

Remove Un-necessary or Orphan Packages

The first rule is to keep your server lean and mean. Install only those packages that you really needed. If there are unwanted packages, delete them. The fewer the packages the less chance of unpatched code

Guidelines:

- Do not install packages that you do not need during the initial installation
- Pay close attention to the add-on packages

To get a list of all packages

```
# rpm -qa (CentOS)
```

```
# apt list -installed (Ubuntu)
```

Remove packages

```
# rpm -e package_name
```

```
# apt-get remove package_name
```

Orphaned Packages:

The objective is to remove all orphaned packages from CentOS Linux. By orphaned packages we mean all packages which no longer serve a purpose of package dependencies.

For example, package A is depended on package B, thus, in order to install package A the package B must also be installed. Once the package A is removed the package B might still be installed, hence the package B is now orphaned package

- A built-in utility which allows you to check for orphaned packages

```
yum-utils
```

- Check if that exist in your system

```
# rpm -qa | grep yum-utils
```

- If not then install

```
# yum install yum-utils
```

- Get a list of all orphaned packages

```
# package-cleanup -leaves
```

- Remove Orphaned packages

```
# yum remove `package-cleanup -leaves`
```

```
# apt-get autoremove
```