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Cheat Sheet: npm vs Yarn Commands

Published on December 3, 2019 · Updated on October 28, 2020

[Node.js](https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tags/node-js)



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[Introduction](https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/nodejs-npm-yarn-cheatsheet#introduction)

This is a cheat sheet that you can use as a handy reference for [npm](https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/how-to-use-node-js-modules-with-npm-and-package-json) & [Yarn](https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/js-yarn-package-manager-quick-intro) commands.

For a more comprehensive overview of npm, explore our tutorial [How To Use Node.js Modules with npm and package.json](https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/how-to-use-node-js-modules-with-npm-and-package-json).

[npm vs. Yarn](https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/nodejs-npm-yarn-cheatsheet#npm-vs-yarn)

There are many similarities between [npm](https://www.npmjs.com/) and [Yarn](https://yarnpkg.com/). Yarn (released 2016) drew considerable inspiration from npm (2010).

On the flip-side, their similarities can lead to confusion and small mistakes when you find yourself using both package managers.

Here is a useful reference to keep the two CLIs straight:

| Command | npm | yarn |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Install dependencies | npm install | yarn |
| Install package | npm install [package] | yarn add [package] |
| Install dev package | npm install --save-dev [package] | yarn add --dev [package] |
| Uninstall package | npm uninstall [package] | yarn remove [package] |
| Uninstall dev package | npm uninstall --save-dev [package] | yarn remove [package] |
| Update | npm update | yarn upgrade |
| Update package | npm update [package] | yarn upgrade [package] |
| Global install package | npm install --global [package] | yarn global add [package] |
| Global uninstall package | npm uninstall --global [package] | yarn global remove [package] |

[Things that Haven’t Changed](https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/nodejs-npm-yarn-cheatsheet#things-that-haven-t-changed)

Here are some commands that Yarn decided not to change:

| npm | yarn |
| --- | --- |
| npm init | yarn init |
| npm run | yarn run |
| npm test | yarn test |
| npm login (and logout) | yarn login (and logout) |
| npm link | yarn link |
| npm publish | yarn publish |
| npm cache clean | yarn cache clean |

[Conclusion](https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/nodejs-npm-yarn-cheatsheet#conclusion)

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