**What is chocolatey ?**

Chocolatey is a package manager for Windows that builds on top of existing Windows technologies, using [NuGet](http://www.nuget.org/) for packaging. A package manager, for those not familiar, is a way to get software into your machine without much work on your part. It is the Windows equivalent of yum, apt-get for Linux or brew for Mac OS.

Chocolatey helps you downloading applications from their official repositories and then installs, upgrades and configures them smoothly on your machine.

The real power of Chocolatey package manager is not in installing packages, it is really in the ability to keep them up to date.

For example, if you want to upgrade some software on your machine due to security reasons, you can do it easily as we’ll see in this article.

**How to install Chocolatey ?**

1. Open powershell as administrator
2. Run Get-ExecutionPolicy :

* If it returs Restricted then run Set-ExecutionPolicy AllSigned

1. Run the following command :

* Set-ExecutionPolicy Bypass -Scope Process -Force; [System.Net.ServicePointManager]::SecurityProtocol = [System.Net.ServicePointManager]::SecurityProtocol -bor 3072; iex ((New-Object System.Net.WebClient).DownloadString('https://chocolatey.org/install.ps1'))

1. Restart powershell and type choco -? To verify installation

**Using chocolatey?**

**Now that you have chocolatey installed on your machine you can run some commands:**

**Let’s say we want to install notepad++**

1. **Open terminal as admin**
2. **We’ll search for it using**

**Choco search notepadplusplus**

1. **If you want to get info about the package**

**Choco info notepadplusplus**

1. **After finding let’s install it down**

choco install notepadplusplus

1. Enjoy using your notepadplusplus software
2. If you want to list your local installed packages

Choco list -lo

1. Listing your local outdated packages

* Choco outdated

1. Upgrading a package

Choco upgrade notepadplusplus

1. Upgrading all packages
   1. *choco upgrade all*
2. Removing some package

Choco uninstall notepadplusplus

And booom it’s gone

**Play in the safe zone!**

**Managing software automatically can be harmful if not performed in proper way.**

**So it would be smarter to run a test to take a look on what would have happened, the chocolatey has some parameters to do that.**

1. **WhatIf flag**

**Each choco command has a switch called -whatif. If it is used with a choco command, Chocolatey won't actually perform the action but inform you what would have happened.**

**Summary**

**You learned, at a high level, what Chocolatey is, how to set it up and how to the most commonly used commands to get started managing software via packages on Windows.**

Sweeten your life using choco

## **Read more**

<https://adamtheautomator.com/install-chocolatey>

## [***Chocolatey Documentation***](https://chocolatey.org/docs)