12

Answers to Even-numbered Exercises

2. Which apt-get command would you give to update all installed packages, installing new packages if necessary?

```
$ sudo apt-get dist-upgrade
```

4. Suggest two advantages that **deb** files have over source distributions.

Some advantages are automatic dependency resolution, fast installation, simple uninstall, ability to query the package database, and easier deployment. Also, many software packages with complicated configuration scripts examine the local system to determine which options to compile with, so you might end up with different executables on different systems. Using distribution binary packages keeps documentation consistent with installed programs and makes it easier for developers to reproduce bugs.

6. What are some steps you should take before performing an upgrade on a mission-critical server?

Perform the upgrade on an identically configured spare system and see what breaks and how to fix it. In particular, look for error messages and see which configuration information needs to be changed manually. Before you begin the upgrade, make a complete backup copy of the server.