

# Using and Installing Perl



## Overview

Perl is installed on the operating system of each node and is currently at 5.16.3:

```
[netid@compute_hostname ~]$ perl --version

This is perl 5, version 16, subversion 3 (v5.16.3) built for x86_64-linux-
thread-multi
(with 44 registered patches, see perl -V for more detail)
...
```

## Perl Module Policy

We provide a version of perl through modules or the operating system and the user is expected to create their own perl environment using `perl-virtualenv`.

For a helpful Perl tutorial, see: [http://www.tutorialspoint.com/perl/perl\\_modules.htm](http://www.tutorialspoint.com/perl/perl_modules.htm)  
Additionally, O'Reilly Media is a well regarded source for Perl

## Installing Perl Packages Using `perl-virtualenv`

One of the best things about Perl is the number of packages provided by the user community. Installing packages generally requires root access but that is not a viable solution in the HPC environment.

An easy solution is to use `perl-virtualenv` to create a consistent personal Perl environment that will persist for each time you log in.

### Example of creating and using a Perl virtual environment

```
[netid@i0n1 ~]$ perl-virtualenv my_project # Create virtual environment
perl path: /usr/bin/perl
venv path: /home/uxx/netid/my_project
[netid@i0n1 ~]$ source my_project/bin/activate # Activate virtual
environment
(my_project)[netid@i0n1 ~]$ cpanm -i Config::Trivial
--> Working on Config::Trivial
Fetching http://www.cpan.org/authors/id/A/AT/ATRICKETT/Config-Trivial-0.81.
tar.gz ... OK
Configuring Config-Trivial-0.81 ... OK
...
4 distributions installed
(my_project)[netid@i0n1 ~]$
```

