**sudo apt update**

Let us start by exploring the answer to the question “What does apt do?”

*The apt command is responsible for installation, removal, and updating of software in our system.*

A good analogy is to think of your computer as a factory and the apt command as the manager in that factory who is responsible for the installation of new equipment, removal of equipment that is no longer needed, and update desired equipment to their latest versions, while maintaining records of the equipment names and versions which are currently present in the factory.

A picture containing living, room, indoor, window

Description automatically generated

The screenshot below shows what the output of our command looks like.

Text

Description automatically generated

Your output might look a bit different than mine, but the important things to note here are the “Hits”. All of these web addresses are repos that contain software. As you can see the last line says “Reading package lists… Done” which means that my computer went ahead and read all the available software in the repos and compared them with the version present on my end and found that they are up-to-date!

Continuing with our factory analogy, assume our manager is maintaining an excel sheet containing the list of parts available from various equipment manufacturers. Here using the sub-command update we are telling our manager to contact all the equipment manufacturers and get data regarding the latest available equipment and redo his excel sheet!

So in essence, what we are doing when we enter this “sudo apt update” command is we are asking our Linux machine to go browse these lists and copy the latest version of them and put them in our computers!

That is the meaning of the sudo apt update command!

**WHAT IS SUDO?**

SUDO stands for “super-user do". This term is used to get administrative privileges so that we can install and remove software from our computer. Usually, sudo commands are followed by a password request, this is a security measure to prevent malware from getting automatically installed on our computers.

In our factory analogy, the manager needs the company credit card to make the purchases necessary to install the conveyor, so by using the the term “sudo” in our command and typing in the password, we are giving the manager the permission to use the company credit card!

**WHAT IS APT?**

APT stands for Advanced Packaging Tool which is a tool that is used to manage software in our system and apt is the software used to communicate this APT software management tool.

The words “manage software” in the above paragraph simply refer to these 5 basic tasks

install software

remove software

upgrade software

upgrade system

maintain the list of software that is installed in our system

OR

The apt command is responsible for installation, removal, and updating of software in our system.