



16 Useful apt Command Examples for Ubuntu/Debian Linux

Aaron Kili | Last Updated: July 14, 2023 | Read Time: 4 mins | [Linux Commands](#) | [26 Comments](#)

One important thing to master under Linux System/Server Administration is package management using different [package management tools](#).

Different [Linux distributions](#) install applications in a pre-compiled package containing binary files, configuration files, and information about the application's dependencies.

Package management tools help System/Server Administrators in many ways such as:

- Downloading and installing software.
- Compile software from source.
- Keeping track of all software installed, updates, and upgrades.
- Handling dependencies.
- and also keeping other information about installed software and many more.

In this guide, we are going to look at the `apt` command examples, which are most commonly used in [Debian-based Linux distributions](#), such as Ubuntu, to manage software packages.

The `apt` is a command-line-based package management tool that offers more functionalities than the older [apt-get command](#) and [apt-cache command](#) into a single command.

The `apt` command is used to manage package installation, upgrades, and removal in Debian-based Linux distributions, such as Ubuntu, Linux Mint, and others.

1. Install Package in Ubuntu

To install a package named "[glances](#)", you would use the 'apt install' command which will install a package along with the needed dependencies.

```
$ sudo apt install glances
```

```
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt install glances
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
The following package was automatically installed and is no longer required:
  putty-tools
Use 'apt-get autoremove' to remove it.
Recommended packages:
  python-jinja2
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  glances
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 0 to remove and 230 not upgraded.
Need to get 0 B/509 kB of archives.
After this operation, 1,040 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Selecting previously unselected package glances.
(Reading database ... 234340 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../glances_1.7.3-2ubuntu1_all.deb ...
Unpacking glances (1.7.3-2ubuntu1) ...
Processing triggers for ureadahead (0.100.0-16) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.6.7.1-1ubuntu1) ...
Setting up glances (1.7.3-2ubuntu1) ...
* Starting Glances server glances
* Not starting glances: disabled by /etc/default/glances.
tecmint@tecmint ~ $
```

Install a Package in Ubuntu

2. View Installed Files From a Package

The following 'apt content' command will display a list of files and directories that are installed on your system as part of the specified package called glances.

```
$ sudo apt content glances
```

```
tecmin@tecmin ~ $ sudo apt content glances
./
/etc
/etc/default
/etc/default/glances
/etc/glances
/etc/glances/glances.conf
/etc/init.d
/etc/init.d/glances
/usr
/usr/bin
/usr/bin/glances
/usr/lib
/usr/lib/python2.7
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/glances
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/Glances-1.7.3.egg-info
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/Glances-1.7.3.egg-info/dependency_links.txt
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/Glances-1.7.3.egg-info/entry_points.txt
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/Glances-1.7.3.egg-info/PKG-INFO
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/Glances-1.7.3.egg-info/requires.txt
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/Glances-1.7.3.egg-info/top_level.txt
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/glances/data
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/glances/data/css
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/glances/data/css/default.css
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/glances/data/html
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/glances/data/html/base.html
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/glances/data/html/default.html
/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/glances/data/img
```

List of Installed Files From a Package

3. Check the Dependencies of a Package in Ubuntu

To view the dependencies of a package you can use the `apt depends` command, which displays a list of the dependencies of the specified package called `glances`.

```
$ sudo apt depends glances
```

```
tecmin@tecmin ~ $ sudo apt depends glances
glances
Depends: python-psutil
Depends: <python:any>
        python:i386
        python
Depends: <python:any>
        python:i386
        python
Depends: python
Depends: python-pkg-resources
Depends: adduser
Depends: lsb-base
Recommends: python-jinja2
tecmin@tecmin ~ $ |
```

Check Dependencies of Package

4. Search for a Package in Ubuntu

The apt search command is used to search for packages in the repositories available based on keywords in their names or descriptions.

For example, to search for packages related to the apache2 web server, you would use the following command:

```
$ sudo apt search apache2
```

```
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt search apache2
ih apache2 - Apache HTTP Server
p apache2:i386 - Apache HTTP Server
v apache2-api-20120211 -
v apache2-api-20120211:i386 -
i A apache2-bin - Apache HTTP Server (binary files and modul
p apache2-bin:i386 - Apache HTTP Server (binary files and modul
i A apache2-data - Apache HTTP Server (common files)
v apache2-data:i386 -
p apache2-dbg - Apache debugging symbols
p apache2-dbg:i386 - Apache debugging symbols
p apache2-dev - Apache HTTP Server (development headers)
p apache2-dev:i386 - Apache HTTP Server (development headers)
p apache2-doc - Apache HTTP Server (on-site documentation)
p apache2-mpm-event - transitional event MPM package for apache2
p apache2-mpm-event:i386 - transitional event MPM package for apache2
p apache2-mpm-itk - transitional itk MPM package for apache2
p apache2-mpm-itk:i386 - transitional itk MPM package for apache2
p apache2-mpm-prefork - transitional prefork MPM package for apach
p apache2-mpm-prefork:i386 - transitional prefork MPM package for apache
p apache2-mpm-worker - transitional worker MPM package for apache
p apache2-mpm-worker:i386 - transitional worker MPM package for apache
v apache2-prefork-dev -
v apache2-prefork-dev:i386 -
p apache2-suexec - transitional package for apache2-suexec-pr
p apache2-suexec:i386 - transitional package for apache2-suexec-pr
p apache2-suexec-custom - Apache HTTP Server configurable suexec pro
```

Search For a Package

Alternatively, you can also use the [apt-cache command](#) to search for a package in the system package cache based on a given search term such as name or description.

5. Show Information About a Package in Ubuntu

The apt show command is used to display detailed information about a specific package, which includes its version, size, description, dependencies, and other relevant details.

```
$ sudo apt show firefox
```

```
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt show firefox
Package: firefox
State: installed
Automatically installed: no
Version: 43.0+linuxmint1+rosa
Priority: optional
Section: web
Maintainer: Ubuntu Mozilla Team <ubuntu-mozillateam@lists.ubuntu.com>
Architecture: amd64
Uncompressed Size: 106 M
Depends: lsb-release, libasound2 (>= 1.0.16), libatk1.0-0 (>= 1.12.4), libc6 (>= 2.17), libcairo2 (>= 1.2.4), libdbus-1-3 (>= 1.0.2), libdbus-glib-1-2 (>= 0.78), libfontconfig1 (>= 2.9.0), libfreetype6 (>= 2.2.1), libgcc1 (>= 1:4.1.1), libgdk-pixbuf2.0-0 (>= 2.22.0), libglib2.0-0 (>= 2.31.8), libgtk2.0-0 (>= 2.24.0), libpango-1.0-0 (>= 1.22.0), libpangocairo-1.0-0 (>= 1.14.0), libstartup-notification0 (>= 0.8), libstdc++6 (>= 4.6), libx11-6, libxcomposite1 (>= 1:0.3-1), libxdamage1 (>= 1:1.1), libxext6, libxfixes3, libxrender1, libxt6
Recommends: xul-ext-ubufox, libcanberra0, libdbusmenu-glib4, libdbusmenu-gtk4
Suggests: ttf-lyx
Conflicts: firefox
Replaces: kubuntu-firefox-installer, kubuntu-firefox-installer
Provides: gnome-www-browser, iceweasel, www-browser
Description: Safe and easy web browser from Mozilla
 Firefox delivers safe, easy web browsing. A familiar user interface, enhanced security features including protection from online identity theft, and integrated search let you get the most out of the web.
```

Show Package Information

6. Check Package for Any Broken Dependencies

Sometimes during package installation, you may get errors concerning broken package dependencies, to check that you do not have these problems run the command below with the package name.

```
$ sudo apt check firefox
```

```
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt check firefox
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ |
```

Check Package for Broke Dependencies

7. List Missing Dependencies of Package

To view the recommended missing packages for the `apache2` package, you can use the `apt recommends` command as shown.

```
$ sudo apt recommends apache2
```

```
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt recommends apache2  
No missing recommended packages were found for apache2
```

View Missing Dependencies of Package

8. Check the Version of Installed Package on Ubuntu

The `apt version` command allows you to check the installed version and availability of a package in the repositories.

```
$ sudo apt version firefox
```

```
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt version firefox  
43.0+linuxmint1+rosa  
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt version apache2  
2.4.7-1ubuntu4.8  
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt version perl  
5.18.2-2ubuntu1  
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ |
```

Check Installed Package Version

9. Update All Packages On Ubuntu

The `apt update` command will help you to download a list of packages from different repositories included on your system and updates them when there are new versions of packages and their dependencies.

```
$ sudo apt update
```



```

tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt update
Hit http://download.virtualbox.org trusty InRelease
Hit http://download.virtualbox.org trusty/contrib amd64 Packages
Hit http://download.virtualbox.org trusty/contrib i386 Packages
Ign http://download.virtualbox.org trusty/contrib Translation-en_IN
Ign http://download.virtualbox.org trusty/contrib Translation-en
Ign http://dl.google.com stable InRelease
Hit http://dl.google.com stable Release.gpg
Hit http://dl.google.com stable Release
Hit http://dl.google.com stable/main amd64 Packages
Get:1 http://security.ubuntu.com trusty-security InRelease [65.9 kB]
Ign http://archive.ubuntu.com trusty InRelease
Hit http://ppa.launchpad.net trusty InRelease
Ign http://packages.linuxmint.com rosa InRelease
Ign http://extra.linuxmint.com rosa InRelease
Get:2 http://archive.ubuntu.com trusty-updates InRelease [65.9 kB]
Hit http://ppa.launchpad.net trusty InRelease
Hit http://packages.linuxmint.com rosa Release.gpg
Hit http://extra.linuxmint.com rosa Release.gpg
Hit http://ppa.launchpad.net trusty InRelease
Get:3 http://security.ubuntu.com trusty-security/main amd64 Packages [454 kB]

```

Update System Packages in Ubuntu

10. Upgrade Ubuntu System

The apt upgrade command is used to upgrade installed packages on a system to their latest available versions. It retrieves the latest package versions from the repositories and installs them, replacing any older versions that are currently installed.

```
$ sudo apt upgrade
```

```

tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt upgrade
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
Calculating upgrade... Done
The following package was automatically installed and is no longer required:
  libvncclient0
Use 'apt-get autoremove' to remove it.
The following packages have been kept back:
  apache2 apache2-bin apache2-data libdrm-dev libdrm-intel1 libdrm-intel1:i386
  libdrm-nouveau2 libdrm-nouveau2:i386 libdrm-radeon1 libdrm-radeon1:i386
  libdrm2 libdrm2:i386
The following packages will be upgraded:
  apache2-utils apt-transport-https apt-utils atril atril-common base-files
  bind9-host ca-certificates caja caja-common coreutils cpio cpp-4.8 curl
  dnsutils ecryptfs-utils eom eom-common ffmpeg firefox firefox-locale-en
  flashplugin-installer g++-4.8 gcc-4.8 gcc-4.8-base gcc-4.8-base:i386
  gcc-4.9-base gcc-4.9-base:i386 gir1.2-caja gir1.2-gtk-2.0 gir1.2-ibus-1.0
  gir1.2-javascriptcoregtk-3.0 gir1.2-mate-panel gir1.2-webkit-3.0 git-man
  glib-networking glib-networking:i386 glib-networking-common
  glib-networking-services google-chrome-stable gtk2-engines-pixbuf
  gtk2-engines-pixbuf:i386 hexchat hexchat-common ibus-gtk:i386 ifupdown

```

Upgrade Ubuntu System

11. Remove Unused Packages in Ubuntu

The apt autoremove command is used to remove packages that were automatically installed as dependencies but are no longer needed by any other package on your system.

These packages may have been installed in the past to satisfy the dependencies of other packages, but if those dependencies are no longer present, the packages become unnecessary.

```
$ sudo apt autoremove
```

```
tecmin@tecmin ~ $ sudo apt autoremove
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 229 not upgraded.
tecmin@tecmin ~ $
```

Remove Unwanted Packages in Ubuntu

12. Clear Apt Cache in Ubuntu

The apt autoclean or apt clean command is used to clean up the local repository cache by removing old package files that are no longer needed.

```
$ sudo apt autoclean
or
$ sudo apt clean
```

```
tecmin@tecmin ~ $ sudo apt autoclean
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
tecmin@tecmin ~ $ sudo apt clean
tecmin@tecmin ~ $
```

Clean Package Repository

13. Completely Remove a Package in Ubuntu

When you run apt with remove, it only removes the package files but configuration files remain on the system. Therefore, you will have to use purge to remove a package and its configuration files.

```
$ sudo apt purge glances
```

```
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt purge glances
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
The following packages will be REMOVED:
  glances*
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 1 to remove and 229 not upgraded.
After this operation, 1,040 kB disk space will be freed.
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] y
(Reading database ... 234394 files and directories currently installed.)
Removing glances (1.7.3-2ubuntu1) ...
 * Stopping Glances server glances
 * PID file not found
Purging configuration files for glances (1.7.3-2ubuntu1) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.6.7.1-1ubuntu1) ...
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ |
```

Remove Package with Configuration Files

14. Install Deb Package in Ubuntu

To [install a .deb package](#) file, run the command below with the filename as an argument as follows:

```
$ sudo apt deb atom-amd64.deb
```

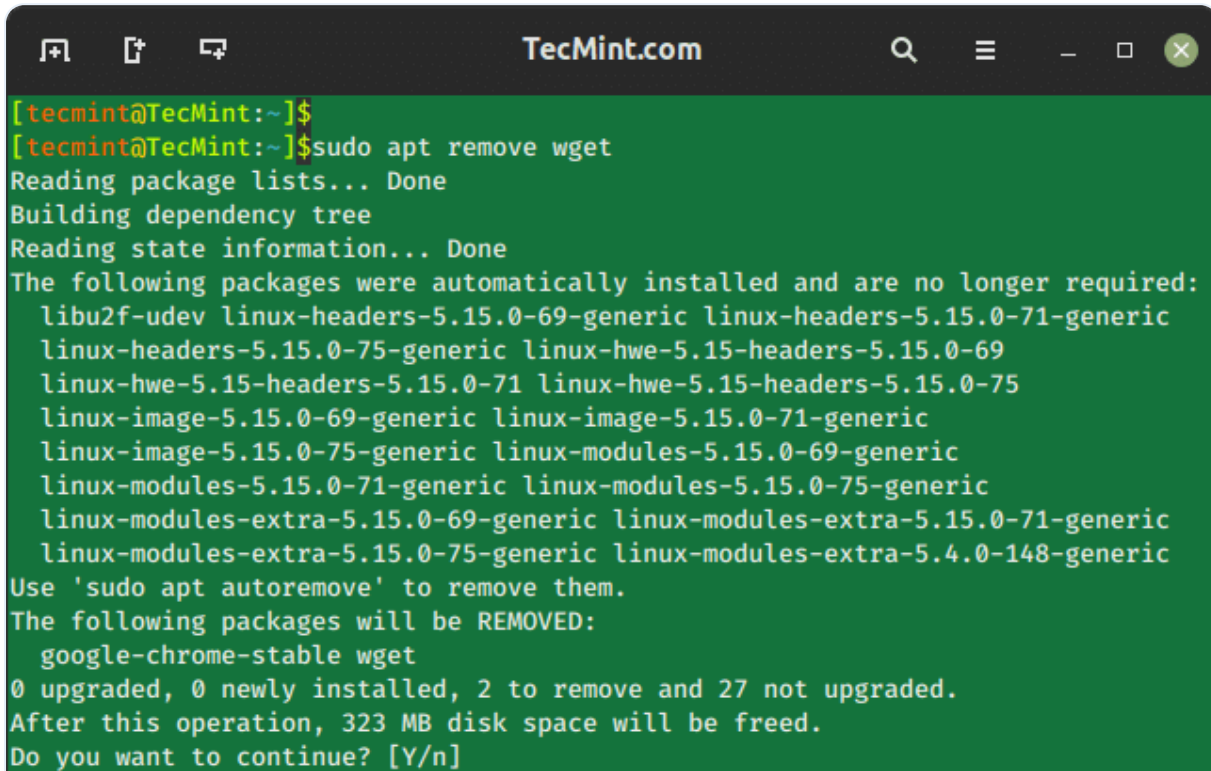
```
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ sudo apt deb atom-amd64.deb
Selecting previously unselected package atom.
(Reading database ... 234336 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack atom-amd64.deb ...
Unpacking atom (1.6.2) ...
Setting up atom (1.6.2) ...
Processing triggers for mime-support (3.54ubuntu1.1) ...
Processing triggers for desktop-file-utils (0.22-1ubuntu1) ...
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ |
```

Install Deb Package in Ubuntu

15. Uninstall Packages in Ubuntu

The apt remove command is used to uninstall or remove a specific package from your system.

```
$ sudo apt remove wget
```



```
[tecmint@TecMint:~]$  
[tecmint@TecMint:~]$sudo apt remove wget  
Reading package lists... Done  
Building dependency tree  
Reading state information... Done  
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:  
  libu2f-udev linux-headers-5.15.0-69-generic linux-headers-5.15.0-71-generic  
  linux-headers-5.15.0-75-generic linux-hwe-5.15-headers-5.15.0-69  
  linux-hwe-5.15-headers-5.15.0-71 linux-hwe-5.15-headers-5.15.0-75  
  linux-image-5.15.0-69-generic linux-image-5.15.0-71-generic  
  linux-image-5.15.0-75-generic linux-modules-5.15.0-69-generic  
  linux-modules-5.15.0-71-generic linux-modules-5.15.0-75-generic  
  linux-modules-extra-5.15.0-69-generic linux-modules-extra-5.15.0-71-generic  
  linux-modules-extra-5.15.0-75-generic linux-modules-extra-5.4.0-148-generic  
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.  
The following packages will be REMOVED:  
  google-chrome-stable wget  
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 2 to remove and 27 not upgraded.  
After this operation, 323 MB disk space will be freed.  
Do you want to continue? [Y/n]
```

Remove a Package in Ubuntu

16. APT Command Help

The apt help command provides a built-in help system that can provide information on how to use various apt commands and their options.

```
$ apt help
```

```
tecmint@tecmint ~ $ apt help
apt
Usage: apt command [options]
       apt help command [options]

Commands:
add-repository - Add entries to apt sources.list
autoclean      - Erase old downloaded archive files
autoremove    - Remove automatically all unused packages
build         - Build binary or source packages from sources
build-dep     - Configure build-dependencies for source packages
changelog     - View a package's changelog
check         - Verify that there are no broken dependencies
clean         - Erase downloaded archive files
contains      - List packages containing a file
content       - List files contained in a package
deb           - Install a .deb package
depends        - Show raw dependency information for a package
dist-upgrade  - Perform an upgrade, possibly installing and removing packages
download      - Download the .deb file for a package
dselect-upgrade - Follow dselect selections
held          - List all held packages
help          - Show help for a command
hold          - Hold a package
install       - Install/upgrade packages
policy        - Show policy settings
purge         - Remove packages and their configuration files
recommends    - List missing recommended packages for a particular package
rdepends       - Show reverse dependency information for a package
reinstall     - Download and (possibly) reinstall a currently installed package
remove        - Remove packages
search        - Search for a package by name and/or expression
show          - Display detailed information about a package
source        - Download source archives
sources       - Edit /etc/apt/sources.list with nano
unhold        - Unhold a package
update        - Download lists of new/upgradable packages
upgrade       - Perform a safe upgrade
version       - Show the installed version of a package
               This apt has Super Cow Powers

tecmint@tecmint ~ $ |
```

APT Command Help

Summary

Remember that good [Linux package management](#) can help you avoid breaking your system. There are so many other [package management tools](#) that you can use in Linux.

You can share with us what you use and your experience with it. I hope the article is helpful and for any additional information, leave a comment in the comment section.

Hey TecMint readers,

Exciting news! Every month, our top blog commenters will have the chance to win fantastic rewards, like free Linux eBooks such as RHCE, RHCSA, LFCS, Learn Linux, and Awk, each worth \$20!

Learn [more about the contest](#) and stand a chance to win by [sharing your thoughts below!](#)



PREVIOUS ARTICLE:

24 Funniest Commands to Try in the Linux Terminal

NEXT ARTICLE:

6 Useful apt-cache Command Examples for Ubuntu



Aaron Kili

Aaron Kili is a Linux and F.O.S.S enthusiast, an upcoming Linux SysAdmin, web developer, and currently a content creator for TecMint who loves working with computers and strongly believes in sharing knowledge.

Each tutorial at TecMint is created by a team of experienced Linux system administrators so that it meets our high-quality standards.

Join the [TecMint Weekly Newsletter](#) (More Than 156,129 Linux Enthusiasts Have Subscribed)

Was this article helpful? Please [add a comment](#) or [buy me a coffee](#) to show your appreciation.

Related Posts


```
tecmint@tecmint ~/testing $ find . -type f \( -name "*.txt" -o -  
name "*.sh" -o -name "*.c" \)  
./emails.txt  
./script-1.sh  
./header.c  
./examples.txt  
./script.sh  
./expenses.txt
```

Find Multiple Filenames (File Extensions) Using 'find' Command in Linux

How to Search Files by Name or Extension Using find Command



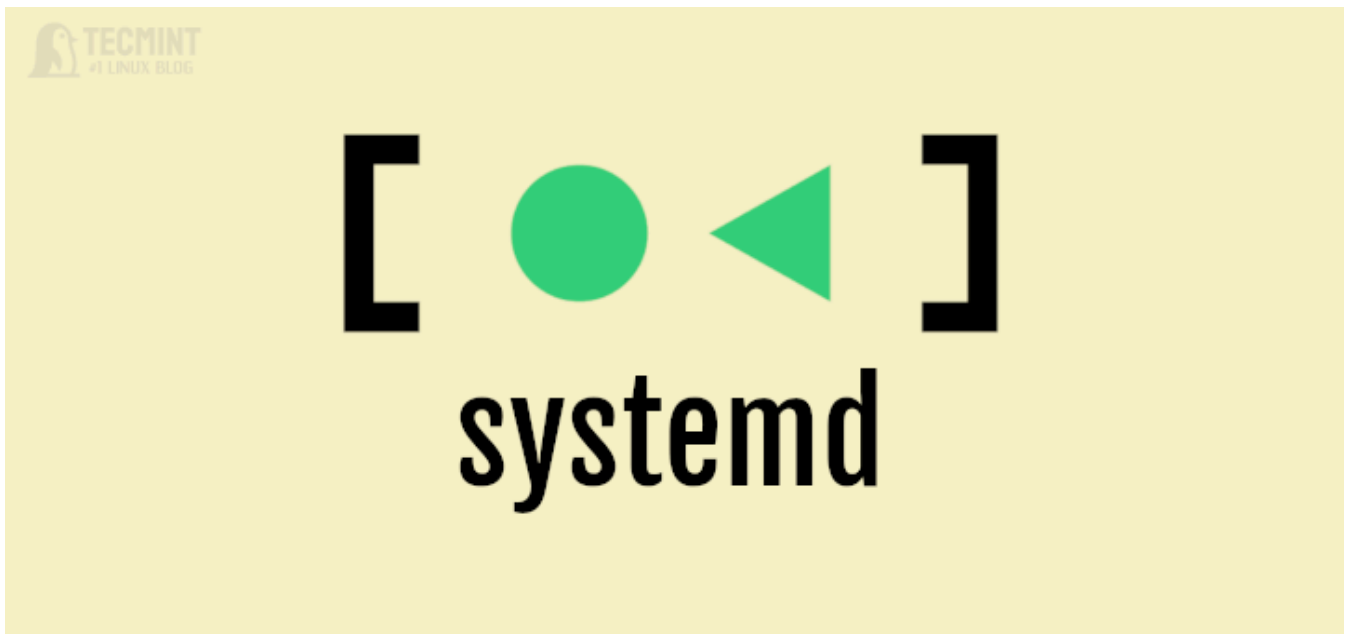
10 Lesser Known Linux Commands – Part 2



11 Lesser Known Useful Linux Commands



26 Security Hardening Tips for Modern Linux Servers



How to Remove Systemd Services on Linux

```
TecMint.com
ravi@TecMint:~/glibc-2.39/build$
ravi@TecMint:~/glibc-2.39/build$ ../configure --prefix=/usr/local/glibc-2.39
checking build system type... x86_64-pc-linux-gnu
checking host system type... x86_64-pc-linux-gnu
checking for gcc... gcc
checking for suffix of object files... o
checking whether the compiler supports GNU C... yes
checking whether gcc accepts -g... yes
checking for gcc option to enable C11 features... none needed
checking for g++... g++
checking whether the compiler supports GNU C++... yes
checking whether g++ accepts -g... yes
checking for g++ option to enable C++11 features... none needed
checking whether g++ can link programs... yes
checking for sysdeps preconfigure fragments... aarch64 alpha arc arm csky hppa i386 loong
arch m68k microblaze checking for grep that handles long lines and -e... /usr/bin/grep
checking for egrep... /usr/bin/grep -E
mips nios2 orlk powerpc riscv s390 sh checking for grep that handles long lines and -e...
(cached) /usr/bin/grep
```

How to Install and Run Multiple glibc Libraries in Linux

 **26 Comments**

[Leave a Reply](#)

EFTHYMIOS TSOUTSOURIS

May 18, 2021 at 11:34 pm

Hi,

I have a problem with my Debian Installation:

```
...@localhost's password:
```

I can't write anything after the password:

The cursor stays still and I can not write

Please can you help me?

[Reply](#)

dragonmouth

August 27, 2021 at 6:24 pm

That is how it should be. That is a security feature. Anybody looking over your shoulder will not be able to tell how many characters are in your password. The system IS keeping track of the characters you type.

Type in your password and then hit ENTER. You will be allowed into the system.

[Reply](#)



Knighthawk5193

August 30, 2021 at 3:21 pm

You gotta love these "security measures" eh?...

[Reply](#)**dragonmouth**

September 1, 2021 at 6:17 pm

Actually, I do. This is one of the more logical ones. It is more sensible than many distro developers “protecting users from themselves” by disallowing explicit root login.

[Reply](#)**pbear**

October 26, 2017 at 10:12 am

apt for Ubuntu is different from apt for Mint.

Former: <http://manpages.ubuntu.com/manpages/zesty/man8/apt.8.html>

Latter: <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/apt-wrapper/1.11>

[Reply](#)**Aaron Kili**

October 26, 2017 at 10:39 am

@pbear

That's correct, there are a number of variations in apt for Ubuntu, and for Mint.

[Reply](#)**Ferdinand Thommes**

December 4, 2016 at 2:49 pm

Most of the options in this howto neither work in debian sid (apt 1.4~beta1) or in a fully upgraded Ubuntu 16.10. (apt 1.3.1). And that has nothing to do with apt vs. apt-get. Could the author please point to any sources for commands like 'apt deb', 'apt-check' or 'apt version' or 'apt content'?

[Reply](#)**Aaron Kili**

December 5, 2016 at 1:20 pm

@Ferdinand

It is actually true that many of the apt options above do not work on Debian or Ubuntu. However, on Linux Mint they look to be working so well, that is the source of the options you see in this How-To, you can test that yourself.

[Reply](#)**Ferdinand Thommes**

December 5, 2016 at 2:10 pm

Well, not a big fan of Ubuntu and of Mint here. I just thought, that your headline was a bit off, after trying these commands in Debian. Then someone told me they don't work in Ubuntu 16.04 either. So I threw 16.10 into a Vbox and ...no dice.

[Reply](#)**dragonmouth**

September 7, 2018 at 9:12 pm

If the article is based on Linux Mint, say so in the title. Do not suggest that all the commands work in Debian/Ubuntu which they obviously do not.

[Reply](#)**Foo Bar**

December 1, 2016 at 7:48 pm

not available on 16.04, using latest available apt

apt

apt 1.2.15 (amd64)

Usage: apt [options] command

Most used commands:

list – list packages based on package names

search – search in package descriptions

show – show package details

install – install packages

remove – remove packages

autoremove – Remove automatically all unused packages

update – update list of available packages

upgrade – upgrade the system by installing/upgrading packages

full-upgrade – upgrade the system by removing/installing/upgrading packages

edit-sources – edit the source information file

See `apt(8)` for more information about the available commands.

```
# apt content bash
```

```
E: Invalid operation content
```

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili

December 5, 2016 at 1:11 pm

@For

Am running Linux Mint 18 which has Ubuntu 16.04 as its core, and `apt content bash` seems to be working fine. `apt` on Linux Mint is perhaps different from the one on Debian, Ubuntu and its derivatives. This could be the reason why you are getting the error.

[Reply](#)

Eddie G.

November 30, 2016 at 11:30 am

Some of these commands didn't work on my Ubuntu 16.04 system. I checked to make sure "`apt`" was installed and it shows as being here, but "`version`" / "`check`" / and a few others didn't work.

Kept getting the error that "`version`" is an "invalid operation" the same with "`check`". So I guess for now? I'll stick to `apt-get` and leave this stuff alone until they get it working properly.

No sense in breaking my skull trying to get this to work when it seems to have some glitches in it. (Sigh.....when will they learn to stop trying to "improve" things

that are fine as they are?...)

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili

November 30, 2016 at 3:38 pm

@Eddie G

Thanks for offering us your experience and thoughts concerning `apt` tool. It surely realistic to stick with `apt-get` that has been tested and works very well on Debian and all its derivatives.

[Reply](#)

airdrik

November 30, 2016 at 1:04 am

“`apt update`” doesn’t install any updated packages (even for system/critical updates), it only downloads the updated list of packages.

The system itself may have a mechanism for regularly applying critical updates regularly, but you would do that using the “`apt upgrade`” command.

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili

November 30, 2016 at 3:31 pm

@airdrik

Yap, that is so correct. `apt update` simply downloads an updated package sources list as you have clearly mentioned. We shall update the article to mention this.

[Reply](#)

spoovy

October 16, 2016 at 2:19 am

The Linux Mint command '`apt`' is completely different from the one Debian uses — written by different people at different time. The older Mint version has recently been made to mimic the newer Debian version, but it has many more functions unique to it, like '`version`' and '`check`'. I'd imagine Ubuntu uses the Debian one but I don't know for certain.

[Reply](#)

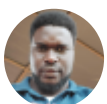


Aaron Kili

November 30, 2016 at 3:43 pm

Many thanks for informing us of the difference between `apt` on Debian and some of its derivatives. Perhaps the developers will look into this issue with great concern to improve user experience.

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili K

June 29, 2016 at 3:45 am

@ALJI Mohamed

Try to check the manual entry for apt, some options may not be given in the help info or pages.

[Reply](#)

marian

April 22, 2016 at 12:05 pm

i tried to use two of the options in this tutorial and i get the following errors

apt content glances

E: Invalid operation content

apt deb google-chrome-stable_current_amd64.deb

E: Invalid operation deb

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili K

April 22, 2016 at 12:31 pm

It should work just fine, try to run apt get without any options, you should see all the options available that you can use including content and deb.

If it still does not work, try installing it:

```
sudo apt-get install apt
```

[Reply](#)**nda888**

May 27, 2016 at 1:42 pm

i tried , but still same issue with marian

which os ubuntu you're using to excute above option "content,deb,get"

[Reply](#)**Aaron Kili K**

June 2, 2016 at 4:31 pm

I used Linux Mint and Ubuntu.

[Reply](#)**ALJI Mohamed**

June 25, 2016 at 9:53 pm

I am using Ubuntu 16.xx LTS, with APT 1.2.12 , it seems that some options are not there, such as : deb content and get , any idea why ?

svmtracking

April 19, 2016 at 11:40 pm

Like this one. Crystal-clear.

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili K

April 22, 2016 at 12:26 pm

@svmtracking

Thanks for liking it, just keep connected to TecMint.com to get the best.

[Reply](#)

Got Something to Say? Join the Discussion...

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us. We appreciate your decision to leave a comment and value your contribution to the discussion. It's important to note that we moderate all comments in accordance with our [comment policy](#) to ensure a respectful and constructive conversation.

Rest assured that your email address will remain private and will not be published or shared with anyone. We prioritize the privacy and security of our users.

☐ Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment.

Post Comment

Do You Enjoy My Blog?

Support from readers like YOU keeps this blog running. Buying me a cup of coffee is a simple and affordable way to show your appreciation and help keep the posts coming!

Buy Me a Coffee

Linux Commands and Tools

[Linux rmdir Command Examples for Beginners](#)

[How to Make File and Directory Undeletable, Even By Root in Linux](#)

[How to Rename File While Downloading with Wget in Linux](#)

[Ways to Use 'find' Command to Search Directories More Efficiently](#)

[How to Convert CSV File to TSV File in Linux](#)

[5 Ways to Empty or Delete a Large File Content in Linux](#)

Linux Server Monitoring Tools

[All You Need To Know About Processes in Linux \[Comprehensive Guide\]](#)

[20 Best Linux Bandwidth Monitoring Tools for Network Analysis](#)

[How to Monitor Ubuntu Performance Using Netdata](#)

[Limit CPU Usage of a Process in Linux with CPULimit Tool](#)

[How to Install Tripwire IDS \(Intrusion Detection System\) on Linux](#)

[How to Monitor Linux Server Security with Osquery](#)

Learn Linux Tricks & Tips

[Ternimal – Show Animated Lifeform in Your Linux Terminal](#)

[How to Convert Files to UTF-8 Encoding in Linux](#)

[Powerline – Adds Statuslines and Prompts to Vim and Bash Shell](#)

[How to Monitor Progress of \(Copy/Backup/Compress\) Data using 'pv' Command](#)

[How to Check Timezone in Linux](#)

[Mhddfs – Combine Several Smaller Partition into One Large Virtual Storage](#)

Best Linux Tools

[5 Best PDF to Word Converters for Linux](#)

[11 Best Screen Recorders For Linux in 2024](#)

[11 Best Open Source Note-Taking Apps for Linux](#)

[8 Best Open Source Web Servers in 2024](#)

[9 Best Free UPnP and DLNA Servers for Linux in 2024](#)

[11 Best IP Address Management Tools for Linux Network](#)

Tecmint: Linux Howtos, Tutorials & Guides © 2024. All Rights Reserved.

The material in this site cannot be republished either online or offline, without our permission.

Hosting Sponsored by : [Linode Cloud Hosting](#)