

Querying Installed Packages

Sometimes you might want to check whether a particular package is installed or which version of a package is installed on your system. If the package is part of the Slackware installation you could use the `slackpkg` tool:

```
# slackpkg info emacs

PACKAGE NAME:  emacs-24.1-x86_64-6.txz
PACKAGE LOCATION:  ./slackware64/e
PACKAGE SIZE (compressed):  36704 K
PACKAGE SIZE (uncompressed):  110720 K
PACKAGE DESCRIPTION:
emacs: emacs (GNU Emacs)
emacs:
emacs: Emacs is the extensible, customizable, self-documenting real-time
emacs: display editor. If this seems to be a bit of a mouthful, an
emacs: easier explanation is that Emacs is a text editor and more. At
emacs: its core is an interpreter for Emacs Lisp, a dialect of the Lisp
emacs: programming language with extensions to support text editing.
emacs: This version supports X.
emacs:
emacs: http://www.gnu.org/software/emacs/
emacs:
```

This works fine for Slackware core packages. Some of us, however, install additional programs from a number of sources (eg. [SlackBuilds](#)), which are not taken into account by `slackpkg`. Another method which includes all correctly installed* packages is as follows:

```
ls /var/log/packages | grep i3
i3-4.2-x86_64-1_SBo
i3status-2.5.1-x86_64-1_SBo
```

First we list the contents of the `/var/log/packages` directory which includes the names of all the currently installed packages. Then we pipe it to `grep` to narrow down the results and only display packages matching our pattern.

Another example showing all packages installed from Slackbuilds:

```
ls /var/log/packages | grep SBo
```

If you don't want to type it each time, you could create a very short script and add it to your path:

[pkg.sh](#)

```
#!/bin/sh
packages_dir=/var/log/packages/

if [ "$#" -eq 1 ]; then
```

```
ls $packages_dir | grep $1  
else  
    echo "Please, provide one argument"  
fi
```

```
$ pkg.sh cairo  
cairo-1.10.2-x86_64-2  
cairomm-1.9.8-x86_64-1_SBo  
pycairo-1.8.10-x86_64-2
```

Another way to find out the installed packages

installed_pkgs_info

```
#!/bin/sh  
#Save this script as "installed_pkgs_info" probably in /usr/local/bin  
  
pkgdir="/var/lib/pkgtools/packages/"  
  
printf "\n\n\b\t Getting the information about installed pkgs...\n\n"  
  
cd $pkgdir  
  
for i in *;do slackpkg info $i | grep "PACKAGE NAME:"; sleep 1;done
```

And the output should look like this :

```
root@Slackware_16:45:19_Tue Jun 16:~#installed_pkgs_info
```

Getting the information about installed pkgs...

```
PACKAGE NAME: ConsoleKit2-1.2.1-x86_64-4.txz  
PACKAGE NAME: Cython-0.29.20-x86_64-1.txz  
PACKAGE NAME: GConf-3.2.6-x86_64-4.txz  
PACKAGE NAME: LibRaw-0.18.12-x86_64-1.txz  
PACKAGE NAME: M2Crypto-0.35.2-x86_64-5.txz  
PACKAGE NAME: MPlayer-20200103-x86_64-2.txz  
PACKAGE NAME: MPlayer-20200103-x86_64-2_alsa.txz
```

..snipped output for brevity!



*Please note that if you directly run binary installers (eg. VirtualBox), a program will



not have an entry in `/var/log/packages/`.

Sources

- Originally written by [sycamorex](#)

[howtos](#), [software](#), [package management](#), [package tracking](#), [author sycamorex](#)

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