



opam *command* --help show the manpage for *command*
 Non-ambiguous prefixes are accepted
 (e.g. opam **inst** . --deps for opam **install** . --deps-only).

Installation

Download from: <https://opam.ocaml.org>

opam **init** set up opam, default repository, switch, scripts
 opam **init** --bare create ~/.opam without a compiler switch
 opam **init** --reinit -i reinstall opam scripts (e.g. after upgrade)

Run `eval $(opam env)` when changing switch or prompted, or accept the shell hook setup.

Configuration

opam **config report** display a summary of the set-up
 opam *command* -v[v] print commands being run
 opam **config set** v val set switch variable v
 opam **config set-global** v val set global config variable v
 opam *command* --root root run opam using root as opam root
 opam *command* --switch sw run opam on given sw
 opam **clean** remove archive cache and artefacts

Switches

opam **switch create** [name] compiler
 install a new prefix (“switch”) with the given *compiler* and select it.
compiler should be one of `ocaml-base-compiler[.version]`,
`ocaml-system[.version]`, `ocaml-variants[.version]`, or --empty.
 opam **switch** list installed switches
 opam **switch sw** select the switch sw
 opam **switch create dir** [compiler] install packages defined in *dir* in a
 new local switch
 opam **switch list-available** list all available compilers
 opam **exec** [--switch sw] -- *command args*
 run *command args* in the correct environment

The “current switch” is defined by the OPAMSWITCH environment variable, the PWD (for local switches), and the latest selected one.

Allowed URL formats

http:// https:// ftp:// remote archives
 ssh:// file:// archives or directories
 path file paths (version control is detected)
 user@host:path ssh addresses (using *rsync*)
 git:// hg:// darcs:// version control
 git+ssh:// hg+https:// git+file://
 version control with specific transport
 git+https://foo.com/git/bar#branch
 specific tag, branch, commit, etc.

Packages

opam **install** pkgs
pkgs are package names, *pkg.version*, constraints "*pkg*>=*version*"
 opam **install** --show only print a list of actions
 opam **install** --dry-run simulate everything
 opam **install** pkgs --best-effort
 don't fail on impossible requests
 opam **update** [--all] update repositories and package sources
 opam **upgrade** [pkgs] bring installed packages to latest version
 opam **remove** pkgs uninstall packages
 opam **remove** --auto uninstall no longer needed dependencies
 opam **reinstall** pkgs recompile and reinstall packages
 opam **source** pkg [--dev] download package source
 opam **reinstall** --list-pending
 show pending recom compilations
 opam **reinstall** --forget-pending
 at your own risk

Exploring

opam **list** list installed packages
 opam **list** --resolve pkg list a *sufficient* set of
 dependencies to install *pkg*
 opam **list** [--rec] --required-by pkg list dependencies of *pkg*
 opam **list** [--rec] --depends-on pkg list packages depending on *pkg*
 opam **list** --roots exclude automatically-installed
 dependencies
 opam **list** --external pkg list external *pkg* dependencies
 opam **list** --owns-file file find package owning *file*
 opam **show** pkg [--field=flds] show package details
 opam **show** pkg --raw show package opam file
 opam **show** pkg --list-files list all files belonging to *pkg*
 opam **var** v print value of opam variable
 opam **config list** [pkg] list variables [of package *pkg*]

Package pinning

opam **install** dir pin and install packages from the sources and
 definitions at *dir*
 opam **pin** pkg version pin *pkg* to given version
 opam **pin** pkg[.version] url pin *pkg*¹ to *url* (can be a dir) and install
 opam **pin** url pin using package definitions at *url*
 opam **pin** --dev pkg pin known package to its source repo
 opam **pin** [--short] list pinned packages
 opam **pin remove** pkgs[dir] unpin packages
 opam **pin edit** pkg tweak package definition

pin commands also install/remove unless -n is specified.

¹If not using *pkg.version*, version is defined by opam file, directory name, or latest known version.

Project development

Working with local pins

opam **install** pkg|dir --deps-only
 just install all the pre-requisites
 opam **install** pkg|dir --working-dir
 bypass VCS, take all uncommitted changes
 opam **install** pkg|dir --inplace-build
 process build and install directly in the source
 opam **install** pkg|dir --assume-built
 directly run install commands from the source
 opam **lint** pkg|dir|opamfile
 check the style of a package definition

Sharing a dev setup

opam **lock** pkg --direct-only
 generate an opam.locked file with version-strict dependencies
 opam **lock** pkg
 generate an opam.locked file with a fixed dependency tree
 opam **install** dir|pkg --locked
 install, reproducing the same state as described by the locked file
 opam **switch export|import file** -
 switch state (compiler, installed packages, pins...) save/restore

Configuring remotes

opam **repository** [--all]
 list defined repositories (current switch, or all)
 opam **switch create** --repos default,custom=url ...
 create a switch with repositories default, and newly defined custom
 opam **repository add** name url --dont-select
 define repository *name* at *url*
 opam **repository add** name [url]
 use *name* in the current switch
 opam **repository add** name [url] --set-default
 use *name* for newly created switches
 opam **repository add** name [url] --all-switches
 use *name* for all existing switches
 opam **repository add** name [url] --rank=-1
 use *name* with lowest priority
 opam **repository set-url** name url
 change repository url
 opam **repository set-repos** foo,bar
 redefine the repos selections for the current switch

The definition for *pkg.version* is taken from the highest ranking repository.



Package definition files

Full specification: <http://opam.ocaml.org/doc/Manual.html#opam>

In source: `opam`, or `pkg.opam`, or `opam/pkg.opam`

In a package repository: `packages/pkg/pkg.version/opam`

```

opam-version: "2.0"
name: "project"
version: "0.1"
synopsis: "One-line description"
description: ""
Longer description
""
maintainer: "Name <email>"
authors: ["Name <email>"]
license: "SPDX license" # see https://spdx.org/licenses/
homepage: "https://project.org"
bug-reports: "https://gitfoo.net/project/issues"
dev-repo: "git+https://gitfoo.net/project.git"
depends: ["ocaml"
         "ocamlfind" {<= "1.8"}
         "odoc" {with-doc & >= "1.0"}]
# with a regular ./configure - make
build: [["./configure" "--prefix=%{prefix}%"]
        [make]]
install: [make "install"]
# with dune (no 'install:' needed)
depends: ["dune" {>= "1.10"}] # add to your other 'depends:'
build: ["dune" "build" "-p" name "-j" jobs]

```

External dependencies

`name`: "conf-gtk3" by convention, use a "conf-" prefix

`depexts`: ["libgtk-3-dev"] {os-family = "debian"}
define system package dependencies

`flags`: conf package without install, for polling the system

Related commands:

opam **list** -e --resolve `pkg` print requirements of `pkg` on this system

opam **depext** `pkg` handles requirements of `pkg` (plugin)

Some optional fields

```

tags: ["org:foo" "examples"] for package sorting
depopts: [deps] optional dependencies
substs: ["foo"] expand file "foo" from "foo.in"
patches: ["f.patch" {os = "macos"}]
conditional patches
run-test: [cmds] only when running with --with-test
pin-depends: [{"pkg.version" "url"}]
when pinned, pin also these
conflicts: [deps] anti-dependencies
available: condition pre-requirements
build-env: [CC = "foo"] custom build/install environment
extra-source "fname" {src: "url" checksum: "sha256=..."}
additional downloads
post-messages: "" "message" "" {condition}
print to the user after install

```

When in a repository (not in-source):

```

url {
  src: "url" archive URL (or VCS, in custom repos)
  checksum: "sha512=XXX" supported: md5, sha256, sha512
}

```

Publishing

Through Github pull-requests to the official repository at

<https://github.com/ocaml/opam-repository>

Automatically, using the `opam-publish` plugin:

opam **publish** `url` publish from hosted source archive (plugin)

opam **publish** [`dir`] publish latest tag from detected Github origin

Expressions

Variables are strings, booleans or undefined values.

```

postfix conditions [make "opt" {condition} "foo" ] {condition}
dependencies ("p1" {>= "0.5" & != "0.7" & condition} | "p2")
version ordering "1.02" = "1.2" < "1.12" < "2.0~" < "2.0"
comparisons var = "value", var != "", "0.1" <= var
interpolation "can be %{var}% or %{bool-var?foo:bar}%"
undefined (?undef) is false, (undef | true) is true

```

`_:` `var` is `pkg:var` for the current package

Some useful variables:

Strings

```

name, version current package name, version
allowed e.g. as depends: ["foo" {= version}]
lib this is "%{prefix}%/lib"
pkg:lib this is "%{prefix}%/pkg/lib"
arch, os, os-distribution, os-family, os-version
system detection

```

Booleans

```

pkg:dev pkg was not built from a release archive
with-test tests have been enabled (package-specific)
with-doc documentation has been enabled (package-specific)
build (only in depends) don't recompile when changed
post (only in depends) not needed at build time

```

Run opam **var** for more

Repository administration

To be run from the root of an opam repository:

```

opam admin list list packages
opam admin cache download all archives to cache
opam admin index generate an index (needed for HTTP)
opam admin lint lint all packages
opam admin filter patterns only keep matching packages
opam admin add-constraint "pkg<=3"
add a version constraint to all dependencies towards pkg

```