

Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure



Frequently Asked Questions

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INTRODUCTION

Oracle Linux is a proven operating environment that is optimized for performance, scalability, reliability, and security. It offers the most cost-effective and integrated operating environment for Oracle Cloud, with the best platform experience for Oracle and non-Oracle applications alike.

This document provides answers to frequently asked questions relating to Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, and includes support, licensing, compatibility, deployment, and resources information.

ORACLE LINUX FEATURES IN ORACLE CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE

What Oracle Linux features are provided for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure customers?

- Customers deploying [Oracle Linux](#) on [Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#) (OCI) have access to the features, components, and Linux programs supported under [Oracle Linux Support](#) as outlined in the Oracle Linux [6](#) and [7](#) License Information User Manual, as well as additional features and tools provided to facilitate and enhance the deployment and development platform experience in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. Oracle Linux customers on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure have access to:
 - Oracle Autonomous Linux, based on the Oracle Linux operating environment, provides autonomous capabilities such as automated zero downtime patching and known exploit detection, to help keep the operating system highly secure and reliable.
 - The Oracle OS Management Service, an Oracle Cloud Infrastructure integrated solution helps users manage which of their servers to automate or control manually. It also enables users to automate capabilities that will execute common management tasks for Linux systems, including patch and package management, and security and compliance reporting.
 - Frequent Oracle Linux image updates with the latest bug fixes, security errata, Oracle Cloud tools and enhancements.
 - Faster downloads from the mirrored [Oracle Container Registry](#) and [Oracle Linux yum server](#) within Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, without having to incur network charges.
 - Oracle [Ksplice, pre-installed with Oracle Cloud](#) and ready to update the Oracle Linux kernel and user space with zero downtime.
 - Comprehensive container and container management support for [Oracle Container Runtime for Docker](#) and [Oracle Linux Container Services for use with Kubernetes](#).
 - Oracle Cloud Infrastructure utilities to simplify and accelerate the deployment and configuration of Oracle Linux and KVM instances on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure.
 - An optimized developer platform that allows for easy access to Linux developer and preview software channels available in the Oracle Linux yum server, and thousands of EPEL packages, built and signed by Oracle for security and compliance. In addition, Software Collection Library support is included to enable developers to install recent versions of Python, PHP, NodeJS, nginx, and more, without risk of disrupting applications running on different versions of these components.

- Oracle Cloud Infrastructure client tools such as Terraform, Software Development Kits (SDKs), and Command Line Interface (CLI) are deployed faster and easier through Oracle-provided yum server RPM's available locally in Oracle Cloud.
- [Oracle Cloud Developer Image](#), an Oracle Linux 7 based, ready-to-run image that provides a comprehensive out-of-the-box development platform on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. It pre-installs and automatically configures and launches a complete development environment on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure that includes the latest tools, a choice of popular development languages, Oracle Cloud Infrastructure software development kits, and Oracle Database connectors. This image is available to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure customers at no additional cost. However, some individual components included in the image may have additional licensing and support subscription requirements. Check with the component licensing and support policy, an Oracle Sales Representative, or Oracle Sales Consultant.
- Quickly and easily build NFS and Samba shared storage using NVMe devices or block volumes attached to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure compute instances by using the [Oracle Linux Storage Appliance](#).
- The [Oracle Cloud Marketplace](#) and Partner Image Catalog in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, to quickly and easily install Oracle Linux KVM, Oracle Linux Storage Appliance, Oracle Cloud Developer Image and other Oracle and partner applications.
- [Oracle Linux 5 Extended Support](#) until November 2020. Extended Support for Oracle Linux 6 starts March 2021 and ends March 2024. Refer to the [Lifetime Support Policy](#) for support coverage dates for Oracle Linux.

ORACLE AUTONOMOUS LINUX

Is Oracle Autonomous Linux a new Linux distribution?

- No, Oracle Autonomous Linux is based on Oracle Linux.

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

- Yes, the Oracle Autonomous Linux image can be deployed on [Oracle Cloud Always Free Tier](#) compute instances such as the *VM.Standard.E2.1.Micro* shape, on OCI.

Does Oracle Linux Premier Support cover Oracle Autonomous Linux deployments in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- For paid OCI subscriptions, Oracle Linux Premier Support includes support at no additional cost for Oracle Autonomous Linux deployments, just as it would when you deploy Oracle Linux on paid OCI compute resources. The same support policies apply to Oracle Autonomous Linux as for Oracle Linux deployments in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure for customer subscriptions.
- When Oracle Autonomous Linux is deployed on Always Free Tier resources, support is provided by the community, and not by Oracle.

Is Oracle Autonomous Linux available for deployment on premise?

- Currently, Oracle Autonomous Linux is only available for deployment in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. The OS Management Service does not currently manage operating systems deployed on premise. Oracle Autonomous Linux for on premise deployment is under consideration.

Is Oracle Autonomous Linux binary compatible with IBM's Red Hat Enterprise Linux?

- Yes. Oracle Autonomous Linux, which is based on Oracle Linux, is 100% application binary compatible with IBM's Red Hat Enterprise Linux. This means that applications certified to run on Red Hat Enterprise Linux can run on Oracle Autonomous Linux unmodified. Oracle Linux binaries are provided for patching and updating Red Hat Enterprise Linux installations.
- No additional support costs for Oracle Autonomous Linux in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure means that if Red Hat Enterprise Linux installations are supported with Oracle Linux updates, IBM Red Hat bills can effectively be cut to zero.

Are Oracle solutions such as Oracle Database and E-Business Suite certified to run on Oracle Autonomous Linux?

- Oracle Autonomous Linux is based on the Oracle Linux 7 image, hence solutions certified on Oracle Linux 7 are also certified on Oracle Autonomous Linux.

OS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

What does it cost to use the Oracle OS Management Service?

- There is no additional cost for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure customers to use the OS Management Service. Oracle provides support for the OS Management Service at no additional cost for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure customers.

What platform (operating system) instances can the OS Management Service manage?

- Currently, the OS Management Service manages Oracle Linux instances deployed on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. In upcoming releases, the OS Management Service is expected to manage other operating system platforms.

Can the OS Management Service manage on premise operating system deployments?

- Currently, the OS Management Service does not manage on premise operating system deployments.

Can the OS Management Service manage instances across Oracle Cloud Infrastructure regions?

- No, the service is region based, just as with any other Oracle Cloud Infrastructure service.

ORACLE LINUX SUPPORT ON ORACLE CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE

What does Oracle Linux Support cost on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- With an [Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#) 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 Oracle Cloud Infrastructure.

Are customers who run Oracle Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure covered by Oracle Linux 5 and Oracle Linux 6 Extended Support?

- [Oracle Linux 5 and Oracle Linux 6 Extended Support](#) is available at no additional cost to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure subscribers. The customer's Customer Support Identifier (CSI) will need to be associated with the Oracle Linux 5 or 6 Extended Support part number in order to be granted entitlement, and to access the appropriate channels on the Oracle [Unbreakable Linux Network](#) (ULN). More information can be found in the [My Oracle Support \(MOS\) note: 2289020.1](#).

ORACLE SUPPORT FOR OTHER LINUX INSTALLATIONS

Does Oracle provide support for Red Hat Enterprise Linux instances on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- Oracle supports existing customers with Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) installations by providing Oracle Linux Premier Support, included as part of Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) subscriptions at no additional cost to OCI customers.
- To update RHEL instances, Oracle provides Oracle Linux binaries. Such binaries are fully compatible with RHEL and work without any reinstallation or other coding changes.
- Customers can choose to maintain their Red Hat Enterprise Linux installations with Oracle Linux updates, to take advantage of all the features and benefits provided. Oracle Linux is fully compatible with RHEL. Either the Oracle Linux Unbreakable Enterprise Kernel (UEK) or Red Hat Compatible Kernel (RHCK), both supported by Oracle, can be used. See the document on [Switching to Oracle Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#) for details.

Does Oracle provide support for CentOS instances on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- Oracle supports existing customers with CentOS installations by providing Oracle Linux Premier Support, included as part of Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) subscriptions at no additional cost.
- To update CentOS instances, Oracle provides Oracle Linux binaries. Such binaries are fully compatible with CentOS and work without any reinstallation or other coding changes.
- Customers can choose to maintain their CentOS installations with Oracle Linux updates to take advantage of all the features and benefits provided. For instructions on how to take advantage of Oracle Linux updates, refer to: [Oracle Linux: A Better Alternative to CentOS](#).

How do I obtain software updates for Red Hat Enterprise Linux and CentOS installations on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- The [Getting Started – How to Connect to Oracle Linux Yum Server](#) document provides information on how to connect to the [Oracle Linux yum server](#) and obtain software updates via yum for Oracle Linux and compatible Linux distributions such as Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) and CentOS. The article, [How to Change the Yum Configuration to Use Oracle](#)

[Linux in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#) provides an example of connecting to the Oracle Linux yum server from a CentOS 7 instance in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure.

SUPPORT FOR THE ORACLE LINUX RED HAT COMPATIBLE KERNEL (RHCK) ON ORACLE CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE

Is the Oracle Linux Red Hat Compatible Kernel (RHCK) supported on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- Yes. Oracle Linux comes with a choice of two kernels, the [Unbreakable Enterprise Kernel \(UEK\)](#), which is installed and enabled by default, and the [Red Hat Compatible Kernel \(RHCK\)](#). Oracle Linux support is provided for both UEK and RHCK on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure.

How do I change the default kernel in Oracle Linux to 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](#).

SUPPORT FOR RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX AND CENTOS

How does Oracle support IBM Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) installations on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- Oracle Linux binaries are provided to support IBM RHEL instances on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. RHEL installations can be configured to apply updates using the mirrored Oracle Linux yum server within the local Oracle Cloud Infrastructure region. It is recommended to use the mirrored yum server in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure rather than the [Unbreakable Linux Network \(ULN\)](#) when running Oracle Linux in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, since access to the mirrored regional yum server is faster and does not incur any network charges. Refer to the [Getting Started – How to Connect to Oracle Linux Yum Server](#) document for how to connect to the [Oracle Linux yum server](#) and obtain software updates via yum for Oracle Linux and compatible Linux distributions such as RHEL.
- Alternatively, you can switch from using the Red Hat Network (RHN) to the Unbreakable Linux Network (ULN). Refer to the following instructions:
 - Switching from the Red Hat Network (RHN) to the Oracle Unbreakable Linux Network (ULN): <https://linux.oracle.com/switch.html>.
 - Oracle Linux: How to Switch from Red Hat Network to Unbreakable Linux Network (ULN) – [My Oracle Support \(MOS\) Doc ID 397038.1](#).

How does Oracle support CentOS installations on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- Oracle provides Oracle Linux updates for CentOS installations. CentOS installations can be configured to apply Oracle Linux updates from the Oracle yum server repository or ULN. Oracle will provide support for CentOS by providing Oracle binaries and for Oracle Linux kernels (UEK, RHCK). Instructions to maintain CentOS installations with Oracle Linux updates can be found in: [Oracle Linux: A Better Alternative to CentOS](#).

ORACLE KSPSPACE SUPPORT FOR RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX, CENTOS, AND UBUNTU INSTANCES

Can I use Oracle Ksplice for zero-downtime patching of my Red Hat Enterprise Linux, CentOS, and Ubuntu instances on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- Oracle Ksplice is supported for RHEL, CentOS, and Ubuntu instances on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) at no additional cost to OCI customers. Online Ksplice kernel updates are provided for RHEL and CentOS instances. Ksplice's known exploit detection feature is not available for Linux distributions other than Oracle Linux. More information can be found in the [Installing Ksplice Uptrack within Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#) section of the [Ksplice User's Guide](#).

USING ORACLE LINUX ON ORACLE CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE

How can I try out Oracle Linux or Oracle Autonomous Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- You will need to register for an Oracle Cloud Infrastructure account [here](#). You may be eligible for [Oracle Cloud Free Tier](#) services.
- Review the instructions in the [Getting Started: Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#) guide.

How can I deploy Oracle Linux and other Oracle Linux based instances on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- Oracle Linux 6, 7, 7 GPU, and Oracle Autonomous Linux images are available directly from within Oracle Cloud Infrastructure so that you can quickly and easily deploy the latest Oracle Linux images on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. Oracle Linux images available on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure are updated frequently to include the latest security patches and updates, including enhancements and tools to work with Oracle Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure.
- You can easily deploy Oracle Linux in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure using the Oracle Linux 6, 7, 7 GPU, and Oracle Autonomous Linux images available from the Platform Images Catalog in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. The Platform Images Catalog is available when selecting the image source when creating a compute instance from the Oracle Cloud Infrastructure console. For more information on deploying and using Oracle Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, consult the following documents:
 - [Getting Started: Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#)
 - [Getting Started: Deploying and Configuring Oracle Autonomous Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#)
- Oracle Linux 8 is available from the [Oracle Cloud Marketplace](#).
- Oracle Linux KVM Image, Oracle Linux Storage Appliance, and Oracle Cloud Developer Image instances can be easily and quickly deployed using the [Oracle Cloud Marketplace](#) in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. Simply navigate to the Marketplace from the Oracle Cloud Infrastructure console, select the Oracle Linux KVM Image, Oracle Linux Storage Appliance, or Oracle Cloud Developer Image application to launch the instance with a few simple clicks. For more information, see the following documents:
 - [Getting Started: Oracle Linux KVM for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#)
 - [Oracle Linux Storage Appliance Deployment and User's Guide](#)

ORACLE LINUX PARTNER APPLICATIONS

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

- Scores of leading technology partners—-independent software vendors, hardware vendors, and system integrators—stand behind Oracle Linux. Oracle Linux also works out-of-the-box with partner solutions supported on Red Hat Enterprise Linux. For more about Oracle Linux partners, visit the following links:
- [Oracle Linux and Virtualization Independent Software Vendor Catalog](#)
- Partner applications for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure can be found on the [Oracle Cloud Marketplace](#).

ORACLE LINUX FOR ORACLE CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE RESOURCES

Where can I find more information on Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure?

- Information on Oracle Linux and Oracle Cloud Infrastructure can be found at the following links:
 - Data Sheet: [Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#)
 - [Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure FAQ](#)
 - [Oracle Autonomous Linux for Oracle Cloud](#)
 - [Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#)
 - [Oracle Linux](#) on oracle.com
 - [Oracle Linux FAQ](#)
 - Oracle Linux Documentation
 - ◆ [Oracle Linux 6 Documentation](#)
 - ◆ [Oracle Linux 7 Documentation](#)
 - ◆ [Oracle Linux 8 Documentation](#)
- Information for related technologies and features can be found at the following links:
 - [OS Management Service Documentation](#)
 - [Oracle Ksplice](#)
 - [Oracle Cloud Infrastructure Utilities](#)

- [Oracle Linux KVM Image for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#)
- [Oracle Linux Storage Appliance](#)
- [Oracle Container Runtime for Docker](#)
- [Oracle Container Services for Use with Kubernetes](#)
- [Oracle Cloud Developer Image](#)

How do I know exactly what entitlements are included with Oracle Linux Support?

- Refer to the following Oracle Linux License Information User Manuals for a list of entitled or restricted use products or components supported by Oracle Linux:
 - [Oracle Linux License Information Manual for Release 6](#)
 - [Oracle Linux License Information Manual for Release 7](#)
 - [Oracle Linux License Information Manual for Release 8](#)

Are there any Oracle Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure training materials available?

- Training materials can be found on the [Oracle Linux on Oracle Cloud Infrastructure training portal](#).
- [Build Your Cloud](#) training videos are also available.

How can I stay connected with Oracle Linux for Oracle Cloud Infrastructure 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](#)
 - [Twitter - Oracle Linux](#)
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