Linux_iips@yahoogroups.com
#document # 4
#date 11 February 2004
Please use this at your own risk
Also take backup of your important files, although you might not need that but be prepared for the worst

Characters in bold are system commands/outputs

Installing packages on Linux-I

Packages come in two formats in Linux
    1.).   rpm packages.
    2.)   Source packages.
In this document we will be seeing using the rpm command that is installing .rpm packages. The source packages will be looked in the matter later on.

Rpm packages are easy to install as they are precompiled and are ready to install, while dealing with source packages we have to compile them first then only they can be installed. This surely does take a lot of time as compared to Rpm packages.

Installing rpm packages:
rpm packages too can be installed in two ways
a.)By double clicking the .rpm package.
     red hat installer will start up and tell whether this package will be installed or not and proceed thereafter.
b.)Through the shell prompt:
     first go to the directory where you are having the package say
for example I have one package named
        webmin-1.100-1.noarch.rpm
it is in my /plugins directory
the procedure is as follows

[root@gaurav root]# cd /plugins/

go to the directory containing the package

[root@gaurav plugins]# ls
cdfs-0.5c   kpopup   webmin-1.100-1.noarch.rpm
cdfs-0.5c.tar.bz2

check whether the package is in the directory

[root@gaurav plugins]# rpm -ivh webmin-1.100-1.noarch.rpm
warning: webmin-1.100-1.noarch.rpm: V3 DSA signature: NOKEY, key ID 11f63c51
Preparing...   ### [100%]
Operating system is Red hat Linux 9.0
  1:webmin   ### [100%]
Webmin install complete. You can now login to http://gaurav:10000/
as root with your root password.

rpm is the name of the command
arguments passed are
i = installing
v = give more detailed output
h = show hashes as progress goes on(####)

[root@gaurav plugins]#

while u can install by simple rpm -i webmin-1.100-1.noarch.rpm
but here you will get any progress report so to get more detailed o/p you can try -ivh arguments.

using the --force argument with rpm
sometimes you may get a warning about installing some package may conflict with some other package but if still you want to install the new package then you can use the following command for installing the abc.rpm package

[root@gaurav plugins]# rpm –i –force abc.rpm

for example if i want to install **mkinitrd-3.5.7-2.i386.rpm** then i got this error message

[root@gaurav plugins]# rpm -ivh mkinitrd-3.5.7-2.i386.rpm
warning: mkinitrd-3.5.7-2.i386.rpm: V3 DSA signature: NOKEY, key ID 9d6b4012
      file /sbin/grubby from install of mkinitrd-3.5.7-2 conflicts with file from package mkinitrd-3.4.42-1
      file /sbin/installkernel from install of mkinitrd-3.5.7-2 conflicts with file from package mkinitrd-3.4.42-1
      file /sbin/mkinitrd from install of mkinitrd-3.5.7-2 conflicts with file from package mkinitrd-3.4.42-1
      file /sbin/nash from install of mkinitrd-3.5.7-2 conflicts with file from package mkinitrd-3.4.42-1
      file /sbin/new-kernel-pkg from install of mkinitrd-3.5.7-2 conflicts with file from package mkinitrd-3.4.42-1
      file /usr/share/man/man8/grubby.8.gz from install of mkinitrd-3.5.7-2 conflicts with file from package mkinitrd-3.4.42-1

file /usr/share/man/man8/mkinitrd.8.gz from install of mkinitrd-3.5.7-2 conflicts with file from package mkinitrd-3.4.42-1
file /usr/share/man/man8/nash.8.gz from install of mkinitrd-3.5.7-2 conflicts with file from package mkinitrd-3.4.42-1

this package may conflict with some other package installed, so i will have to remove that package first with which t was conflicting ,but if i try to remove that package i will get dependency error, so i install this package forcefully.

[root@gaurav plugins]# rpm -ivh --force mkinitrd-3.5.7-2.i386.rpm
warning: mkinitrd-3.5.7-2.i386.rpm: V3 DSA signature: NOKEY, key ID 9d6b4012
Preparing...   ### [100%]
   1:mkinitrd   ### [100%]

you can use –force to install any package forcefully with the installing (-i) argument or
upgrading (-u) argument.

failed dependencies
If while installing/uninstalling some package you get a error message such as the package being uninstalled is required by some other package or the package which is being installed requires some other package too then you will have fulfill that dependency first
For example
 If I want to uninstall xmms

[root@gaurav linux]# rpm -e xmms
error: Failed dependencies:
     libxmms.so.1 is needed by (installed) kdeaddons-3.1-4
[root@gaurav linux]#
then in this case you first need to uninstall kdeaddons first and then uninstall xmms.

in case of installing

[root@gaurav plugins]# rpm -ivh qmailadmin-toaster-1.0.6-1.0.8.i386.rpm
error: Failed dependencies:
     autorespond-toaster >= 2.0.2 is needed by qmailadmin-toaster-1.0.6-1.0.8
     control-panel-toaster >= 0.2 is needed by qmailadmin-toaster-1.0.6-1.0.8
     ezmlm-toaster >= 0.53.324 is needed by qmailadmin-toaster-1.0.6-1.0.8
     qmail-toaster >= 1.03 is needed by qmailadmin-toaster-1.0.6-1.0.8
     vpopmail-toaster >= 5.3.8 is needed by qmailadmin-toaster-1.0.6-1.0.8
[root@gaurav plugins]#

here i first need to install the other packages on which my current package which i am installing is dependent.

Removing packages using rpm command

Again to remove the package which was installed you need to run the following command

Suppose I have to remove xmms from my system
First I will check the version of xmms.1.2.xx.rpm installed by the following command

[root@gaurav plugins]# rpm -q xmms
xmms-1.2.7

this command will tell you which version of Linux you are using so that you can uninstall that package only

after you get the package name proceed as follows

[root@gaurav plugins]# rpm –e xmms-1.2.9

there are many arguments which you might to see with the following command

[root@gaurav plugins]# rpm –help

With the

[root@gaurav plugins]# rpm –qa

command you can get a list of all the rpms installed in your system

Gaurav Masand
Gaurav_linux@yahoo.com