

# eix

From Gentoo Linux Wiki

eix is a tool for searching the package tree that is faster and more flexible than emerge's search function. Also worth mention is eix's very nice colorized output, which makes it easy to spot important information when searching through a long list of packages.

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## Installation

Install eix with:

```
emerge -a eix
```

## Updating the Cache

Eix uses a cache which must be updated before eix will reflect any changes to the package tree. Update the local cache with:

```
eix-update
```

Eix provides a handy command that will run an *emerge --sync* and then update the eix cache:

```
eix-sync
```

## Usage

For a full list of options, see:

```
eix --help
```

To search for a (partial) package name, simply put the search term:

```
eix emer
```

```
* app-misc/astrolog-ephemeris
  Available versions: 5.40
  Homepage:          http://www.astrolog.org/astrolog.htm
  Description:        ephemeris files for optional extended accuracy of astrolog's calculations

* app-portage/demerge
  Available versions: 0.043 0.044 ~0.045 0.046 ~0.047
  Homepage:          http://download.mpsna.de/opensource/demerge/
  Description:        demerge - revert to previous installation states

* app-portage/emerge-delta-webrsync
  Available versions: ~3.3 ~3.5.1 ~3.5.1-r1 3.5.1-r2
  Homepage:          http://www.gentoo.org/proj/en/portage/index.xml
  Description:        emerge-webrsync using patches to minimize bandwidth

* app-xemacs/emerge
  Available versions: 1.11
  Homepage:          http://xemacs.org/
  Description:        Another interface over GNU patch.

* dev-lang/nemerle
  Available versions: *0.2.1-r1 *0.2.1-r2 ~*0.3.1 ~0.9.2 ~0.9.3
  Homepage:          http://www.nemerle.org/
  Description:        A hybrid programming language for the .NET platform

* games-arcade/emergence-bin
  Available versions: ~*0.9!s
  Homepage:          http://emergence.uk.net/
  Description:        Network-only top down space arcade game

* media-fonts/fgdc-emergency
  Available versions: ~2.20 {X}
  Homepage:          http://www.fgdc.gov/HSWG/
  Description:        FGDC Emergency Response Symbolology Prototype

* x11-misc/icemergeprefs
  Available versions: ~0.5!s
  Homepage:          http://icecc.sourceforge.net/
  Description:        IceWM private/global preferences merger

* x11-themes/emerald-themes
  Available versions: ~0.5.2
  Homepage:          http://compiz-fusion.org
  Description:        Emerald Window Decorator Themes (git)

* x11-wm/emerald
```

```
Available versions: ~0.5.2!t ~0.7.8 {debug}
Homepage:          http://compiz-fusion.org
Description:       Emerald Window Decorator (git)
```

Found 10 matches.

To search for package within a given category, use the `-C` option:

```
eix -C app-portage emer
```

```
* app-portage/demerge
  Available versions: 0.043 0.044 ~0.045 0.046 ~0.047
  Homepage:          http://download.mpsna.de/opensource/demerge/
  Description:       demerge - revert to previous installation states

* app-portage/emerge-delta-websync
  Available versions: ~3.3 ~3.5.1 ~3.5.1-r1 3.5.1-r2
  Homepage:          http://www.gentoo.org/proj/en/portage/index.xml
  Description:       emerge-websync using patches to minimize bandwidth
```

Found 2 matches.

To search for only installed packages, use the `-I` option. Options can be combined, so to search for any **installed** package with **porta** in the name in the **app-portage** category, run:

```
eix -I -C app-portage porta
```

```
[I] app-portage/portage-utils
  Available versions: 0.1.28 0.1.29
  Installed versions: 0.1.29(14:16:58 06/11/08)
  Homepage:          http://www.gentoo.org/
  Description:       small and fast portage helper tools written in C
```

To search packages descriptions:

```
eix -S description
```

To search packages descriptions and print a compact list:

```
eix -S -c corba
```

```
[N] dev-ada/polyorb (~2.1.0): A CORBA implementation for Ada
[N] dev-libs/libIDL (0.8.14): CORBA tree builder
[N] gnome-base/libbonobo (2.24.3): GNOME CORBA framework
[N] gnome-base/orbit (2.14.18(2)): ORBit2 is a high-performance CORBA ORB
[N] net-misc/mico (~2.3.13-r3): A freely available and fully compliant implementation of the CORBA standard
[N] net-misc/omniORB (4.1.4-r1): A robust, high-performance CORBA 2 ORB
[N] net-misc/omnievents (--): An implementation of the CORBA Events Service for omniORB
Found 7 matches.
```

## Remote Overlay Searches

Eix also has the handy ability to search for packages in a selection of overlays without having those overlays installed.

To update the remote overlay cache, run:

```
eix-remote update
```

Now search for packages as normal and you'll also see items from the selection of overlays listed:

```
eix madwifi
```

The overlay where the package or specific version is available will be denoted with a number in brackets. The overlays and their corresponding numbers will be listed at the end of the output.

```
* net-wireless/madwifi-ng
  Available versions: 0.9.3.1 0.9.3.2 0.9.3.3 0.9.3.320071130[2] 0.9.4 ~0.9.4-r1 **9999[2] ~9999-r1[4] {inje
  Homepage:         http://www.madwifi.org/
  Description:       Next Generation driver for Atheros based IEEE 802.11a/b/g wireless LAN cards

* net-wireless/madwifi-ng-tools
  Available versions: 0.9.2 0.9.3 0.9.3.1 0.9.3.2 0.9.3.3 0.9.4 **9999[2]
  Homepage:         http://www.madwifi.org/
  Description:       Next Generation tools for configuration of Atheros based IEEE 802.11a/b/g wireless LAN

* net-wireless/madwifi-old
  Available versions: ~0.0.1417.20060128 {amrr kernel_linux onoe}
  Homepage:         http://www.madwifi-project.org/
  Description:       Driver for Atheros based IEEE 802.11a/b/g wireless LAN cards

* net-wireless/madwifi-old-tools
  Available versions: ~0.0.1417.20060128
  Homepage:         http://www.madwifi-project.org/
  Description:       Tools for configuration of Atheros based IEEE 802.11a/b/g wireless LAN cards

* net-wireless/madwifi-hal [1]
  Available versions: ~*0.10.5.6.9999!m {kernel_linux}
  Homepage:         http://www.madwifi.org/
  Description:       Next Generation driver for Atheros based IEEE 802.11a/b/g wireless LAN cards

* net-wireless/madwifi-hal-tools [1]
  Available versions: ~*0.10.5.6.9999!m
  Homepage:         http://www.madwifi.org/
  Description:       Next Generation tools for configuration of Atheros based IEEE 802.11a/b/g wireless LAN

* net-wireless/madwifi-ng-svn [3]
  Available versions: ~3112 ~3223 ~3277 ~3319 ~3361 ~3452 ~3480 ~3545 ~3693 ~3714 ~3742 ~3750 ~3811 {kernel_
  Homepage:         http://www.madwifi.org/
  Description:       Wireless-ng driver for Atheros chipset a/b/g cards
```

```
[1] "allenjb-svn" /usr/local/portage_svn  
[2] (layman/arcon)  
[3] (layman/je/fro)  
[4] (layman/sabayon)  
  
Found 7 matches.
```



## Obsolete and Missing Package Search

Search for obsolete and missing packages found in portage and overlays on your system, display brief output

```
eix-test-obsolete -c -b
```

## See Also

- [eix home page \(http://eix.berlios.de/\)](http://eix.berlios.de/)
- GWN 06 Nov 2006 - Searching for ebuids in overlays that are not locally available ([http://www.gentoo.org/news/en/gwn/20061106-newsletter.xml#doc\\_chap4](http://www.gentoo.org/news/en/gwn/20061106-newsletter.xml#doc_chap4))

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Category: Package Management

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