

Oracle Unbreakable Linux FAQ for Partner ISVs

What is Oracle Unbreakable Linux?

[Oracle Unbreakable Linux](#) is a support program that delivers enterprise-class support for Linux with premier backports, comprehensive management, indemnification, testing and more, all at significantly lower cost.

Oracle Unbreakable Linux support customers at the Basic and Premier levels have access—at no additional charge—to the [Oracle Management Pack for Linux](#) which delivers comprehensive provisioning, patching, monitoring and administration capabilities via a single, web-based interface, further reducing the complexity and cost of managing Linux environments. Basic and Premier customers also get [Oracle Clusterware for Unbreakable Linux](#) at no additional charge.

Important Terminology:

- **Oracle Unbreakable Linux** is an umbrella term used to describe Oracle's enterprise-class support program for Linux. [Read the FAQ](#).
- **Oracle Enterprise Linux** is Red Hat-compatible and open source software. [Download](#).

Further information is available at oracle.com/linux

Oracle states that Oracle Enterprise Linux is compatible with Red Hat Linux. Does this mean that my application will run unmodified on Oracle Enterprise Linux?

Yes. End users can continue to use any ISV application that has been certified for use with RHEL3 and RHEL4. Oracle will offer support for the operating system running underneath applications that have been certified with these versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux. ISVs that have tested and certified with RHEL are assured that Oracle Enterprise Linux is compatible with RHEL.

My application is certified on Red Hat Linux, what if anything, do I need to do be certified on Oracle Enterprise Linux?

An ISV does not need to do anything special to test and certify their application with Oracle Enterprise Linux. Going forward, the ISVs should test Oracle Enterprise Linux by running the same tests they run against RHEL. Most ISVs only test major releases coming out of Red Hat (i.e. do not test individual patches). We expect that most third party application providers will do the same with Oracle Enterprise Linux. Please visit the [Certifying Your Applications with Oracle Enterprise Linux](#) page.

From a support point of view, the only difference for an ISV support team will be “changes in version numbers in some Linux packages.” When a customer calls an ISV with an issue, and their support analyst does a query on the operating system, they might see something different than if it was just Red Hat. As an example if Red Hat releases a kernel update it could be called version 2.6.9-42.0.3.EL.

A customer supported by Oracle may get a bug fix on top of that and it is called 2.6.9-42.0.3.0.1.EL. This is the only difference (in naming convention) that the ISVs need to be aware of. The increment version numbers are done in a manner that's aligned with how Red Hat does versioning so the third party application does not need to change.

For many years, Oracle has been providing patches and fixes for RHEL while fixing P1 issues for the Linux OS for our customers. We have maintained compatibility with RHEL and have proved that we can effectively manage this process with 3rd party applications.

But if Oracle Enterprise Linux contains patches, fixes and updates to the version of Red Hat that I tested, won't I still need to verify that my application will run unmodified on Oracle Enterprise Linux?

An ISV does not need to do anything special to test and certify their application with Oracle Enterprise Linux. Going forward, the ISVs should test Oracle Enterprise Linux by running the same tests they run against RHEL. Most ISVs only test major releases coming out of Red Hat (i.e. do not test individual patches). We expect that most third party application providers will do the same with Oracle supported Linux.

Describe the process that Oracle uses to synchronize with Red Hat Enterprise Linux?

Linux is available under the GPL license, which requires free distribution of the source code. A significant amount of code that is shipped by Red Hat as part of its distribution is actually created by developers outside of Red Hat. Oracle takes the source code that Red Hat makes available under GPL. Oracle tracks the Red Hat distribution closely to ensure compatibility for users.

Oracle plans to synchronize with every major RHEL software release including updates. If Red Hat does not include Oracle fixes in their update releases, Oracle will include the additional fixes at the time of each major synchronization with the current RHEL software release. Oracle makes all Linux patches and updates available under GPL and anyone—including Red Hat—can take those fixes.

What server environments are certified with Oracle Enterprise Linux?

Oracle supports x86 and x86-64 architecture based hardware running the Linux operating system. All hardware platforms that are certified by Red Hat for RHEL3 and RHEL4 for x86 and x86-64 architectures are supported by Oracle.

What is required of an ISV to resell Oracle Unbreakable Linux Support to customers?

You must execute a FUDA addendum. Since Linux is an open source product, the license cost is zero. You will be reselling support only.

Can ISVs resell Oracle Unbreakable Linux support only to Oracle customers?

Unbreakable Linux support can be sold to *any* customer, not just those using Oracle products.

What is the price of Oracle Unbreakable Linux support and what are the terms?

Read the [Oracle Global Price List for Linux Support](#) (.pdf) for details the pricing and discounting associated with ordering Enterprise Linux support services from Oracle.

What should I do to indicate my support for Oracle Unbreakable Linux Support program?

Three simple steps:

1. Indicate support of Enterprise Linux with your service or application on your web site.
2. Complete or update your profile in the OPN Solutions Catalog selecting "Oracle Enterprise Linux" as a supported OS platform for your service or application.
3. For additional exposure and marketing opportunities, [join the Oracle Unbreakable Linux Product Focus Area – simply visit the Oracle PartnerNetwork.](#)

Where can I get more information?

To learn more about Oracle Unbreakable Linux, visit:

- Oracle Unbreakable Linux Product Focus Area oracle.com/partners/home/pf/global/linux/unauth
- All external Linux information oracle.com/linux
- OTN technical information otn.oracle.com/linux

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