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# How to update Kali Linux

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3 minutes

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## Objective

The following article will provide the readers with information on how to update/upgrade Kali Linux system.

## Operating System and Software Versions

- **Operating System:** - Kali Linux - rolling release

## Requirements

Privileged access to your Kali Linux System as root or via `sudo` command is required.

## Difficulty

EASY

## Conventions

- **#** - requires given [linux commands](#) to be executed with root privileges either directly as a root user or by use of `sudo` command
- **\$** - given [linux commands](#) to be executed as a regular non-

privileged user

## Instructions

### Step 1: Configure Kali Linux Repositories

The first step is to set correct Kali Linux repositories. Make sure that your `/etc/apt/sources.list` file contains the following official Kali repositories:

```
deb https://http.kali.org/kali kali-rolling main  
non-free contrib  
deb-src https://http.kali.org/kali kali-  
rolling main non-free contrib
```

#### WARNING

Use only official [Kali Linux repositories](https://www.kali.org/docs/getting-started/repositories/). Any other listed 3rd-party and unofficial repositories within the `/etc/apt/sources.list` file may break or compromise your Kali Linux system.

### Step 2: Update Kali Linux

To begin the update of your Kali Linux system first update the packages index list. Open up terminal and enter:

```
$ sudo apt update
```

Next, optionally, display all packages which are scheduled for update:

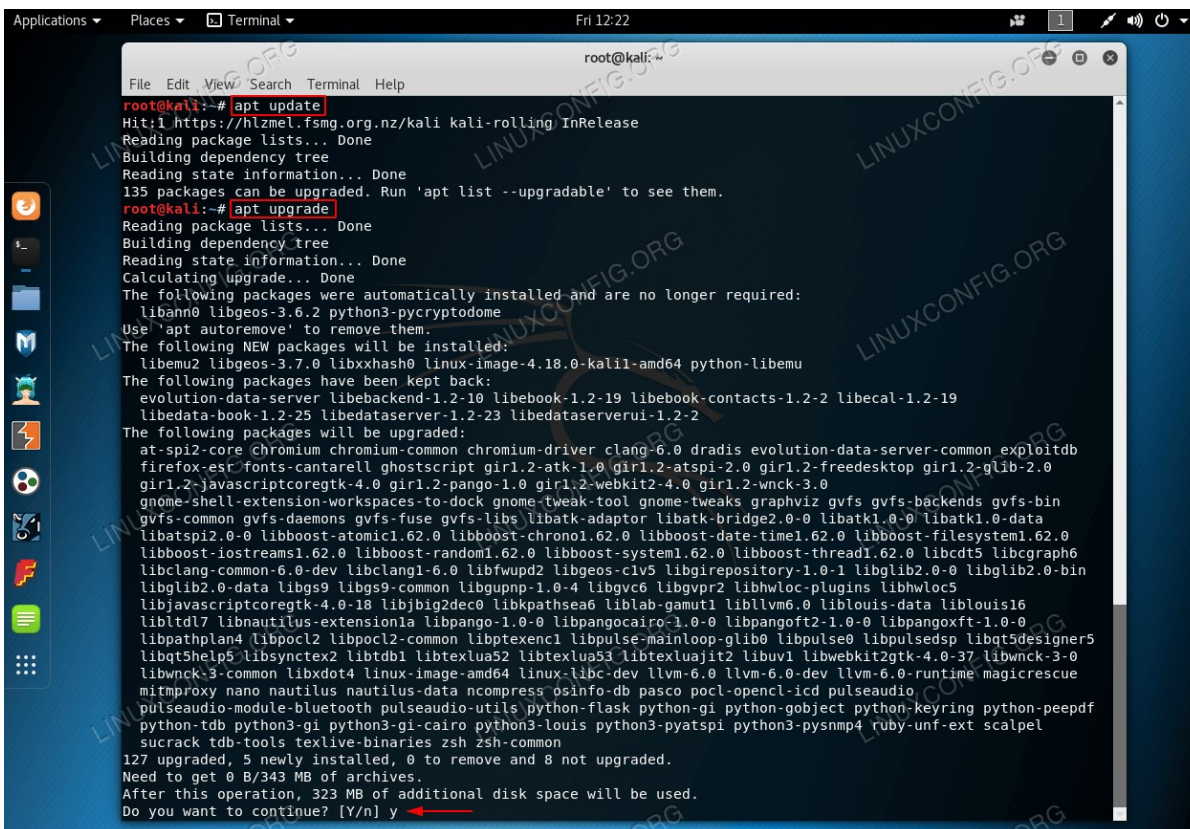
```
$ apt list --upgradable
```

At this stage we have an option to upgrade individual packages using `apt install PACKAGE-NAME` or upgrade all packages at once:

```
$ sudo apt upgrade
```

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```

root@kali:~# apt update
Hit:1 https://h1zmel.fsmg.org.nz/kali kali-rolling InRelease
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
135 packages can be upgraded. Run 'apt list --upgradable' to see them.
root@kali:~# apt upgrade
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
Calculating upgrade... Done
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
  libbann0 libgeos-3.6.2 python3-pycryptodome
Use 'apt autoremove' to remove them.
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  libemu2 libgeos-3.7.0 libxhash0 linux-image-4.18.0-kali1-amd64 python-libemu
The following packages have been kept back:
  evolution-data-server libebook-1.2-19 libebook-contacts-1.2-2 libecal-1.2-19
  libedata-book-1.2-25 libedataserver-1.2-23 libedataserverui-1.2-2
The following packages will be upgraded:
  at-spi2-core chromium chromium-common chromium-driver clang-6.0 dradis evolution-data-server-common exploitdb
  firefox-esr fonts-cantarell ghostscript gir1.2-atk-1.0 gir1.2-atspi-2.0 gir1.2-freedesktop gir1.2-glib-2.0
  gir1.2-javascriptcoregtk-4.0 gir1.2-pango-1.0 gir1.2-webkit2-4.0 gir1.2-wnck-3.0
  gnome-shell-extension-workspaces-to-dock gnome-tweak-tool gnome-tweaks graphviz gvfs gvfs-backends gvfs-bin
  gvfs-common gvfs-daemons gvfs-fuse gvfs-libs libatk-adaptor libatk-bridge2.0-0 libatk1.0-0 libatk1.0-data
  libatspi2.0-0 libboost-atomic1.62.0 libboost-chrono1.62.0 libboost-date-time1.62.0 libboost-filesystem1.62.0
  libboost-iostreams1.62.0 libboost-random1.62.0 libboost-system1.62.0 libboost-thread1.62.0 libcdt5 libcgraph6
  libclang-common-6.0-dev libclang1-6.0 libfwpd2 libgeos-c1v5 libgirepository-1.0-1 libglib2.0-0 libglib2.0-bin
  libglib2.0-data libgs9 libgs9-common libgupnp-1.0-4 libgvc6 libgvpr2 libhwloc-plugins libhwloc5
  libjavascriptcoregtk-4.0-18 libjbig2dec0 libkpathsea6 liblab-gamut1 libllvm6.0 liblouis-data liblouis16
  libltdl7 libnautilus-extension1a libpango-1.0-0 libpangocairo-1.0-0 libpangoft2-1.0-0 libpangoxft-1.0-0
  libpathplan4 libpocl2 libpocl2-common libptexenc1 libpulse-mainloop-glib0 libpulse0 libpulsedsp libqt5designers5
  libqt5help5 libsyncex2 libtdb1 libtexlua52 libtexlua53 libtexluajit2 libuv1 libwebkit2gtk-4.0-37 libwnck-3-0
  libwnck-3-common libxdot4 linux-image-amd64 linux-libc-dev llvm-6.0 llvm-6.0-dev llvm-6.0-runtime magicrescue
  mltproxy nano nautilus-data ncompress osinfo-db pasco pocl-opengl-icd pulseaudio
  pulseaudio-module-bluetooth pulseaudio-utils python-flask python-gi python-gobject python-keyring python-peepdf
  python-tdb python3-gi python3-gi-cairo python3-louis python3-pyatspi python3-pysnmp4 ruby-unf-ext scalpel
  sucrack tdb-tools texlive-binaries zsh zsh-common
127 upgraded, 5 newly installed, 0 to remove and 8 not upgraded.
Need to get 0 B/343 MB of archives.
After this operation, 323 MB of additional disk space will be used.
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] y

```

How to update Kali Linux

All done. Your Kali Linux system is now fully upgraded.

### Step 3: Upgrade Kept Back Packages

Due to package dependency changes some of the Kali Linux packages might be kept back.

If this is this case you will be notified by the `apt upgrade` [Linux command](#) at the end of the Kali Linux upgrade process. You may upgrade each kept back package individually using the `apt`

`install PACKAGE-NAME` command or update all kept back packages at once:

```
$ sudo apt dist-upgrade
```

#### **Step 4: Uninstall No Longer Required Packages**

During your initial system upgrade some of the packages may become obsolete, hence are no longer required. To remove all no longer required Kali Linux packages execute:

```
$ sudo apt autoremove
```