

INTRO TO PACKAGE MANAGEMENT

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WHO AM I?



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WHAT'S A PACKAGE?

- Like a physical package, it contains “stuff”
- Could be software installer
- Could be zip file to be extracted
- Could be files (e.g. fonts)
- Could be scripts that do... anything
- Includes a manifest (like a packing slip) about the content



Photo by [Brandable Box](#) on [Unsplash](#)

WHY DO PACKAGES NEED MANAGING?



Photo by [Bernd Dittrich](#) on [Unsplash](#)

- Install, upgrade, and uninstall packages
- List installed packages
- Find available packages
- Get information about a specific package
- Some packages are useless without the support of other packages, you don't want to manually untangle those dependencies

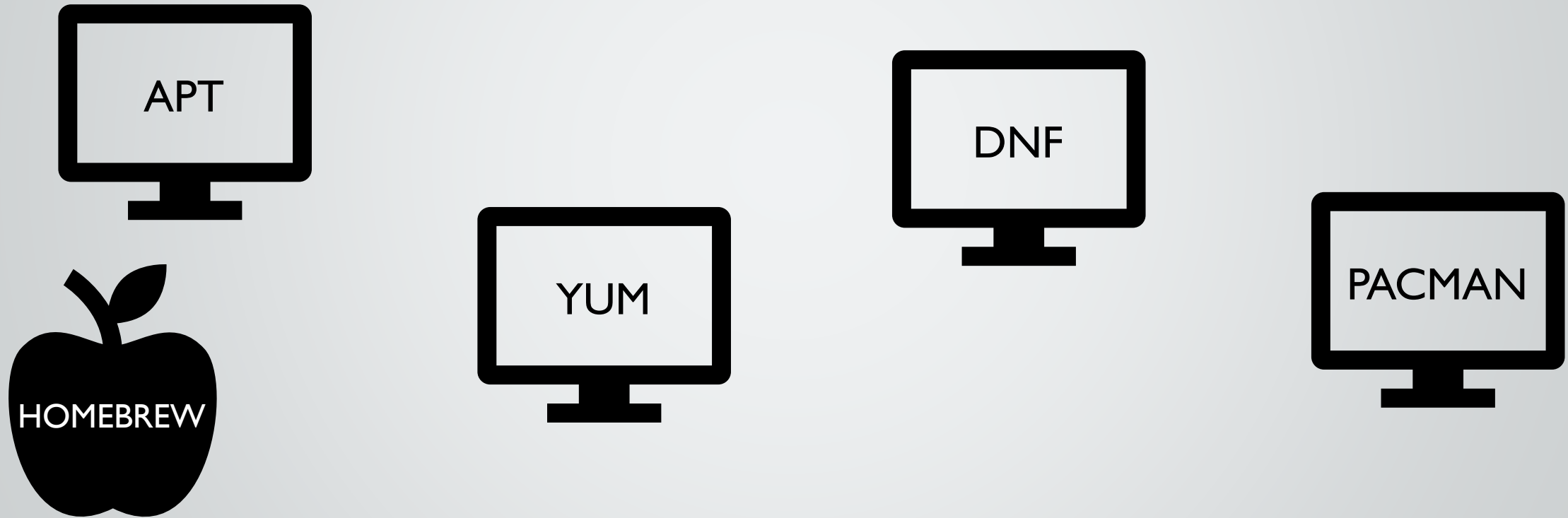
WHAT DO YOU GET OUT OF IT?

- Need software? Install its package from the command line.
- Automate it! Always want to be running up to date software, schedule checks for package upgrades.
- Consistency across systems, install the same list of packages rather than running through a checklist of things to install.



Photo by [micheile henderson](#) on [Unsplash](#)

THIS IS A LINUX THING, RIGHT?



WINDOWS HAS PACKAGE MANAGERS TOO!

AND A SURPRISING AMOUNT OF THEM



Ninite
... sort of



Scoop




Winget



Chocolatey

NINITE

HTTPS://NINITE.COM



HelpFeedbackNinite ProSign into Pro

Install and Update All Your Programs at Once

No toolbars. No clicking next. Just pick your apps and go.

Installing Dropbox...

[Hide details](#)[Write feedback](#)Cancel

Application	Status
Chrome	Skipped (up to date)
Skype	OK
Spotify	OK
Dropbox	Installing
LibreOffice	Downloading
Malwarebytes	Waiting to download

Always Up-to-date

You don't have to watch for updates. Our bots do that. Here's what's new:

Malwarebytes updated to 4.5.26.259.
Saturday at 3:10 am

Edge updated to 112.0.1722.34.
Saturday at 2:26 am

AIMP updated to 5.11.2428.
Friday at 2:04 pm

Notepad++ updated to 8.5.2.
Friday at 7:52 am

Visual Studio Code updated to 1.77.1.
Wednesday at 7:27 pm

[more news](#)

Trusted by Millions

We install and update about a million apps each day for our home users and [Ninite Pro](#) subscribers.

The [press](#) likes us too:

"I'll bet the service saved me a couple hours"

PCWorld

"Ninite.com frees up your day"

The Christian Science Monitor

"This post can be fairly short because Ninite works exactly as advertised."

Lifehacker

1. Pick the apps you want

Web Browsers

☐ Chrome

☐ Opera

☐ Firefox

☐ Edge

Messaging

☐ Zoom

☐ Discord

☐ Skype

☐ Pidgin

☐ Thunderbird

Media

☐ iTunes

☐ VLC

☐ AIMP

☐ foobar2000

☐ Winamp

Runtimes

☐ Java (AdoptOpenJDK) x64 8

☐ Java (AdoptOpenJDK) 8

☐ Java (AdoptOpenJDK) x64...

☐ Java (AdoptOpenJDK) x64...

☐ .NET 4.8

SCOOP

[HTTPS://SCOOP.SH](https://scoop.sh)

- Aims to enable software installs without administrative privileges
- Installs packages to your home directory by default
- Focuses on open-source developer tools
- Over 5,000 packages available in the official “Buckets”

WINGET

[HTTPS://GITHUB.COM/MICROSOFT/WINGET-CLI](https://github.com/microsoft/winget-cli)

- Created by Microsoft
- Also known as “Windows Package Manager”
- Needs administrative privileges to install apps that need elevation
 - Will prompt via UAC if shell isn’t elevated
- Requires the Microsoft Store, so Windows Server is not supported
- Over 4,000 packages available from the Winget Community Repository

CHOCOLATEY

[HTTPS://CHOCOLATEY.ORG](https://chocolatey.org)

- Has been around for 12 years
- Requires administrative access
- Has a commercial product for businesses
- Integrates with other automation tools (like Ansible)
- Almost 10,000 packages available on the Chocolatey Community Repository

DEMO

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Packages != Software
 - ... but they often do
- We looked at managing packages on one system
 - Imagine how fast you could switch laptops by replicating the installed packages on the new one
 - Also consider how managing software installs and upgrades via packages could be leveraged across a fleet of computers
- Creating packages is the next step
 - You'd do this for internal apps (e.g. RMM Agents or anything licensed specifically to your organization)
 - The method for creating packages differs per package manager, pick one and dig in!

THANK YOU!

Get this slide deck and demo code from:

<https://toast.click/OnRamp2023>



Questions? Hit me up on Mastodon:

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