

Oracle Solaris 11 Express Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions

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General FAQs for Oracle Solaris 11 Express

1-What is Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

Oracle Solaris 11 Express is a release of the Oracle Solaris operating system that provides customers access to the latest technology and innovation.

2-Why should I be using Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

While Oracle Solaris 10 is the ideal platform for today's mission critical workloads, Oracle Solaris 11 Express 2010.11 is a production ready release to provide administrators the access to the latest innovation that is not available in Oracle Solaris 10. Oracle Solaris 11 Express is a great opportunity for administrators and early adopters to test these new features and deploy the operating system with full production support from Oracle, and for developers and independent software vendors (ISVs) to certify their applications in time for Oracle Solaris 11. Oracle Solaris 11 Express 2010.11 is also available as a choice of operating system on the Exadata Database Machine and Exalogic Elastic Cloud Machine.

3-How does Oracle Solaris 11 Express relate to Oracle Solaris 10?

Oracle Solaris 11 Express is a release providing customers access to the latest technology and innovation that will form a future Oracle Solaris 11 release in 2011. Much of the technology included in Oracle Solaris 10 is also included in Oracle Solaris 11 Express, however there has been significant enhancements in areas of availability, efficiency, scale and performance, and security that are not available in

Oracle Solaris 10.

4-What is the difference between Oracle Solaris 11 Express and Oracle Solaris 10?

Oracle Solaris 11 Express provides customers with the latest access to Oracle Solaris 11 technology, allowing administrators to test and deploy within their enterprise environments and greatly simplify their day to day operations. Oracle Solaris 11 Express contains many different technology innovations that are not available in Oracle Solaris 10 such as new package management tools and utilities, built-in network virtualization, and support for the latest hardware platforms. To see the list of features that are new to Oracle Solaris 11 Express, please see [What's New in Oracle Solaris 11 Express 2010.11](#).

5-Why should I choose Oracle Solaris 10 vs Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

Customers who are looking for the award winning, security certified operating environment should choose Oracle Solaris 10, which has received 5 years of extensive stability and performance focus.

Customers who are looking for the latest technology innovations included in Oracle Solaris 11 should choose Oracle Solaris 11 Express to provide the best opportunity to move to Oracle Solaris 11 adoption.

6-Is Oracle Solaris 11 Express binary compatible with Oracle Solaris 10?

Yes, binary and source compatibility has been the foundations of Oracle Solaris development and Oracle is committed to preserving this business investment in Oracle Solaris 11 Express and future generations of Oracle Solaris.

7-How does Oracle Solaris 11 Express relate to OpenSolaris?

Oracle Solaris 11 Express is the latest release of the Oracle Solaris operating system. This release is the path forward for developers, end-users and partners using previous generations of OpenSolaris releases.

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8-With the release of Oracle Solaris 11 Express 2010.11, does this mean that Oracle Solaris 11 will be available soon?

Oracle Solaris 11 will be available in 2011.

9-What architectures is Oracle Solaris 11 Express available for?

Oracle Solaris 11 Express is available for both SPARC and x86.

10-Is Oracle Solaris 11 Express available as a default factory install choice for Oracle hardware?

Not at this time. Install images can either be downloaded through Oracle Technical Network (OTN), E-Delivery, or ordered as a media pack through the Oracle Store.

Licensing and Support for Oracle Solaris 11 Express

11-Can I get support for Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

Yes. Oracle Solaris 11 Express is covered under the Oracle Premier Support for Operating Systems or Oracle Premier Support for Systems support option for Oracle hardware, and Oracle Solaris Premier Subscription for non-Oracle hardware. Customers must choose either of these support options should they wish to deploy Oracle Solaris 11 Express into a production environment.

12-What support options are available for Oracle Solaris 11 Express on Oracle hardware?

Customers can purchase either the [Oracle Premier Support for Systems](#) (includes operating system, virtualization and hardware) or [Oracle Premier Support for Operating Systems](#) (includes operating system and virtualization only).

13-What support options are available for Oracle Solaris 11 Express on non-Oracle hardware?

Customers can purchase the Oracle Solaris Premier Subscription for non-Oracle hardware. For more details on this program, go [here](#).

14-Can I use Oracle Solaris 11 Express without a support contract?

Yes, you may use Oracle Solaris 11 Express for evaluation and development without a support contract under the Oracle Technical Network perpetual license.

Installing and Upgrading Oracle Solaris 11 Express

15-Where can I download Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

Oracle Solaris 11 Express can be downloaded from [Oracle Technology Network \(OTN\)](#).

16-What are the minimum system requirements for Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

Recommended disk size is 7GB. Recommended memory size is 768MB. See the [Oracle Solaris 11 Express System Requirements document](#) for more information.

17-Is my hardware compatible with Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

A list of known compatible platforms is available at the [Oracle Solaris 11 Express Hardware Compatibility List](#).

18-How can I install Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

Administrators can install Oracle Solaris 11 Express in a number of different ways - from a "hands-free" server based automated installation to an interactive text or graphical installation. Installation is easy and fast, and can be customized with additional software using the Oracle Solaris 11 Express network based packaging system. Get all the details about installing locally and doing your basic system setup in the [Getting Started Guide](#).

19-Where can I buy an Oracle Solaris 11 Express media pack?

An Oracle Solaris 11 Express media pack can be purchased through the [Oracle Store](#). The media pack will be available in December 2010.

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20-What is the LiveCD?

The Oracle Solaris 11 Express LiveCD provides administrators with an opportunity to explore a complete environment prior to installing it onto a system. The system boots off the media directly into a complete graphical desktop environment. Should they choose to install the operating system, they may start the graphical installer.

21-What is the Interactive Text Installer?

The Oracle Solaris 11 Express Interactive Text Installer provides a text based installation for server systems. By answering a number of simple questions, administrators can install Oracle Solaris 11 Express on systems that do not have a graphical display attached to them.

22-What is the Automated Installer?

The Oracle Solaris 11 Express Automated Installer provides a "hands-free" installation for multiple client systems, allowing administrators to create and manage customized installation profiles for different systems. Automated Installer is a network based installation.

23-What are the differences between the LiveCD, the Automated Installer and the Interactive Text Installer?

The Oracle Solaris 11 Express LiveCD and Interactive Text Installer are designed to install single client systems one at a time prompting administrators with a simple set of questions such as the disks to install to, partitioning of that disk, time and date, and the initial user account and password. Once the installer starts, it will install a pre-defined selection of software packages either oriented towards desktop systems with a complete desktop environment (in the case of the LiveCD) or towards server systems (in the case of the Interactive Text Installer).

The Oracle Solaris 11 Express Automated Installer is designed to install multiple client systems over the network and manage a selection of different installation profiles (and software selection for that profile) across a myriad of different client systems (both SPARC and x86).

24-Can I install Oracle Solaris 11 Express from USB media?

Yes. USB installation images are available from the Oracle Technical Network (OTN) download site. All USB installation images must be copied to USB flash media using the `usbcopy` command-line utility. Please go to the [Oracle Solaris 11 Express downloads web page](#) for all details.

25-Can I install Oracle Solaris 11 Express into a virtual machine?

Yes. Oracle Solaris 11 Express is a supported guest in most common virtualization software.

26-Can Oracle Solaris 11 Express be used as a guest operating system?

Oracle Solaris 11 Express is a supported guest operating system in Oracle VM for SPARC, Oracle VM for x86, and Oracle VM Virtualbox. Oracle Solaris 11 Express is also known to work in VMware and Hyper-V. On x86 hardware it is also expected to be compatible with third party hypervisors.

27-I have invested a lot of time/energy in packaging, patching and installation technologies in Oracle Solaris 10 that have since been replaced in Oracle Solaris 11 Express. Why should I stay with Oracle Solaris as the deployment platform of choice?

Oracle believes the installation and packaging technology included in Oracle Solaris 11 will make major strides in operational efficiency and complexity in terms of system management across multiple systems. That said, Oracle is also committed to preserving business investment of the Oracle Solaris platform and compatibility for old SVr4 packages will be supported on Oracle Solaris 11. Plans to help the transition from JumpStart to Automated Install are being investigated.

28-What languages are supported on Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

Solaris 11 Express supports over 200 locales. Locales which include translated messages include Japanese, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese.

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For a complete list of languages supported on Oracle Solaris 11 Express, see the [Oracle Solaris 11 Express System Requirements Document](#).

29-What is the upgrade path for Oracle Solaris 11 Express from Oracle Solaris 10?

The supported upgrade path between Oracle Solaris 10 and Oracle Solaris 11 Express involves the use of Oracle Solaris 10 Branded Containers, allowing administrators to take an run Oracle Solaris 10 environments inside a branded container on top of Oracle Solaris 11 Express. For users already running their applications either in zones or on bare metal on Oracle Solaris 10 systems, virtual-to-virtual (v2v) and physical-to-virtual (p2v) tools are provided to help this transition over to an Oracle Solaris 10 Container. There is no supported on-disk upgrade path between Oracle Solaris 10 and Oracle Solaris 11 Express at this time.

30-What is the upgrade path for Oracle Solaris 11 Express from OpenSolaris 2009.06?

Customers can upgrade their system to Oracle Solaris 11 Express using the package management tools and by accepting a new license agreement. Customers wishing to upgrade must ensure they install the latest updates available for OpenSolaris prior to switching their default publisher to <http://pkg.oracle.com/solaris/release>. For more details on upgrading from OpenSolaris, please see the [Release Notes](#).

31-What is the upgrade path for Oracle Solaris 11 Express to future Oracle Solaris 11 Express releases?

Customers can upgrade their systems to future releases of Oracle Solaris 11 Express by using the package management tools.

32-What is the upgrade path for Oracle Solaris 11 Express to Oracle Solaris 11?

Supported customers will be able to upgrade their systems to Oracle Solaris 11 when it is available by using the package management tools.

Using Oracle Solaris 11 Express

33-How to I customize my Oracle Solaris 11 Express installation?

Administrators may customize their installation using the `pkg(1)` command line or graphical Package Manager to install extra software from additional network package repositories.

34-How do I connect to new software package repositories? Oracle Solaris 11 Express is pre-configured to use a default package repository containing a wide selection of software packages. Additional network package repositories of software are available from <http://pkg.oracle.com>.

35-What is the Update Manager?

The Update Manager is a daemon that runs in the background periodically checking for system updates from the default package repository. When updates are available, administrators will be notified by the graphical system notification tray in the desktop panel.

36-What are support repository updates (SRUs)?

Customers with an active Oracle support plan will have access to a supported network package repository that will receive software updates on a regular cadence. These updates will include bug fixes and security updates.

37-My deployment environment has very restrictive network access. How can I update my client machines without access to the package repositories on oracle.com?

Customers with restricted access may download entire package repository images and set up a local package repository for their client machines to connect to. This repository image is also included in the Oracle Solaris 11 Express media pack.

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Available Resources

38-Where can I find help?

Customers may visit the following sites for self service help:

- [Oracle Solaris 11 Express on OTN](#)
- [Oracle Solaris 11 Express Key Resources and Product Documentation on OTN](#)
- [Oracle Solaris Forum](#)
- [Oracle Solaris 11 Express on oracle.com](#)

39-Where can I find more information on Oracle Solaris 11 Express features?

For more information about Oracle Solaris 11 Express features, see the [What's New in Oracle Solaris 11 Express Document](#) and the [Product Documentation](#).

Also, do not hesitate to join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

40-How do I find out which Oracle applications are certified on Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

This information is available through [My Oracle Support](#).

41-Which applications are expected to run within an Oracle Solaris 10 Branded Container on Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

All applications that are known to work within native zones on Oracle Solaris 10 are expected to run within Oracle Solaris 10 Containers on Oracle Solaris 11 Express.

42-Where can I find product documentation for Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

Oracle Solaris 11 Express [Product Documentation](#) is your ultimate resource for how to manage your Oracle Solaris systems and develop applications on those systems. From managing ZFS storage pools to isolating applications to run in an Oracle Solaris zone, you'll find low-level detailed help in the Oracle Solaris 11 Express product documentation.

43-Where can I report bugs I'd like to see in Oracle Solaris 11 Express?

Users may report bugs or RFEs at <http://bugs.opensolaris.org>, however Oracle is under no

obligation to provide fixes for these issues. Customers who have opted for an Oracle support plan must report bugs or RFEs through My Oracle Support in line with the standard terms and conditions of the support policies they have accepted.