Oracle Solaris 11.4
Frequently Asked Questions

Oracle Solaris is designed to deliver a consistent platform to run your enterprise applications. Our Application Binary Guarantee makes it the trusted solution for running both modern and legacy applications on the newest system hardware while providing the latest innovations. Our administrative interfaces are simple to use and protect your business from error prone mistakes that could cost you critical downtime. All our technologies have been engineered for security and compliance from day one allowing you to protect your business with a comprehensive defense in depth strategy that’s easy to apply.

HIGHLIGHTS

Consistent
We’ve been designing the OS for over two decades, always making sure we’ve engineered in features to meet the latest market trends while maintaining backward compatibility. Giving you the ability to run your newest and legacy applications on modern infrastructure.

• All of your existing applications just work. We’ve designed Oracle Solaris 11 to be compatible with previous releases meaning that if an application runs on Oracle Solaris 10 (or Oracle Solaris 8 or 9), it will run on Oracle Solaris 11. And we back it with the industry’s strongest Application Guarantee program.

• Upgrading to Oracle Solaris 11 has never been easier with our updated migration tools.

Simple
Our administrative interfaces are simple to use and protect your business from error prone mistakes that could cost you critical downtime. You may be surprised how simple it is!

• Improved zone migration between systems using shared storage, including support for NFS shared storage and ability to predefine destination systems for each zone

• New live zone reconfiguration support allows you to add datasets without reboot, reducing downtime
• Easy monitoring, restart and notification of zone states with zone dependency that allow zones to describe the required boot order.

Secure
We take security seriously. All our technologies have been engineered for security and compliance from day one; allowing you to protect your business with a comprehensive defense in depth strategy that’s easy to apply.
• New application sandbox management tool for constraining both privileged and unprivileged apps, even within a single virtualization environment
• Automatically protect key apps and the system kernel with enhanced exploit management controls that leverage SPARC Silicon Secured Memory
• Stay secure and compliant from the beginning with an integrated deployment workflow, now with the ability to gather compliance assessments for multiple instances.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Where can I download Oracle Solaris 11.4?

Where can I log issues relating to Oracle Solaris 11.4?
• Customers who have an active Oracle support agreement can log service requests through My Oracle Support at support.oracle.com.

Where can I find documentation for Oracle Solaris 11.4?
• You can find documentation for Oracle Solaris 11.4 on our documentation page.

How do I learn what’s new about this release?
• Please take a look at the What’s New in Oracle Solaris 11.4 document.

Where can I find more information about Oracle Solaris 11.4?
• You can find more information on the Oracle Technology Network Oracle Solaris pages.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

What architectures are supported with Oracle Solaris 11?
• Oracle Solaris 11 is supported on both SPARC and x86 hardware.

Is Oracle Solaris 11 only available on Oracle-based hardware?
• Oracle Solaris 11 can be installed on both Oracle hardware and hardware from third-party vendors, as detailed in the Oracle Solaris Hardware Compatibility List.
INSTALLATION

How do I choose which Oracle Solaris 11.4 ISO image to download?

- Oracle Solaris 11.4 provides a number of installation options for different environments and customer scenarios, from initial evaluation of the OS, to single and multinode system provisioning. See the following questions for more details on each option.

What is the Oracle Solaris 11.4 Text Installer image?

- The Oracle Solaris 11.4 interactive text installer, available for SPARC- and x86-based systems, provides a text- or console-based installation most suitable for server systems. The interactive text installer installs a fixed selection of software, but it does not include a desktop environment (the required packages can easily be added later, if desired).

What is the Oracle Solaris 11.4 Automated Installer image?

- The Oracle Solaris 11.4 automated installer image, available for SPARC- and x86-based systems, provides an automated “hands-free” network installation for single clients without requiring an existing automated installer service. Customers can boot this image and connect directly to an Oracle Solaris Image Packaging System (IPS) package repository to install their systems.

What options are available to install Oracle Solaris 11.4 without access to a CD or DVD drive?

- Oracle Solaris 11.4 can be installed through the network using the automated installer or directly using USB bootable media.

Can I install Oracle Solaris 11.4 on a laptop?

- Yes. Oracle Solaris 11.4 installs onto many different laptop configurations. Check out the Oracle Solaris Hardware Compatibility List to see a full list of supported systems.

  If your laptop is not listed, Oracle VM VirtualBox can provide a virtualized environment in which to run Oracle Solaris 11.4.

Can I install Oracle Solaris 11.4 into a virtual environment?

- Yes. Oracle Solaris 11.4 is a supported guest operating system on Oracle VM Server for SPARC, Oracle VM Server for x86, and Oracle VM VirtualBox. Oracle Solaris 11.4 is known to work on a number of other third-party virtualization offerings from vendors including VMware, Microsoft, and Red Hat.

SYSTEM UPDATE

How do I get access to Oracle Solaris 11.4 via IPS repository?

- If you currently have a support contract with us, updating to Oracle Solaris 11.4 from Oracle Solaris 11.3 is as simple as typing "pkg update".

  To use a local repository please go to the “Create a Local Repository” section on the download page.

Can I update my systems from Oracle Solaris 11.4 Beta to Oracle Solaris 11.4 GA?

- Yes. Oracle will support updating from Oracle Solaris 11.4 Beta to Oracle Solaris 11.4 GA. The update is performed in exactly the same way as updating from 11.3 (see above). You simply point to the Oracle Solaris Release or Update repository, and type "pkg update".

Can I upgrade my Oracle Solaris 10 systems to Oracle Solaris 11?

- There is no direct upgrade path from Oracle Solaris 10. Customers wishing to upgrade to Oracle Solaris 11 must install a system from scratch, or else consider the use of Oracle Solaris 10 Zones running on Oracle Solaris 11 to take advantage of built-in physical-to-virtual and virtual-to-virtual migration tools.
APPLICATION SUPPORT

How do I find out which applications are certified on Oracle Solaris 11?
- View the latest list of applications certified on Oracle Solaris 11 by visiting the Oracle Partner Network (OPN) website that includes “Oracle Solaris Ready” partners: [http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/server-storage/solaris11/partners-1544236.html](http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/server-storage/solaris11/partners-1544236.html)

Oracle Solaris Ready recognizes qualifying OPN members who are developing and supporting their software applications on the latest major releases of Oracle Solaris 11. These partners can be viewed by application or by partner name.

Will I need to recertify my application on Oracle Solaris 11.4?
- No. Applications certified for Oracle Solaris 11 do not need to be recertified when updating to Oracle Solaris 11.4 or later updates. This is due to the Oracle Solaris Binary Application Guarantee.

This guarantee ensures that applications running on earlier Oracle Solaris versions can run on future Oracle Solaris versions.

What are the recommendations for deploying applications on Oracle Solaris 11 and future updates?
- Thanks to the Oracle Solaris Binary Application Guarantee, applications running on earlier Oracle Solaris versions can run on Oracle Solaris 11 and all future updates without being recompiled.

To create new applications, or to move existing applications to Oracle Solaris 11 from other platforms, the use of Oracle Solaris Studio is recommended as the compiler of choice. [Oracle Developer Studio](https://www.oracle.com/technetwork/server-storage/solaris11/studio/index.html) provides a comprehensive C, C++, and Fortran tool suite for Oracle Solaris that accelerates the development of scalable, secure, and reliable enterprise applications.

During the development and deployment of applications on the Oracle Solaris platform, it is recommended that customers consider the use of native OS virtualization using Oracle Solaris Zones. This virtualization technology provides a rapid provisioning environment with zero overhead helping to streamline the application deployment process. You can learn more about Oracle Solaris virtualization by reviewing the [Oracle Solaris 11 technology spotlight for virtualization](https://docs.oracle.com/cd/E37838_01/index.html).

Where can I download Oracle Developer Studio?
- Oracle Developer Studio is available for download at no cost from [Oracle Technology Network](https://www.oracle.com/technetwork/server-storage/solaris11/studio/index.html).

MORE INFORMATION

How can I get more news about Oracle Solaris 11?
- Catch the latest news and information from Oracle’s social media sites:
  - blogs.oracle.com/solaris
  - https://docs.oracle.com/cd/E37838_01/index.html
  - facebook.com/oraclesolaris
  - linkedin.com/groups/Oracle-Solaris-Insider-3951282
  - twitter.com/oraclesolaris