

What is the correct way to completely remove an application? [duplicate]

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This question already has an answer here:

How can you completely remove a package? 1 answer

I've searched the net for such information and found different command lines, like these ones:

```
sudo apt-get remove application
```

```
sudo apt-get remove application*
```

```
sudo apt-get remove --purge application
```

```
sudo apt-get remove --purge application*
```

```
sudo apt-get purge application
```

```
sudo apt-get purge application*
```

So, what is the correct way? Is it necessary to use that "*"?

After that, I also found these commands:

```
sudo updatedb
```

```
sudo locate application
```

```
sudo rm -rf (file/folder name)
```

Thanks for your time.

If you don't know to which package a file belongs, try this:

```
dpkg -S /path/to/file
```

It depends on the application you want to remove. Always be sure to check its dependencies before issuing the yes command. When you remove something by command line, it will sometimes show a handful of libraries that are no longer needed. These can be removed with apt-get autoremove.

Beware that by using commands such as `sudo apt-get remove --purge applicationname` may remove some dependencies that are needed by other applications and, as such, might break your system.

If you want to do it in the safer way, you can always remove it using just the software center or `apt-get remove applicationname`. If the dependencies aren't needed anymore, issue `apt-get autoremove` later.

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I found this command in internet.

```
dpkg --purge --force-depends application
```

For Ubuntu 12.04 and maybe higher, the correct method is:

```
sudo apt-get --purge autoremove packagename
```