



# How to Install apt-file package on Ubuntu?



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Apt-file is a software program that indexes the contents of packages in your accessible repositories and allows you to search for a certain file among all available packages. Apt-file is a command-line utility for searching files in APT packages. You may search for which package a file is in or show the contents of a package without installing or downloading it.

## How To Install apt-file on Ubuntu

On Ubuntu 20.04, there are three options for installing apt-file. Apt-get, apt, and aptitude are all available. Each strategy of installation will be described in detail in the following sections. You may select any of them.

- Using apt-get to install
- Using aptitude to install
- Using apt to install

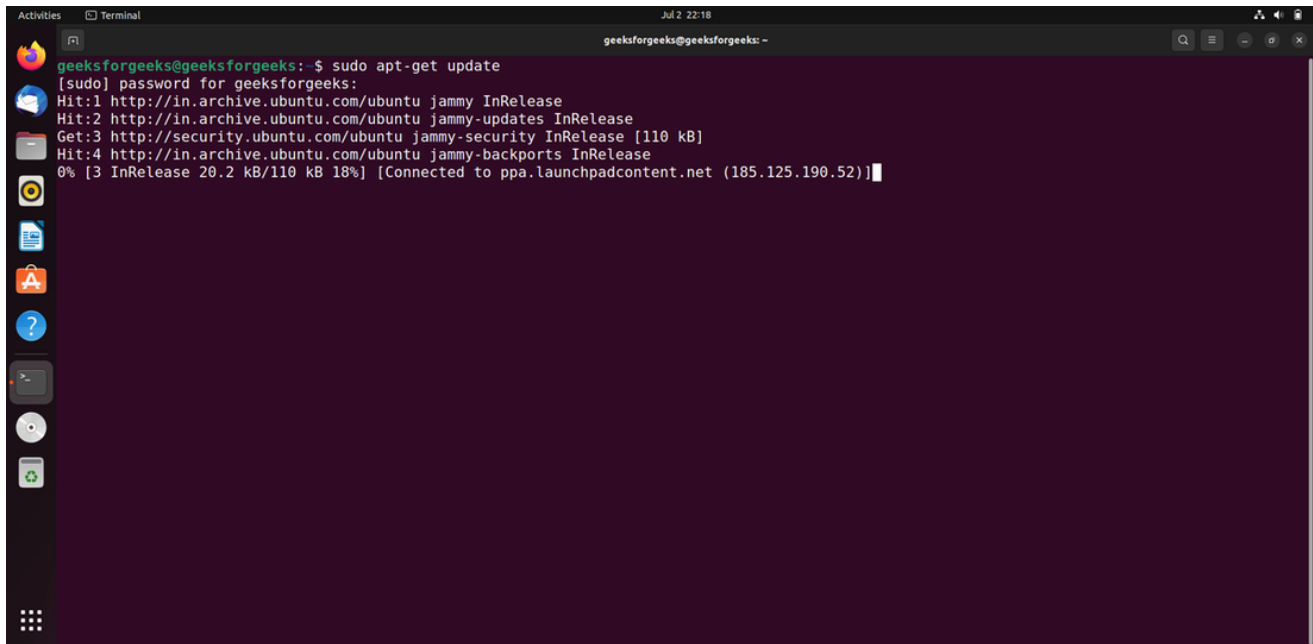
**Method 1:** Using the apt-get command

**Step 1:** Using the following command, update the apt database using apt-get.

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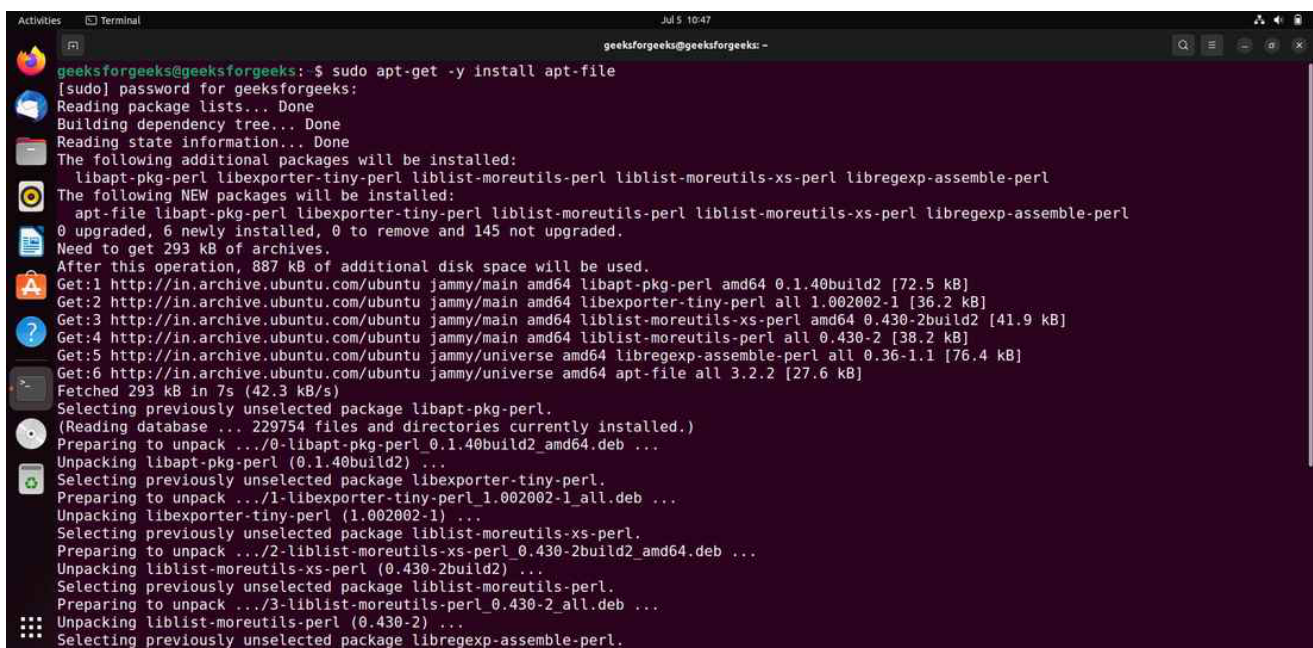
*sudo apt-get update*



```
geeksforggeeks@geeksforggeeks:~$ sudo apt-get update
[sudo] password for geeksforggeeks:
Hit:1 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Hit:2 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease
Get:3 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease [110 kB]
Hit:4 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease
0% [3 InRelease 20.2 kB/110 kB 18%] [Connected to ppa.launchpadcontent.net (185.125.190.52)]
```

**Step 2:** After upgrading the apt database, we can use apt-get to install abs-guide by performing the following command:

*sudo apt-get -y install apt-file*

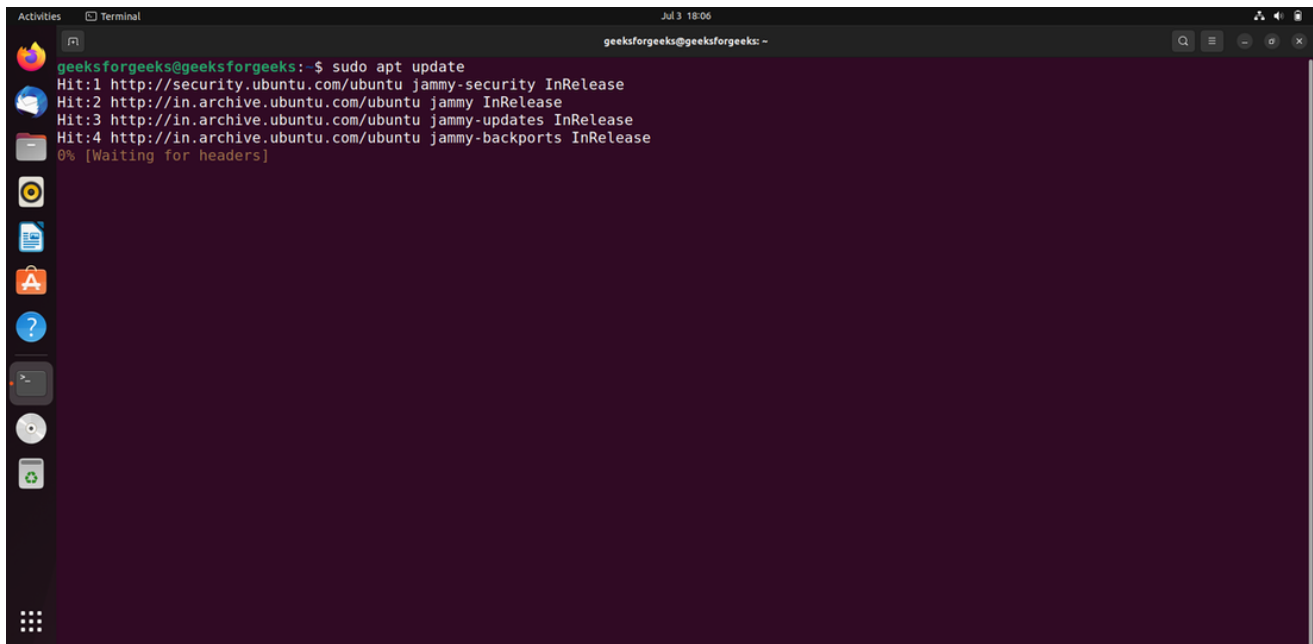


```
geeksforggeeks@geeksforggeeks:~$ sudo apt-get -y install apt-file
[sudo] password for geeksforggeeks:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
  libapt-pkg-perl libexptor-tiny-perl liblist-moreutils-perl liblist-moreutils-xs-perl libregexp-assemble-perl
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  apt-file libapt-pkg-perl libexptor-tiny-perl liblist-moreutils-perl liblist-moreutils-xs-perl libregexp-assemble-perl
0 upgraded, 6 newly installed, 0 to remove and 145 not upgraded.
Need to get 293 kB of archives.
After this operation, 887 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Get:1 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/main amd64 libapt-pkg-perl amd64 0.1.40build2 [72.5 kB]
Get:2 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/main amd64 libexptor-tiny-perl all 1.002002-1 [36.2 kB]
Get:3 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/main amd64 liblist-moreutils-xs-perl amd64 0.430-2build2 [41.9 kB]
Get:4 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/main amd64 liblist-moreutils-perl all 0.430-2 [38.2 kB]
Get:5 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/universe amd64 libregexp-assemble-perl all 0.36-1.1 [76.4 kB]
Get:6 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/universe amd64 apt-file all 3.2.2 [27.6 kB]
Fetched 293 kB in 7s (42.3 kB/s)
Selecting previously unselected package libapt-pkg-perl.
(Reading database ... 229754 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../0-libapt-pkg-perl_0.1.40build2_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking libapt-pkg-perl (0.1.40build2) ...
Selecting previously unselected package libexptor-tiny-perl.
Preparing to unpack .../1-libexptor-tiny-perl_1.002002-1_all.deb ...
Unpacking libexptor-tiny-perl (1.002002-1) ...
Selecting previously unselected package liblist-moreutils-xs-perl.
Preparing to unpack .../2-liblist-moreutils-xs-perl_0.430-2build2_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking liblist-moreutils-xs-perl (0.430-2build2) ...
Selecting previously unselected package liblist-moreutils-perl.
Preparing to unpack .../3-liblist-moreutils-perl_0.430-2_all.deb ...
Unpacking liblist-moreutils-perl (0.430-2) ...
Selecting previously unselected package libregexp-assemble-perl.
Preparing to unpack .../4-libregexp-assemble-perl_0.36-1.1_all.deb ...
Unpacking libregexp-assemble-perl (0.36-1.1) ...
Selecting previously unselected package apt-file.
Preparing to unpack .../5-apt-file_3.2.2_all.deb ...
Unpacking apt-file (3.2.2) ...
Setting up libapt-pkg-perl (0.1.40build2) ...
Setting up libexptor-tiny-perl (1.002002-1) ...
Setting up liblist-moreutils-xs-perl (0.430-2build2) ...
Setting up liblist-moreutils-perl (0.430-2) ...
Setting up libregexp-assemble-perl (0.36-1.1) ...
Setting up apt-file (3.2.2) ...
```

## Method 2: Using apt

**Step 1:** The apt database will be updated with the command below.

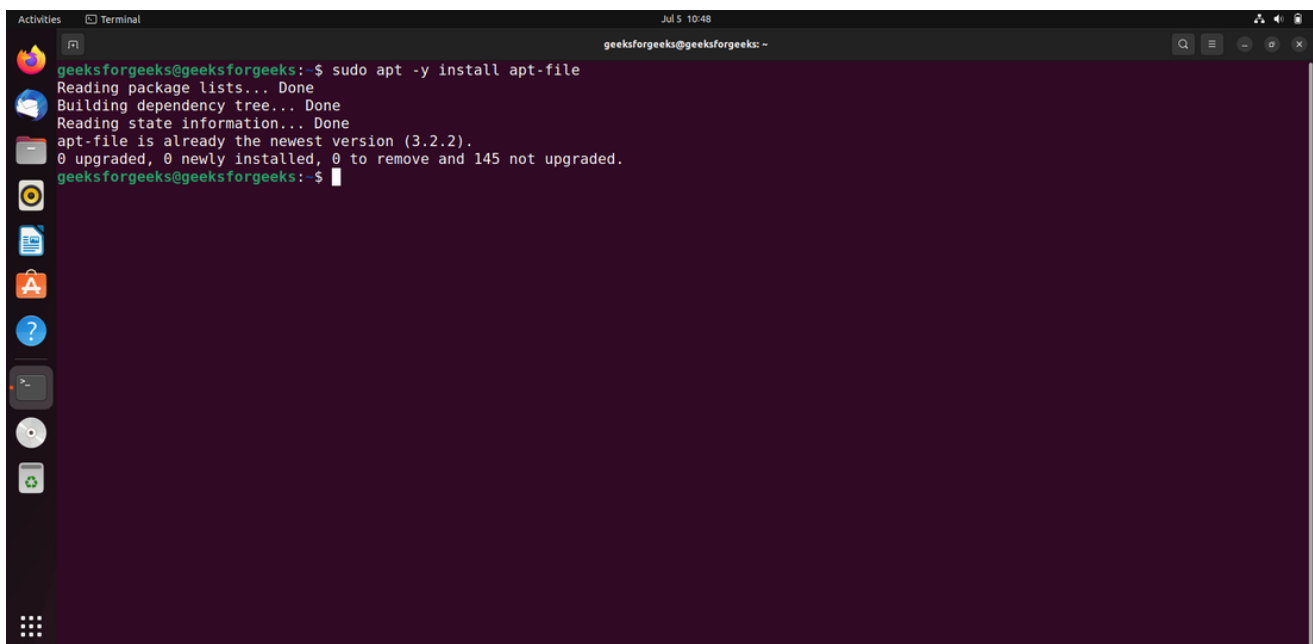
*sudo apt update*



```
geeksforg...@geeksforg...:~$ sudo apt update
Hit:1 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease
Hit:2 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Hit:3 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease
Hit:4 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease
0% [Waiting for headers]
```

**Step 2:** After upgrading the apt database, we can use apt to install abs-guide by performing the following command:

*sudo apt -y install apt-file*

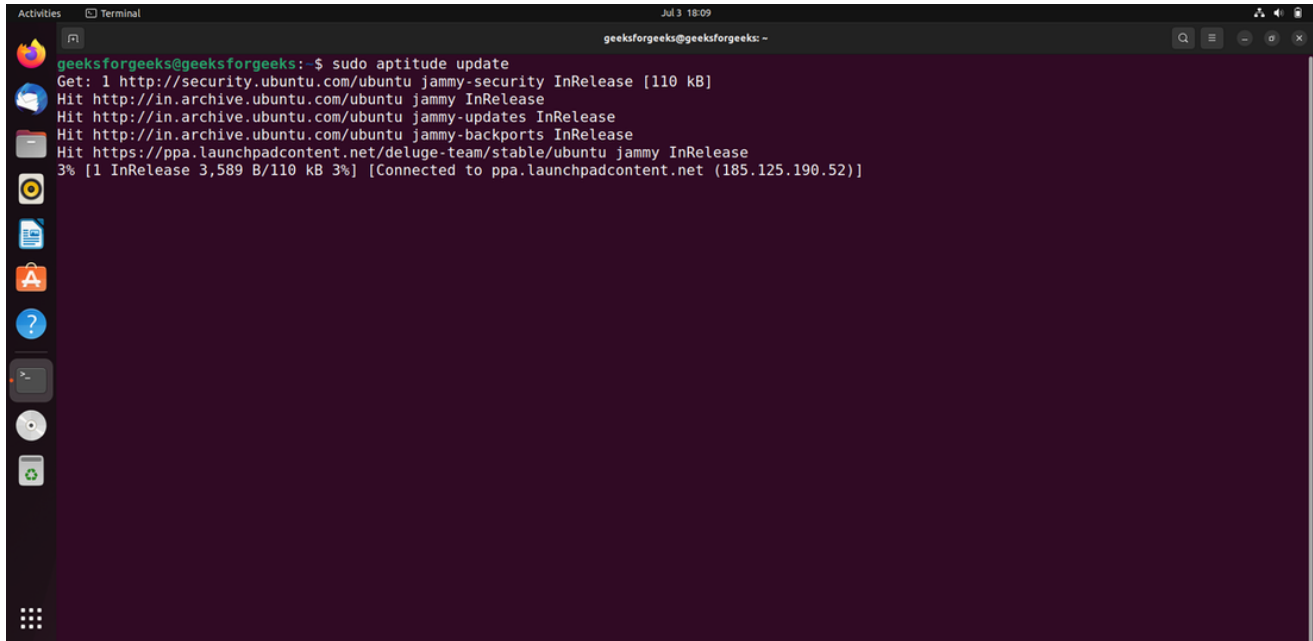


```
geeksforg...@geeksforg...:~$ sudo apt -y install apt-file
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
apt-file is already the newest version (3.2.2).
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 145 not upgraded.
geeksforg...@geeksforg...:~$
```

### Method 3: Using aptitude

**Step 1:** If you want to use this method, you may need to install aptitude first because it is not normally installed by default on Ubuntu. Use the following command to update the apt database with aptitude.

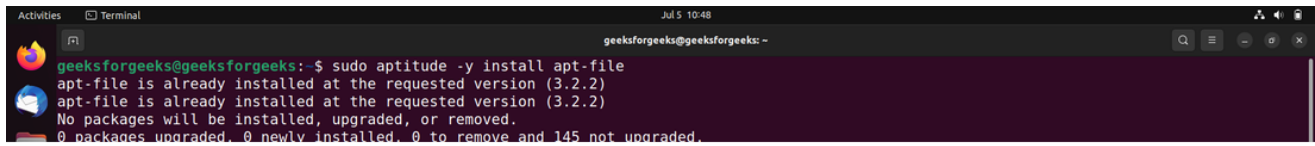
```
sudo aptitude update
```

A screenshot of a Linux terminal window. The terminal title bar shows 'Terminal' and 'Jul 3 18:09'. The prompt is 'geeksforgeeks@geeksforgeeks:~\$'. The command entered is 'sudo aptitude update'. The output shows several lines of status messages: 'Get: 1 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease [110 kB]', 'Hit http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease', 'Hit http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease', 'Hit http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease', and 'Hit https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/deluge-team/stable/ubuntu jammy InRelease'. The progress bar shows '3% [1 InRelease 3,589 B/110 kB 3%] [Connected to ppa.launchpadcontent.net (185.125.190.52)]'. The terminal window has a dark background and a sidebar with application icons on the left.

```
geeksforgeeks@geeksforgeeks:~$ sudo aptitude update
Get: 1 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease [110 kB]
Hit http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Hit http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease
Hit http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease
Hit https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/deluge-team/stable/ubuntu jammy InRelease
3% [1 InRelease 3,589 B/110 kB 3%] [Connected to ppa.launchpadcontent.net (185.125.190.52)]
```

**Step 2:** After upgrading the apt database, we can use aptitude to install abs-guide by performing the following command:

```
sudo aptitude -y install apt-file
```

A terminal window titled 'Terminal' with a dark background. The prompt is 'geeksforgeeks@geeksforgeeks:~\$'. The command 'sudo aptitude -y install apt-file' has been entered. The output shows that 'apt-file' is already installed at version 3.2.2. The terminal also shows a summary: 'No packages will be installed, upgraded, or removed. 0 packages upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 145 not upgraded.'

```
geeksforgeeks@geeksforgeeks:~$ sudo aptitude -y install apt-file
apt-file is already installed at the requested version (3.2.2)
apt-file is already installed at the requested version (3.2.2)
No packages will be installed, upgraded, or removed.
0 packages upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 145 not upgraded.
```

## Examples of Apt-File on Ubuntu

### Example 1: Display all Files

Display every file in every APT package that has the word “gimp” in its name.

```
apt-file search gimp
```



### Example 2: Matched Package Only

Carry out the same search as before, but this time simply list the names of matched packages.

```
apt-file --package-only search gimp
```

### Example 3: List Every Package

List every file with “gimp” in its name that is included in every package.

```
apt-file list gimp
```

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