

NPM CHEAT SHEET

presented by the Student Computing Association

CREATE PROJECT

npm init

Start a new package — walks through setup prompts

npm init -y

Skip all prompts and use default values

npm init <initializer>

Create a project using a specific starter (e.g. react-app)

INSTALL PACKAGES

npm install

Install all dependencies from package.json

npm i <package>

Install a package and save to dependencies

npm i -D <package>

Install as a devDependency

npm i -g <package>

Install package globally

npm i <pkg>@<version>

Install a specific version of a package

npm i <pkg1> <pkg2>

Install multiple packages at once

UPDATE PACKAGES

npm update

Update all packages to their latest allowed version

npm up <package>

Update a specific package

npm install -g npm

Update npm itself to the latest version

npm outdated

List packages that have newer versions available

REMOVE PACKAGES

npm rm <package>

Remove a package from dependencies

npm rm -D <package>

Remove a devDependency

npm rm -g <package>

Remove a globally installed package

RUN SCRIPTS

npm run <script>

Run a script defined in package.json scripts

npm start

Run the start script (shorthand)

npm test

Run the test script (shorthand)

npm run build

Run the build script

npm run dev

Run the dev/watch script

LIST PACKAGES

npm ls

List installed packages in current project

npm ls -g

List globally installed packages

npm ls --depth=0

List top-level packages only (no nested deps)

npm ls <package>

Check if a specific package is installed

AUDIT & SECURITY

npm audit

Scan dependencies for known vulnerabilities

npm audit fix

Automatically fix vulnerabilities where possible

npm audit fix --force

Force fixes, including breaking changes

DOCS & INFO

npm docs <package>

Open the package documentation/readme in browser

npm home <package>

Open the package homepage

npm repo <package>

Open the package's GitHub repository

npm info <package>

Show detailed info about a package

npm search <term>

Search the npm registry for packages

PUBLISHING

npm login

Log in to your npm account

npm whoami

Show the currently logged-in npm user

npm publish

Publish the package to the npm registry

npm publish --access public

Publish a scoped package as public

npm unpublish <pkg>

Remove a package from the registry

npm version <type>

Bump version: patch | minor | major

CONFIG & CACHE

npm config list

List all npm configuration settings

npm config set <key> <val>

Set a configuration value

npm config get <key>

Get a configuration value

npm cache clean --force

Clear the npm cache

npm root -g

Show the global node_modules path

FLAGS TO REMEMBER

-D / --save-dev

Save as devDependency (linters, bundlers, test tools)

-g / --global

Install/remove globally (CLI tools, system-wide commands)

-y / --yes

Skip all prompts, accept defaults

--legacy-peer-deps

Ignore peer dependency conflicts during install

--save-exact

Pin to exact version instead of using ^ or ~

--dry-run

Preview what would happen without making changes

NPX

npm <package>

Run a package without installing it globally

npm create-react-app my-app

Scaffold a new React app using npx

npm <pkg>@<version>

Run a specific version of a package