

keeping Debian up to date and checking the version number

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2003-12/5994.html>

From: Adam Barton (adambarton_at_mac.com)

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To: debian-user@lists.debian.org

Guys,

I am new to Debian but not so to Linux. I have studied the documentation, and there seems to be multiple ways to install debian packages. This I understand and am happily adding new packages as and when I need them (using `apt-get install <package name>` and `dselect`).

However, how should I be keeping Debian up to date to the latest stable release and also with the latest security patches? I am kind of looking for a 'redhat network' or 'windows update' equivalent.

Is simply '`apt-get update && apt-get dist-upgrade`' as root sufficient?

Are the packages verified that they are indeed a genuine debian update?

If so, how to I check the current 'version' that I am running and also that it is the 'current' version.

Kind regards,

Adam Barton.

Output of '`apt-get update && apt-get dist-upgrade`'

```
blueboy:~# apt-get update && apt-get dist-upgrade
Hit http://non-us.debian.org stable/non-US/main Packages
Hit http://non-us.debian.org stable/non-US/main Release
Hit http://non-us.debian.org stable/non-US/non-free Packages
Hit http://non-us.debian.org stable/non-US/non-free Release
Hit http://security.debian.org stable/updates/main Packages
Hit http://security.debian.org stable/updates/main Release
Hit http://www.mirror.ac.uk stable/main Packages
Hit http://www.mirror.ac.uk stable/main Release
Hit http://www.mirror.ac.uk stable/non-free Packages
Hit http://www.mirror.ac.uk stable/non-free Release
```

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```
Reading Package Lists... Done
Building Dependency Tree... Done
Reading Package Lists... Done
Building Dependency Tree... Done
Calculating Upgrade... Done
0 packages upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 0 not upgraded.
blueboy:~#
```

My sources.list file

```
blueboy:~# cat !$
cat /etc/apt/sources.list
```

```
deb http://security.debian.org/ stable/updates main
```

```
deb http://www.mirror.ac.uk/sites/ftp.debian.org/debian/ stable main
non-free
```

```
deb http://non-us.debian.org/debian-non-US stable/non-US main non-free
```

```
blueboy:~#
```

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