

# MacPorts Tips

I've been using [MacPorts](#) for several years to provide several command line packages that I also use on Linux systems. But often times when I go to use these, I encounter a couple of issues. Here's how I'm currently resolving these two issues.

## I often can't find the MacPorts package in my path

My solution: Update the default PATH environmental variable on my mac.

```
sudo vi /etc/paths
```

```
/opt/local/bin  
/usr/local/bin  
/usr/bin  
/bin  
/opt/local/sbin  
/usr/sbin  
/sbin
```

## The MacPorts packages currently installed are out of date

My solution: Setup a CRON for root to upgrade and clean my MacPorts install.

```
sudo crontab -e
```

```
MAILTO=bglick@illinois.edu
```

```
#-----  
# UPDATE MAC PORTS - https://guide.macports.org/chunked/using.common-tasks.html  
15 10 * * 2,5 ( /opt/local/bin/port selfupdate; /opt/local/bin/port upgrade outdated; /opt/local/bin/port  
uninstall inactive; /opt/local/bin/port uninstall leaves; /opt/local/bin/port uninstall obsolete )  
#-----
```