YUM Package Manager

*YUM* is the tool provided for package management in CentOS. We have briefly touched this topic in previous chapters. In this chapter, we will be working from a clean CentOS install. We will first completely update our installation and then install an application.

*YUM* has brought software installation and management in Linux a long way. *YUM*"automagically” checks for out-of-date dependencies, in addition to out-of-date packages. This has really taken a load off the CentOS administrator compared to the old days of compiling every application from source-code.

yum check-update

Checks for packages that can update candidates. For this tutorial, we will assume this a production system that will be facing the Internet with no production applications that needs to be tested by DevOps before upgrading the packages. Let us now install the updated candidates onto the system.

yum update

This will install all updated candidates making your CentOS installation current. With a new installation, this can take a little time depending on your installation and your internet connection speed.

Most Common YUM Commands

Following are the commonly used YUM commands.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Action** |
| list installed | Lists packages installed via YUM |
| list all | Lists all currently available packages |
| group list | Lists grouped packages |
| info | Provides detailed information about a package |
| search | Searches package descriptions and names |
| install | Installs a package |
| localinstall | Installs a local rpm package |
| remove | Removes and installs package |
| clean all | Cleans /var/cache/yum to free disk-space |
| man yum | Like all linux commands, the help file |