

#### ProjectInfo fields

Field	Description
name	The project's name
uuid	The project's UUID
version	The project's version
ispackage	Whether the project is a package (has a name and uuid)
dependen- cies	The project's direct dependencies as a Dict which maps dependency name to dependency UUID
path	The location of the project file which defines the active project

`source`

Pkg.undo - Function.

```
undo()
```

Undoes the latest change to the active project. Only states in the current session are stored, up to a maximum of 50 states.

See also: [redo](#).

`source`

Pkg.redo - Function.

```
redo()
```

Redoes the changes from the latest [undo](#).

[source](#)

Pkg.setprotocol! - Function.

```
setprotocol!();
    domain::AbstractString = "github.com",
    protocol::Union{Nothing, AbstractString}=nothing
)
```

Set the protocol used to access hosted packages when adding a url or developing a package. Defaults to delegating the choice to the package developer (protocol === nothing). Other choices for protocol are "https" or "git".

### Examples

```
julia> Pkg.setprotocol!(domain = "github.com", protocol = "ssh")
julia> Pkg.setprotocol!(domain = "gitlab.mycompany.com")
```

[source](#)

Pkg.PackageSpec - Type.

```
PackageSpec(name::String, [uuid::UUID, version::VersionNumber])
PackageSpec(; name, url, path, subdir, rev, version, mode, level)
```

A PackageSpec is a representation of a package with various metadata. This includes:

- The name of the package.
- The package's unique uuid.
- A version (for example when adding a package). When upgrading, can also be an instance of the enum [UpgradeLevel](#). If the version is given as a String this means that unspecified versions are "free", for example version="0.5" allows any version 0.5.x to be installed. If given as a VersionNumber, the exact version is used, for example version=v"0.5.3".
- A url and an optional git revision. rev can be a branch name or a git commit SHA1.
- A local path. This is equivalent to using the url argument but can be more descriptive.
- A subdir which can be used when adding a package that is not in the root of a repository.

Most functions in Pkg take a Vector of PackageSpec and do the operation on all the packages in the vector.

Many functions that take a PackageSpec or a Vector{PackageSpec} can be called with a more concise notation with NamedTuples. For example, Pkg.add can be called either as the explicit or concise versions as:

Below is a comparison between the REPL mode and the functional API:

[source](#)

Explicit	Concise
Pkg.add(PackageSpec(name="Package")) Pkg.add(PackageSpec(url="www.myhost.com/MyPkg"))) Pkg.add([PackageSpec(name="Package"), PackageSpec(path="/MyPkg"])	Pkg.add(name = "Package") Pkg.add(url="www.myhost.com/MyPkg") Pkg.add([(;name="Package"), (;path="/MyPkg")])
REPL	API
Package	PackageSpec("Package")
Package@0.2	PackageSpec(name="Package", version="0.2")
-	PackageSpec(name="Package", version=v"0.2.1")
Package=a67d...	PackageSpec(name="Package", uuid="a67d...")
Package#master	PackageSpec(name="Package", rev="master")
local/path#feature	PackageSpec(path="local/path"; rev="feature")
www.mypkg.com	PackageSpec(url="www.mypkg.com")
--major Package	PackageSpec(name="Package", version=UPLEVEL_MAJOR)

Pkg.PackageMode – Type.

#### PackageMode

An enum with the instances

- PKGMODE\_MANIFEST
- PKGMODE\_PROJECT

Determines if operations should be made on a project or manifest level. Used as an argument to [Pkg.rm](#), [Pkg.update](#) and [Pkg.status](#).

[source](#)

Pkg.UpgradeLevel – Type.

#### UpgradeLevel

An enum with the instances

- UPLEVEL\_FIXED
- UPLEVEL\_PATCH
- UPLEVEL\_MINOR
- UPLEVEL\_MAJOR

Determines how much a package is allowed to be updated. Used as an argument to [PackageSpec](#) or as an argument to [Pkg.update](#).

[source](#)

## Chapter 49

# Registry API Reference

The functional API for registries uses [RegistrySpecs](#), similar to [PackageSpec](#).

Pkg.RegistrySpec - Type.

```
RegistrySpec(name::String)
RegistrySpec(; name, uuid, url, path)
```

A RegistrySpec is a representation of a registry with various metadata, much like [PackageSpec](#). This includes:

- The name of the registry.
- The registry's unique uuid.
- The url to the registry.
- A local path.

Most registry functions in Pkg take a Vector of RegistrySpec and do the operation on all the registries in the vector.

Many functions that take a RegistrySpec can be called with a more concise notation with keyword arguments. For example, Pkg.Registry.add can be called either as the explicit or concise versions as:

Explicit	Concise
Pkg.Registry.add(RegistrySpec(name="General"))	Pkg.Registry.add(name = "General")
Pkg.Registry.add(RegistrySpec(url="https://github.com/JuliaRegistries/General.git"))	Pkg.Registry.add(uuid="General") "https://github.com/JuliaRegistries/General.git")

Below is a comparison between the REPL mode and the functional API::

REPL	API
MyRegistry	RegistrySpec("MyRegistry")
MyRegistry=a67d...	RegistrySpec(name="MyRegistry", uuid="a67d...")
local/path	RegistrySpec(path="local/path")
www.myregistry.com	RegistrySpec(url="www.myregistry.com")

[source](#)

Pkg.Registry.add – Function.

```
Pkg.Registry.add(registry::RegistrySpec)
```

Add new package registries.

The no-argument Pkg.Registry.add() will install the default registries.

### Examples

```
Pkg.Registry.add("General")
Pkg.Registry.add(uuid = "23338594-aafe-5451-b93e-139f81909106")
Pkg.Registry.add(url = "https://github.com/JuliaRegistries/General.git")
```

[source](#)

Pkg.Registry.rm – Function.

```
Pkg.Registry.rm(registry::String)
Pkg.Registry.rm(registry::RegistrySpec)
```

Remove registries.

### Examples

```
Pkg.Registry.rm("General")
Pkg.Registry.rm(uuid = "23338594-aafe-5451-b93e-139f81909106")
```

[source](#)

Pkg.Registry.update – Function.

```
Pkg.Registry.update()
Pkg.Registry.update(registry::RegistrySpec)
Pkg.Registry.update(registry::Vector{RegistrySpec})
```

Update registries. If no registries are given, update all available registries.

### Examples

```
Pkg.Registry.update()
Pkg.Registry.update("General")
Pkg.Registry.update(uuid = "23338594-aafe-5451-b93e-139f81909106")
```

[source](#)

Pkg.Registry.status – Function.

```
Pkg.Registry.status()
```

Display information about available registries.

### Examples

```
Pkg.Registry.status()
```

[source](#)

## Chapter 50

# Artifacts API Reference

Pkg.Artifacts.create\_artifact - Function.

```
create_artifact(f::Function)
```

Creates a new artifact by running `f(artifact_path)`, hashing the result, and moving it to the artifact store (`~/.julia/artifacts` on a typical installation). Returns the identifying tree hash of this artifact.

[source](#)

Pkg.Artifacts.remove\_artifact - Function.

```
remove_artifact(hash::SHA1; honor_overrides::Bool=false)
```

Removes the given artifact (identified by its SHA1 git tree hash) from disk. Note that if an artifact is installed in multiple depots, it will be removed from all of them. If an overridden artifact is requested for removal, it will be silently ignored; this method will never attempt to remove an overridden artifact.

In general, we recommend that you use `Pkg.gc()` to manage artifact installations and do not use `remove_artifact()` directly, as it can be difficult to know if an artifact is being used by another package.

[source](#)

Pkg.Artifacts.verify\_artifact - Function.

```
verify_artifact(hash::SHA1; honor_overrides::Bool=false)
```

Verifies that the given artifact (identified by its SHA1 git tree hash) is installed on-disk, and retains its integrity. If the given artifact is overridden, skips the verification unless `honor_overrides` is set to true.

[source](#)

Pkg.Artifacts.bind\_artifact! - Function.

```
bind_artifact!(artifacts_toml::String, name::String, hash::SHA1;
    platform)::Union{AbstractPlatform,Nothing} = nothing,
    download_info)::Union{Vector{Tuple},Nothing} = nothing,
    lazy)::Bool = false,
    force)::Bool = false)
```

Writes a mapping of name -> hash within the given (Julia)Artifacts.toml file. If platform is not nothing, this artifact is marked as platform-specific, and will be a multi-mapping. It is valid to bind multiple artifacts with the same name, but different platforms and hash'es within the same artifacts\_toml. If force is set to true, this will overwrite a pre-existent mapping, otherwise an error is raised.

download\_info is an optional vector that contains tuples of URLs and a hash. These URLs will be listed as possible locations where this artifact can be obtained. If lazy is set to true, even if download information is available, this artifact will not be downloaded until it is accessed via the artifact" name" syntax, or ensure\_artifact\_installed() is called upon it.

[source](#)

Pkg.Artifacts.unbind\_artifact! – Function.

```
unbind_artifact!(artifacts_toml::String, name::String; platform = nothing)
```

Unbind the given name from an (Julia)Artifacts.toml file. Silently fails if no such binding exists within the file.

[source](#)

Pkg.Artifacts.download\_artifact – Function.

```
download_artifact(tree_hash::SHA1, tarball_url::String, tarball_hash::String;
    verbose)::Bool = false, io::IO=stderr)
```

Download/install an artifact into the artifact store. Returns true on success, returns an error object on failure.

### Julia 1.8

As of Julia 1.8 this function returns the error object rather than false when failure occurs

[source](#)

Pkg.Artifacts.ensure\_artifact\_installed – Function.

```
ensure_artifact_installed(name::String, artifacts_toml::String;
    platform)::AbstractPlatform = HostPlatform(),
    pkg_uuid)::Union{Base.UUID,Nothing}=nothing,
    verbose)::Bool = false,
    quiet_download)::Bool = false,
    io::IO=stderr)
```

Ensures an artifact is installed, downloading it via the download information stored in `artifacts.toml` if necessary. Throws an error if unable to install.

[source](#)

`Pkg.Artifacts.ensure_all_artifacts_installed` – Function.

```
ensure_all_artifacts_installed(artifacts_toml::String;
                               platform = HostPlatform(),
                               pkg_uuid = nothing,
                               include_lazy = false,
                               verbose = false,
                               quiet_download = false,
                               io::IO=stderr)
```

Installs all non-lazy artifacts from a given (Julia)Artifacts.toml file. `package_uuid` must be provided to properly support overrides from Overrides.toml entries in depots.

If `include_lazy` is set to true, then lazy packages will be installed as well.

This function is deprecated and should be replaced with the following snippet:

```
artifacts = select_downloadable_artifacts(artifacts_toml; platform, include_lazy)
for name in keys(artifacts)
    ensure_artifact_installed(name, artifacts[name], artifacts_toml; platform=platform)
end
```

### Warning

This function is deprecated in Julia 1.6 and will be removed in a future version. Use `select_downloadable_artifacts()` and `ensure_artifact_installed()` instead.

[source](#)

`Pkg.Artifacts.archive_artifact` – Function.

```
archive_artifact(hash::SHA1, tarball_path::String; honor_overrides::Bool=false)
```

Archive an artifact into a tarball stored at `tarball_path`, returns the SHA256 of the resultant tarball as a hexadecimal string. Throws an error if the artifact does not exist. If the artifact is overridden, throws an error unless `honor_overrides` is set.

[source](#)