JUNE 30, 2020 / **#NODE.JS**

How to Install Node.js on Ubuntu and Update npm to the Latest Version

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If you try installing the
latest version of node

with **v10.19.0**. This is the latest version in the ubuntu app store, but it's not the latest released version of NodeJS.

This is because when new versions of a software are released, it can take months for the Ubuntu team to test and release in the official Ubuntu store. As a result, to get the latest versions of any software, we may have to use private packages published by developers.

In this tutorial, what we want to do is get either **v12.18.1** (LTS - with Long term support) or **v14.4** of Node. To get the latest versions, we can use either **nodesource** or **nvm** (node version manager). I'll show you how to use both.

All commands here will be run

Using NVM - my preferred method

I like nvm because it allows me use different node versions for different projects. Sometimes, you may be collaborating on a project with someone using a different version of node and you need to switch node versions to what the project requires. For this, nvm is the best tool.

Install NVM

```
curl -o- https://raw.githubusercontent.com/nvm-sh/nvm/v0.35.3/install.sh | bash
```

To check that nvm is installed, type `nvm --version`. If you get a version number back like `0.35.3`, then you know nvm was successfully installed.

Restart your terminal for your

Install NodeJS

Next, let's install Nodejs version 14.4.

Simply run `nvm install 14.4.0`.

You can use a similar command to install any version of node you want, for example `nvm install 12.18.1`.

This command automatically installs **nodejs** as well as the latest **npm** version which is at `v6.14.5`.

If you ever need to switch node versions, you can simply run `nvm use <version-number>`, for example `nvm use v12.18.1`.

To list the different node versions you have installed with nvm, run `nvm ls`.

Install Nodesource

the Nodejs
package from nodesource.

```
 curl -sL https://deb.nodesour
ce.com/setup_14.x | sudo -E ba
sh -
```

NB that v14.4.0 is the latest
version of Node but doesn't
currently have LTS - long term
support provided for it. To install
the latest version of Node with
LTS, change `14` in the command
above to `12`.

You may be prompted to enter
the password for your root user.
Enter that and hit enter/return.

Install NodeJS

Once we're done setting up
Nodesource, we can now install
Nodejs v14.4.
Run `sudo apt-get install -y n
odejs`.

Once we're done, we can check

Simply type `nodejs -v` into your terminal and it should return `v1 4.4.0`.

You should have npm automatically installed at this point. To check what npm version you have, run `npm version`. If you do not get an object that includes the latest version of npm at 6.14.5, `{ npm: '6.14.5' }`, then you can update npm manually by running the following command:

```
npm install -g npm@latest.
```

If you run into any issues with npm being unable to update because it's not installed, you can install npm first by using `sudo ap t-get install -y npm`, then run the command above to update it.

For certain npm packages to run, we also need to run the command

`ial.`

And that's it!

You've got the latest versions of NodeJS and NPM on your Ubuntu machine.

Go build great products :)

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I'm a Ruby-on-Rails/Node.js/React full-stack developer passionate about jollof rice and plantain.

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