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[WebServers](#) > Apache


Apache Web Server

Installing Apache under Debian

Installing [DebianPkg: apache2](#) is as easy as running:

```
#apt-get install apache2
```

MPM selection in Debian Jessie

With [DebianPkg: Apache 2.4](#) in Debian Jessie the  [Multi-Processing Module](#) used is no longer selected by installing one of the apache2-mpm- packages. MPM modules are enabled and disabled using the a2enmod and a2dismod commands just like with any other module. Only one MPM may be used at a time.

The default MPM used by Apache 2.4 in Jessie is mpm_event. An example of switching to mpm_worker:

```
# a2dismod mpm_event  
# a2enmod mpm_worker
```

Some modules such as [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-php5](#) that require using mpm_prefork will switch to this MPM as part of the package's post installation script.

MPM selection in Debian Wheezy and earlier


APT will automatically select one of the four engines, usually [DebianPkg: apache2-mpm-prefork](#) or [DebianPkg: apache2-mpm-worker](#)

([DebianPkg: apache2-mpm-event](#) and [DebianPkg: apache2-mpm-itk](#) aren't recommended). The package's description contains an overview of their differences.

Script / Dynamic content

Apache can use any external program and scripting language, through CGI or FastCgi ([DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-fcgid](#)).

Apache can also embed some scripts interpreters or connect to an application server to generate dynamic content:

- PHP : [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-php5](#)
- Perl : [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-perl2](#)
- Python : [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-python](#), [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-wsgi](#)
- Java/Jsp : Apache's  [mod_proxy_ajp](#) (a2enmod proxy_ajp), or [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-jk](#)
- Ruby : [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-ruby](#), [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-passenger](#) (aka mod_rack (similar to WSGI) or mod_rails)
- Lisp : [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod-lisp](#).

Modules

Debian has many modules for Apache, which package names are usually prefixed with [DebianPkg: libapache2-mod](#)

Once installed, modules can be enabled or disabled with the commands `a2enmod` and `a2dismod`.

Multiple Instances

The scripts `apache2ctl`, `a2enmod`, `a2ensite`, ... and the `init` script have some support for handling multiple instances of `apache2` running on the same machine.

The basic idea is to copy `/etc/apache2` to `/etc/apache2-xxx`. An example script that demonstrates what else needs to be done can be found in `/usr/share/doc/apache2/examples/setup-instance`. Use with:

```
sh /usr/share/doc/apache2/examples/setup-instance xxx
```

You can then use `a2enmod-xxx`, `/etc/init.d/apache2-xxx`, ... as usual, and they will affect the new instance of apache2.

see `/usr/share/doc/apache2/README.multiple-insances` for full details

Other stuff

```
#apt-cache search apache | less
```

This will list all the Apache related software available in the Debian repositories. There's "apache" along with all its related packages (-doc, -dev, -common, -perl, ...).

FAQ


Apache user (www-data)

Debian's Apache packages come configured to run as user 'www-data'. This is potentially confusing: files to be served by apache should not be owned by 'www-data', as apache should not normally be allowed to modify them (i.e. as long as you're not running a wiki).

Apache v1.3

Apache.org is officially encouraging users to switch to apache v2.2.

[DebianLenny](#) and later releases, don't ship Apache v1.x.

(apache 1.3  [release notes](#): *"We strongly recommend that users of all earlier versions, including 1.3 family release, upgrade to to the current 2.2 version as soon as possible."*)

Upgrading

See `/usr/share/doc/apache2.2-common/NEWS.Debian.gz`


Hardening

[Apache/Hardening](#)

Packaging modules

[Apache/PackagingModules](#)

See Also

- [WebServers](#) - Other webservers in Debian.
- README.Debian, NEWS.Debian in the [DebianPkg: apache2.2-common](#) package.
-  <http://httpd.apache.org/>
- And of course, the usual manpages, README files.