

How to upgrade Ruby on CentOS

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Question: I installed a Ruby package with `rubygems` on CentOS 6.5. When I attempt to start the Ruby application, it fails to start because my CentOS system does not meet the minimum version requirement of Ruby (1.9 and higher). How can I upgrade Ruby on CentOS?

On CentOS 6.5, the default version of Ruby installed is 1.8.7. Some Ruby applications require Ruby version 1.9 and higher, so they cannot run properly on stock CentOS. To upgrade Ruby on CentOS, you can build and install Ruby from the source.

If you already installed `ruby` and `ruby-devel` packages with `yum` before, remove them first before upgrading Ruby.

```
$ sudo yum remove ruby ruby-devel
```

Build and install the latest Ruby from the source as follows.

```
$ sudo yum groupinstall "Development Tools"  
$ sudo yum install openssl-devel  
$ wget http://cache.ruby-lang.org/pub/ruby/2.1/ruby-2.1.2.tar.gz  
$ tar xvfz ruby-2.1.2.tar.gz  
$ cd ruby-2.1.2  
$ ./configure  
$ make  
$ sudo make install
```

Finally, update Rubygems and Bundler.

```
$ sudo gem update --system  
$ sudo gem install bundler
```

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```
[dev@centos ~]$  
[dev@centos ~]$ sudo gem update --system  
Updating rubygems-update  
Fetching: rubygems-update-2.3.0.gem (100%)  
Successfully installed rubygems-update-2.3.0  
Parsing documentation for rubygems-update-2.3.0  
Installing ri documentation for rubygems-update-2.3.0  
Installing darkfish documentation for rubygems-update-2.3.0  
Done installing documentation for rubygems-update after 1 seconds  
Installing RubyGems 2.3.0  
RubyGems 2.3.0 installed  
Parsing documentation for rubygems-2.3.0  
Installing ri documentation for rubygems-2.3.0  
  
=== 2.3.0 / 2014-06-10  
  
Minor enhancements:  
  
* Added the `open` command which allows you to inspect the source of a gem  
  using your editor.  
  Issue #789 by Mike Perham. Pull request #804 by Vitali F.
```

If you have any pre-installed gems with an older version of Ruby, update the gems.

```
$ sudo gem update
```

To use the installed Ruby/Rubygems, open a new terminal. Then check the version of installed Ruby and Rubygems as follows.

```
$ ruby --version  
$ rubygems --version
```

Troubleshoot

1. When I run `gem` command after upgrading Ruby, I get the following error.

```
ERROR: While executing gem ... (Gem::Exception)      Unable to require openssl,  
install OpenSSL and rebuild ruby (preferred) or use non-HTTPS sources
```

To fix this problem, you need to build and install Ruby extension for OpenSSL from the source as follows.

```
$ sudo yum install openssl-devel
```

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```
$ cd ruby-2.1.2/ext/openssl/  
$ ruby extconf.rb  
$ make top_srcdir="../../"  
$ sudo make install top_srcdir="../../"
```