

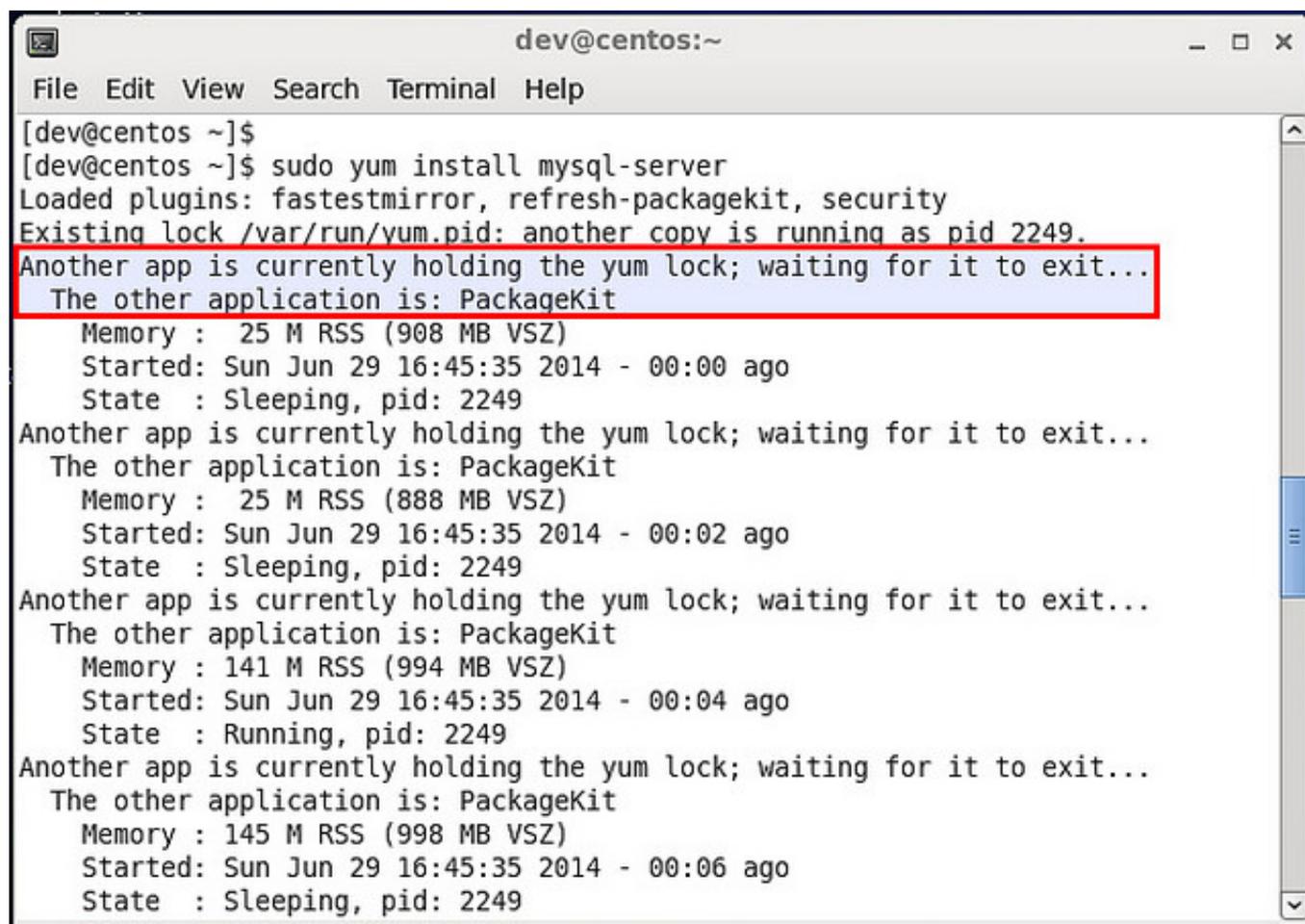
How to disable PackageKit on CentOS, Fedora or RHEL

Author : Dan Nanni

Categories : [CentOS](#), [Fedora](#)

Tagged as : [yum](#)

Question: When I tried to install a package with `yum` command on [CentOS, Fedora or RHEL], I got the error saying that "Another app is currently holding the yum lock; waiting for it to exit... The other application is: PackageKit". PackageKit seems starting automatically in the background, interfering with `yum` command. How can I disable PackageKit to avoid this `yum` error?

A terminal window titled 'dev@centos:~' showing the execution of 'sudo yum install mysql-server'. The output displays the error 'Another app is currently holding the yum lock; waiting for it to exit... The other application is: PackageKit' multiple times. The first instance of this error is highlighted with a red rectangular box. Below each error message, the terminal shows details for the PackageKit process: 'Memory : 25 M RSS (908 MB VSZ)', 'Started: Sun Jun 29 16:45:35 2014 - 00:00 ago', 'State : Sleeping, pid: 2249'. Subsequent instances show the state as 'Running' and 'Sleeping' at different times.

```
dev@centos:~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
[dev@centos ~]$  
[dev@centos ~]$ sudo yum install mysql-server  
Loaded plugins: fastestmirror, refresh-packagekit, security  
Existing lock /var/run/yum.pid: another copy is running as pid 2249.  
Another app is currently holding the yum lock; waiting for it to exit...  
The other application is: PackageKit  
Memory : 25 M RSS (908 MB VSZ)  
Started: Sun Jun 29 16:45:35 2014 - 00:00 ago  
State : Sleeping, pid: 2249  
Another app is currently holding the yum lock; waiting for it to exit...  
The other application is: PackageKit  
Memory : 25 M RSS (888 MB VSZ)  
Started: Sun Jun 29 16:45:35 2014 - 00:02 ago  
State : Sleeping, pid: 2249  
Another app is currently holding the yum lock; waiting for it to exit...  
The other application is: PackageKit  
Memory : 141 M RSS (994 MB VSZ)  
Started: Sun Jun 29 16:45:35 2014 - 00:04 ago  
State : Running, pid: 2249  
Another app is currently holding the yum lock; waiting for it to exit...  
The other application is: PackageKit  
Memory : 145 M RSS (998 MB VSZ)  
Started: Sun Jun 29 16:45:35 2014 - 00:06 ago  
State : Sleeping, pid: 2249
```

PackageKit is a suite of programs designed for checking, updating, and (un)installing packages on a Linux system. When PackageKit is running in the background, it blocks any other software management initiated by users (e.g., with `yum` command).

Ask Xmodulo

Find answers to commonly asked Linux questions

<http://ask.xmodulo.com>

When you fail to run `yum` command due to PackageKit holding the `yum` lock, you can simply wait for PackageKit to finish, and then run `yum` command again.

However, if PackageKit is really annoying to you, you can disable PackageKit. Here is how to turn off PackageKit on RedHat-based system.

Disable PackageKit Temporarily

One way to get around PackageKit during `yum` operation is to use "`--disableplugin`" option with `yum` command. This will temporarily disable PackageKit, and thus you can proceed without being interfered with by PackageKit.

```
$ sudo yum install --disableplugin=refresh-packagekit
```

Disable PackageKit Permanently

If you want to turn off PackageKit permanently, you can do the following.

CentOS/RHEL 7, Fedora 20 or higher:

```
$ sudo systemctl disable packagekitd
```

This will disable PackageKit permanently on the next boot.

On CentOS/RHEL 6, Fedora 19 or earlier:

Open `/etc/yum/pluginconf.d/refresh-packagekit.conf` with a text editor, and change "`enabled=1`" to "`enabled=0`".

```
$ sudo vi /etc/yum/pluginconf.d/refresh-packagekit.conf
```

Remove PackageKit Altogether

A final approach is to simply remove PackageKit altogether.

```
$ sudo yum remove PackageKit
```