apt Cheat Sheet

A Linux package manager on dpkg distributions, including Debian, Ubuntu, Mint, elementary, and many more.

Finding software

Search for software by name or description. Package groups provide related applications together.

`apt search foo`	Search for package **foo** in repository
`apt-file search foo`	Find packages that provide **foo**
`aptitude`	Launch the ncurses-based front-end to apt
`synaptic`	Launch the synaptic GUI front-end to apt

Get info about software

`apt show foo`	List install status and metadata of package **foo**
`apt-file --list foo`	List all files included in package **foo**

Installing and uninstalling software

Packages and groups of packages can be installed and uninstalled by name.

`apt update`	Update package information (before install or update)
`apt upgrade`	Upgrade all packages to the latest available version (use **-f** to fix any broken packages)
`apt install foo`	Install package **foo** (use **-y** to skip confirmation)
`apt remove foo`	Uninstall package **foo**
`apt purge foo`	Uninstall package **foo** and remove its configuration files

Downloading packages

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To archive a package for later use, or to modify it, you can download it using apt.	
`apt download foo`	Download package **foo** to current directory, but do not install
`apt depends foo`	Show all packages foo depends on (use **--installed** for only those already installed)
`apt source foo`	Download the source code for **foo** (not a package)

Dependencies

`apt autoremove`	Remove unneeded package files from cache
`apt autoclean`	Remove outdated package files from cache
`apt clean`	Remove all package files from cache
`apt -f install`	Fix broken dependencies, by installing needed or removing package causing problem
`apt build-dep foo`	Install build dependencies for package/spec/SRPM

Repositories

`add-apt-repository -L`	List configured repositories (use -s to include source repositories)
`egrep -r --include '*.list' '(deb|deb-src) ' /etc/apt/sources.list*`	List all registered repositories
`add-apt-repository powertools`	Enable repo named **powertools**
`add-apt-repository -U https://example.com/updates/x86_64`	Add and enable repo (URL target must contain a valid repodata/repomd.xml file)