

Installing Perl Modules



This guide is for advanced users who feel comfortable using commands to install Perl modules in their cPanel account.

Perl modules are collections of functions that allow you to perform tasks in Perl. You will need to install a Perl module before you can use it inside a Perl script. Perl is supported on all of our Shared servers, however, the access to the Perl Module installer is disabled in cPanel, due to it requiring the C compiler. However, **the C compiler is disabled on all of our shared servers** as it is a high-security threat.

Still, it is possible to install any Perl module via the command line without the C compiler enabled. You can do it using the SSH connection, please contact support to have shell access enabled in your cPanel, if it is not already.

We will use the `cpan` command to install Perl modules. You can find the full [list of available CPAN modules in the official documentation](#).

1. Once logging into the shell console, type `cpan` to access the CPAN console.

```
Log4perl: Log4perl: 550 2020.04.25 [~]# cpan
Loading internal null logger. Install Log::Log4perl for logging messages

cpan[1]> █
```

2. To install a Perl module with CPAN, the syntax is as follows:

cpan module install syntax

```
install module::name
```

As an example, we will attempt to install the `Date::Calc` module:

```
cpan[1]> install Date::Calc
Reading '/home/tsmidphase/.cpan/sources/authors/01mailrc.txt.gz'
.....DONE
Reading '/home/tsmidphase/.cpan/sources/modules/02packages.details.txt.gz'
  Database was generated on Sat, 25 Apr 2020 02:17:03 GMT
.....
  New CPAN.pm version (v2.27) available.
  [Currently running version is v2.14]
  You might want to try
    install CPAN
    reload cpan
```

3. You will most likely see this error at the end of the attempt:

```
Has already been unwrapped into directory /home/tsmidphase/.cpan/build/Date-Calc-XS-6.4-STBEY/Date-Calc-XS-6.4.tar.gz
Has already been prepared
STBEY/Date-Calc-XS-6.4.tar.gz
Could not make: Unknown error

Failed during this command:
STBEY/Bit-Vector-7.4.tar.gz           : make NO
XSAWYERX/Storable-3.15.tar.gz       : make NO
STBEY/Date-Calc-6.4.tar.gz          : make_test NO one dependency not OK (Bit::Vector)
(optional) STBEY/Date-Calc-XS-6.4.tar.gz : make NO

cpan[2]> █
```

Cpan is configured to provide one setting to `Makefile.PL`, and `Makefile.PL` is picking up a conflicting setting from the environment.

Cpan Prefix is pre-configured as PREFIX=/home/USER/perl/usr

However, our servers' environments are configured to use a different directory.

As such, you can tell cpan to stop specifying PREFIX. In the cpan shell, run these commands:

```
o conf makepl_arg ''
o conf mbuildpl_arg ''
o conf commit
o conf make_arg ''
o conf commit
```

```
cpan[2]> o conf makepl_arg ''
      makepl_arg      []
commit: wrote '/home/tsmidphase/.cpan/CPAN/MyConfig.pm'

cpan[3]> o conf mbuildpl_arg ''
      mbuildpl_arg    []
commit: wrote '/home/tsmidphase/.cpan/CPAN/MyConfig.pm'

cpan[4]> o conf commit
commit: wrote '/home/tsmidphase/.cpan/CPAN/MyConfig.pm'

cpan[5]> o conf make_arg ''
      make_arg        []
commit: wrote '/home/tsmidphase/.cpan/CPAN/MyConfig.pm'

cpan[6]> o conf commit
commit: wrote '/home/tsmidphase/.cpan/CPAN/MyConfig.pm'

cpan[7]> █
```


4. Now you will be able to run **install module::name** again. A successful installation log looks like the following:

```

t/m006.t .. ok
t/m007.t .. skipped: (no reason given)
t/m008.t .. skipped: (no reason given)
t/m009.t .. skipped: (no reason given)
t/m010.t .. skipped: (no reason given)
t/m011.t .. ok
t/m012.t .. ok
t/m013.t .. ok
All tests successful.
Files=51, Tests=3005,  2 wallclock secs ( 0.38 usr  0.11 sys +  1.61 cusr  0.30 csys =  2.40
CPU)
Result: PASS
   STBEY/Date-Calc-6.4.tar.gz
   /usr/bin/gmake test -- OK
Running make install
Manifying 6 pod documents
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calendar.pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calc.pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calendar.pod
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calc.pod
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calendar/Year.pod
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calendar/Profiles.pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calendar/Profiles.pod
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calendar/Year.pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calc/Object.pod
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calc/PP.pod
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calc/Object.pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/Date/Calc/PP.pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/man/man3/Date::Calendar::Profiles.3pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/man/man3/Date::Calc::Object.3pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/man/man3/Date::Calendar.3pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/man/man3/Date::Calendar::Year.3pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/man/man3/Date::Calc::PP.3pm
Installing /home/tsmidphase/perl5/man/man3/Date::Calc.3pm
Appending installation info to /home/tsmidphase/perl5/lib/perl5/x86_64-linux-thread-multi/per
lllocal.pod
   STBEY/Date-Calc-6.4.tar.gz
   /usr/bin/gmake install UNINST=1 -- OK

cpan[8]>

```

 Some Perl modules may have dependencies on other modules and cannot be installed without them or without a specific version of them. The installation may ask to install 1 or more modules that have a dependence.

5. After the installation do not forget to type exit in the cpan console to close it and remove the lock file:

```

cpan[9]> exit
Lockfile removed.
-~#

```

After this, you have successfully installed Perl modules to use in your scripts!

If you come across any issues during this process, please open a new chat or create a support ticket with our help team.