

# 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                                 |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| <a href="#">file</a>        | a single <a href="#">file</a>               |   |
| <a href="#">pkg</a>         | name of an ebuild package                   | <a href="#">vim</a>                     |
| <a href="#">cat/pkg</a>     | category + package name                     | <a href="#">app-editors/vim</a>         |
| <a href="#">cat/pkg-1.0</a> | <a href="#">cat/pkg</a> with version number | <a href="#">app-editors/vim-7.3.409</a> |

## 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 =cat/pkg-1.0 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 -i 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 ~ amd64 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
```