ORACLE

Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure
Frequently Asked Questions

Public

Disclaimer

This document is not part of your license agreement nor can it be incorporated into any contractual agreement with Oracle or its subsidiaries or affiliates.

This document is for informational purposes only and is intended solely to assist you in planning for the implementation and upgrade of the product features described. It is not a commitment to deliver any material, code, or functionality, and should not be relied upon in making purchasing decisions. The development, release, timing, and pricing of any features or functionality described in this document remains at the sole discretion of Oracle. Due to the nature of the product architecture, it may not be possible to safely include all features described in this document without risking significant destabilization of the code.

ORACLE

Table of contents

Purpose

Oracle Linux is a secure and high-performance operating environment that delivers the operating system, virtualization, management, automation, and cloud native computing tools in a single, easy-to-manage support offering. Oracle Linux provides an application binary–compatible alternative to Red Hat Enterprise Linux and CentOS Linux and is supported across both distributed and multicloud environments.

This document provides answers to frequently asked questions relating to Oracle Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI), and includes information on features, support, licensing, compatibility, deployment, and resources.

Oracle Linux in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure

What Oracle Linux features and services are available in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI)?

Customers deploying Oracle Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure have access to the features, services, components, and Linux programs supported under Oracle Linux Support as outlined in the Oracle Linux License Information User Manual. Additionally, features and tools are provided to facilitate and enhance the deployment and development platform experience in OCI.

Comprehensive support

- Oracle Linux Premier Support provides access to 24/7 expert Linux support and to the My Oracle Support portal, which includes an extensive Linux knowledge base at no additional cost for OCI customers.

- Oracle Linux Extended Support is included with an OCI subscription. Refer to the Lifetime Support Policy for support coverage dates for Oracle Linux.

Management tools and services

- Oracle Autonomous Linux, based on the Oracle Linux operating environment, provides autonomous services such as automated zero-downtime patching, critical event monitoring, and known exploit detection, to help keep the operating system highly secure and reliable.

- Oracle OS Management Hub is a managed service that simplifies the management of updates for Oracle Linux systems at scale on OCI, supported third-party clouds, and on-premises. OS Management Hub helps you simplify and automate the execution of common management tasks for Oracle Linux systems, including patch and package management, and security and compliance reporting. OS Management Hub also supports Windows Server instances in OCI.

- Oracle Linux Automation Manager and Engine, based on the AWX open source and Ansible projects, are a scalable and secure infrastructure automation framework for enterprise environments. They help streamline software provisioning, configuration management, and application deployment, enabling infrastructure as code.

- Comprehensive container and container management support for Oracle Container Runtime for Docker and Oracle Linux Container Services for use with Kubernetes.

Security and compliance

- Oracle Ksplice is preinstalled with Oracle Cloud and ready to update the Oracle Linux kernel and user space libraries with zero downtime.

- Oracle Linux Security Technical Implementation Guide (STIG) images are available for launching Oracle Linux enhanced security profile instances in OCI. The images provide a hardened version of the standard Oracle Linux image and are based on implementations of Oracle Linux STIGs. With these images, you can easily and quickly launch Oracle Linux instances in OCI that you can configure to match certain security standards and requirements set by the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) of the U.S. Department of Defense.

Fast and easy deployment

- Frequent Oracle Linux image updates are available with the latest bug fixes, security errata, and Oracle Cloud tools and enhancements.

- Faster downloads from the local mirrored Oracle Linux yum server and Oracle Container Registry are accessible from within OCI, without having to incur network charges.

- Access to Linux developer and preview software channels is available in the Oracle Linux yum server, as well as thousands of EPEL packages built and signed by Oracle for security and compliance.

- OCI utilities and Oracle Linux KVM utilities can help simplify and accelerate the deployment and configuration of Oracle Linux and KVM instances on OCI.

- OCI client tools such Software Development Kits (SDKs), and Command Line Interfaces (CLIs) are deployed faster and easier through Oracle-provided yum server RPM's available locally in OCI.

- Oracle Linux 7 to 8 and Oracle Linux 8 to 9 (x86_64 and aarch64) in-place upgrades can be accomplished using the Leapp utility, a Linux community framework for updating operating systems and applications. For more information, read the Oracle Linux 8 Upgrading Systems with Leapp or the Oracle Linux 9 Upgrading Systems with Leapp documentation.

- Oracle Cloud Marketplace in OCI enables quick and easy deployment of the Oracle Linux STIG image and other Oracle and partner applications.

Enhanced developer experience

- Oracle Linux Cloud Developer image, an Oracle Linux 8-based, ready-to-run image, provides a comprehensive out-of-the-box development platform. The image preinstalls and automatically configures and launches a complete development environment on OCI. It includes the latest tools, a choice of popular development languages, OCI software development kits, and Oracle Database connectors. The Oracle Linux Cloud Developer image is readily available from the OCI Console for x86_64 and aarch64 platforms. It is available to OCI customers at no additional cost. Some individual components included in the image may have additional licensing and support subscription requirements.

- Oracle Linux Cloud Developer image for Arm is readily available from the Oracle Cloud Marketplace and OCI Console for quick and easy deployment.

Oracle Linux Support in OCI

What does Oracle Linux Support cost on OCI?

- With an OCI subscription there is no additional cost for Oracle Linux Premier Support. This includes support for additional Oracle Linux features and tools that integrate with and enhance the cloud platform experience on OCI.

What does Oracle Linux Extended Support cost on OCI?

- Oracle Linux Extended Support is available at no additional cost to OCI subscribers.

What OCI compute shapes are compatible with Oracle Linux on OCI?

- Oracle Linux can be deployed on 64-bit AMD and Intel (x86_64) and 64-bit Arm (aarch64) OCI compute shapes and on Cloud Free Tier compute.

Oracle OS Management Hub

What does it cost to use the OS Management Hub service in OCI?

- There is no additional cost for OCI customers to use the OS Management Hub service to manage Oracle Linux and Microsoft Windows Server instances on OCI. Note that Oracle Linux Support (Basic or Premier) subscriptions are required to manage Oracle Linux systems on-premises and on supported third-party clouds using OS Management Hub.

What systems and software can be managed with OS Management Hub?

- OS Management Hub is a managed service that simplifies the management and monitoring of updates for enterprise operating systems at scale on-premises, on OCI, and on supported third-party clouds.

- OS Management Hub is supported on Oracle Linux and Microsoft Windows Server instances on OCI. OS Management Hub also supports Oracle Linux systems on-premises and on supported third-party clouds. You can configure custom images for OS Management Hub by installing the required Oracle Cloud Agent and enabling the OS Management Hub Agent plugin.

- Patch management using third-party and private customer software repositories is supported. For details on supported repositories, refer to the OS Management Hub documentation.

Does OS Management Hub support Oracle Linux for Arm instances?

- Yes, OS Management Hub supports Oracle Linux Arm instances. For more information, see the OS Management Hub documentation.

Does OS Management Hub support instances deployed on Oracle Cloud Free Tier compute?

- No, instances deployed on Oracle Cloud Free Tier shapes are not supported and cannot be managed by the OS Management Hub service.

Can I manage Ksplice patching with OS Management Hub?

- Yes, Ksplice updates can be managed using OS Management Hub. Oracle Linux instances deployed from OCI platform images automatically enable Ksplice. The OS Management Hub console provides an interface to manage and configure Ksplice updates for Oracle Linux instances in OCI.

When does the first-generation OS Management service reach end of life?

- The first-generation OS Management service reaches end of life (EOL) on April 23, 2025. The service is no longer available in regions where you are not already using OS Management, or to new users with new tenancies. Before the EOL date, we recommend that you migrate your managed instances to the OS Management Hub service. For more information, see the Service Change Announcement.

How do I migrate from the first-generation OS Management service to OS Management Hub?

- Before the EOL date, we recommend that you migrate your OS Management managed instances to the OS Management Hub service. For more information, see the Service Change Announcement.

- Autonomous Linux instances launched *before* April 24, 2024 have a service dependency on the OS Management service, which will reach end of life on April 23, 2025. This change requires that you follow the steps in Important Maintenance Event.

Oracle Autonomous Linux

Does Oracle Linux Premier Support cover Autonomous Linux deployments in OCI?

- For customers with paid OCI subscriptions, Oracle Linux Premier Support is included at no additional cost for Oracle Linux and Autonomous Linux deployments. The same support policies apply to Autonomous Linux as for Oracle Linux deployments in OCI.

- When Autonomous Linux is deployed on Always Free Tier resources, support is provided by the community, not by Oracle.

Is Autonomous Linux binary compatible with IBM's Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL)?

- Autonomous Linux, which is based on Oracle Linux, is 100% application binary-compatible with RHEL. This means that applications certified to run on RHEL can run on Autonomous Linux unmodified. Consult with your application provider for more information.

Can Autonomous Linux be deployed on Oracle Cloud Always Free Tier compute resources?

- No, Autonomous Linux is not supported on Oracle Cloud Free Tier compute.

I launched an Autonomous Linux instance before April 24, 2024 that has a service dependency on the OS Management service, which will reach end of life on April 23, 2025. What do I need to do to avoid a service disruption?

- The Autonomous Linux service has different dependencies on other Oracle Cloud services for providing and managing autonomous updates. One of the services that the Autonomous Linux service depends on for delivering autonomous updates has been redesigned with an updated architecture.
- If you launched an instance *before* April 24, 2024 using an older Autonomous Linux image, follow the steps in Important Maintenance Event.
- If you launched an instance with an Autonomous Linux image published *after* April 24, 2024 (Oracle-Autonomous-Linux-8.9-2024.04.19-0 or Oracle-Autonomous-Linux-7.9-2024.04.19-0), no further action is required.

Is Autonomous Linux available for deployment on-premises?

- Autonomous Linux is only available for deployment on OCI.

Oracle Ksplice Support

Can I use Ksplice for zero-downtime patching for Oracle Linux instances on OCI?

- Yes, you can use Ksplice for Oracle Linux instances on OCI at no additional cost.

Can I use Ksplice to patch my Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) and CentOS Linux kernels on OCI?

- Ksplice kernel updates are no longer provided for RHEL and CentOS Linux. See the Ksplice list of kernels that are actively maintained. Any Ksplice updates previously issued are still available.

Can I use Ksplice to patch my Ubuntu kernels on OCI?

- Ksplice kernel updates are available for certain Ubuntu kernels. See the Ksplice list of kernels that are actively maintained.

OCI Images Based on Oracle Linux 7

Why are the Oracle Linux KVM and Oracle Linux Storage Appliance images no longer available in the Oracle Cloud Marketplace?

- The Oracle Linux Storage Appliance and the Oracle Linux 7 Cloud Developer images are based on Oracle Linux 7 and have been deprecated as of December 31, 2024. Oracle Linux 7 Premier Support reached end of life as of December 31, 2024.

- See the documentation for the Oracle Linux KVM and Oracle Linux Storage Appliance images documentation for further information on how to proceed.

Are there Oracle Linux Cloud Developer images available for Oracle Linux 8?

- Oracle Linux Cloud Developer images based on Oracle Linux 7 have been deprecated as of December 31, 2024. Oracle Linux Cloud Developer (x86_64 and aarch64) platform images based on Oracle Linux 8 are available in OCI.

Support for Red Hat Enterprise Linux and CentOS Linux

Does Oracle provide support for Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) and CentOS installations running on OCI compute?

- Support for Red Hat products running on OCI is provided by both IBM Red Hat and Oracle. For more information, refer to the Red Hat on OCI FAQ.

- If you need to switch RHEL instances to Oracle Linux on OCI, it is highly recommended to launch a new deployment of Oracle Linux from the OCI Console.

- For CentOS instances, Oracle will only support systems that are based on CentOS Linux, not CentOS Stream.

- Contact Oracle Linux Consulting Services for assistance in switching to Oracle Linux.

- For additional details, refer to Oracle Open Source Support Policies (PDF).

Support for the Oracle Linux Red Hat Compatible Kernel on OCI

Is the Red Hat Compatible Kernel (RHCK) for Oracle Linux supported on OCI?

- Oracle Linux comes with a choice of two kernels for the x86_64 platform: the Unbreakable Enterprise Kernel (UEK), which is installed and enabled by default, and the Red Hat compatible kernel (RHCK). For the Arm (aarch64) platform, Oracle Linux ships with the UEK kernel. Oracle Linux support is provided for both UEK and RHCK on OCI.

How do I change the default Unbreakable Enterprise Linux Kernel (UEK) for Oracle Linux to the Red Hat Compatible Kernel (RHCK)?

- To change the default kernel (UEK) for Oracle Linux instances in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, and boot into an older or other kernel such as RHCK, refer to: Oracle Linux – How to Change the Default Kernel.

ORACLE

Using Oracle Linux in OCI

How can I try out Oracle Linux on OCI?

- You will need to <u>register</u> for an OCI account. You may be eligible for <u>Oracle Cloud Free Tier</u> services. Review the instructions in the <u>Getting Started with Oracle Linux</u> documentation.

How can I deploy Oracle Linux and other Oracle Linux-based instances in OCI?

- Oracle Linux, Oracle Autonomous Linux, and <u>Oracle Linux Cloud Developer</u> (x86_64, aarch64) images are available directly from within the OCI Console as <u>Oracle-provided platform images</u>. You can easily deploy these images from the Oracle Linux platform images catalog in OCI. The Oracle Linux platform images catalog is available when selecting the image source when creating a compute instance from the OCI Console. For more information on deploying and using Oracle Linux on OCI, consult the following documents:

  - <u>Getting Started with Oracle Linux</u>
  - <u>Oracle Autonomous Linux Image</u>
  - <u>Oracle Linux Cloud Developer Image</u>

- Oracle Linux STIG instances can be easily and quickly launched from the <u>Oracle Cloud Marketplace</u> or from the OCI Console Marketplace catalog. Simply select the Marketplace image to launch the instance. For more information, see the <u>Oracle Linux STIG Image</u> documentation.

Oracle Linux Partner Applications

Where can I find a list of Oracle Linux and OCI partner applications?

- A thriving ecosystem of partners—independent software vendors, hardware vendors, and system integrators— stand behind Oracle Linux. For more about Oracle Linux partners, visit the <u>Oracle Linux and Virtualization Independent Software Vendor Catalog</u>.
- Partner applications for OCI can be found on the <u>Oracle Cloud Marketplace</u>.

Oracle Linux for OCI Resources

Where can I find more information on Oracle Linux for OCI?

Information on Oracle Linux and OCI can be found at the following links:

- <u>oracle.com/linux</u>
- <u>Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure datasheet</u>
- <u>Oracle Linux for Arm datasheet</u>
- <u>Oracle Linux Frequently Asked Questions</u>
- <u>Oracle Autonomous Linux</u>
- <u>Oracle Cloud Infrastructure</u>
- <u>Oracle Linux FAQ</u>

Documentation for related technologies and features can be found at the following links:

- <u>Oracle Linux</u>

ORACLE

- Getting Started with Oracle Linux
- OS Management Hub
- Oracle Autonomous Linux
- Oracle Ksplice
- Oracle Cloud Infrastructure Utilities
- Oracle Linux STIG Image
- Oracle Linux Cloud Developer Image

Where can I learn more about Oracle Linux Support?

- Visit Oracle Linux Support to learn about support coverage.

Where can I find Oracle Linux training resources?

- Oracle Linux and related training resources including videos, tutorials, and labs are available on the Oracle Linux Training Station.

How can I stay connected with Oracle Linux news and announcements?

Follow us for announcements, news, tips, and events:

- Oracle Linux Blog
- Oracle Cloud Infrastructure Blog
- Oracle Linux Community
- Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure Community
- Oracle Linux on
  - X (previously known as Twitter)
  - Facebook
  - LinkedIn

Connect with us

Call +**1.800.ORACLE1** or visit **oracle.com**. Outside North America, find your local office at: **oracle.com/contact**.

🅱 blogs.oracle.com   f facebook.com/oracle   🐦 twitter.com/oracle