Gentoo cheat sheet

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Jonas Stein maintains the source since 2013 on github feel free to contact him for contributions. A # as first character indicates a command which is usually run in a root shell.

Abbreviations

abbreviation	description	example
file	a single file	
pkg	name of an ebuild package	`vim`
cat/pkg	category + package name	`app-editors/vim`
cat/pkg-1.0	cat/pkg with version number	`app-editors/vim-7.3.409`

Portage package management

`# emerge --sync` download latest package information from the mirror
`# eix-sync` sync the overlay **and** run `emerge --sync` in one command. Use this, if eix is installed.
`# emerge -pv cat/pkg` verbose simulation of package installation
`# emerge =cpv` install special version of a package
`# emerge -cav cat/pkg` remove package with dependency checking
`# emerge -C cat/pkg` remove package without dependency checking (use with care)
`# emerge -av --depclean` remove no longer needed packages
`# emerge -uDN world` upgrade the whole system
`$ equery b ˜which pkg ˜` tells which installed package provides pkg
`$ equery d cat/pkg` show packages that depend on cat/pkg
`# eix cat/pkg` documentation on a package
`# porthole` a gui for emerge
`# dispatch-conf` manage config changes after emerge
`# revdep-rebuild` rebuilds packages that depend on an recently updated library

USE flags

`$ euse` returns a description on the useflag

Typical administration

`$ sudo -s` used by a user from sudoers list to get a root shell
`# rc-update add sshd default` Start the ssh daemon in the default runlevel
`# rc-service xdm start` Start the windowmanager now
`# rc-status sshd` request if sshd is running or not

Important files

`/etc/portage/make.conf` global settings (USE flags, compiler options)
`/etc/portage/package.use` USE flags of individual packages
`/etc/portage/package.keywords` keywords of individual packages (like ∼ amd86 for 64bit-testing)
`/etc/portage/package.license` accepted licenses
`/var/lib/portage/world` list of explicitly installed package atoms
`/var/db/pkg` contains for every installed package a set of files about the installation