RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX 5 INSTALLATION NUMBER FAQS

What is the Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 installation number?

The Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 installation number is a 16-character text string used during the installation process. The installation number enables you to install the full set of supported packages included with your subscription. For a limited set of Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscribers, the installation number is also used to activate subscriptions for additional Red Hat products and services.

Why use an installation number?

The Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 installation number allows you to:

• Access the full set of supported packages included with your subscription.

• Obtain software and security updates for packages included with your subscription.

• Ensure your Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 installations are certified.

• Simplifies deployments in environments with different subscriptions.

Where can I find the installation number?

• The installation number for your Red Enterprise Linux 5 subscription can be found in several places, including:

Your new subscription activation email, received by your Red Hat Network Organization Administrator (the user who first established the Red Hat account) or your company's purchasing contact named on the order. The subject line for the new subscription activation email is New Subscription Activation of [item description].

• Red Hat Subscription Management www.redhat.com/apps/support/IN.html

• Red Hat Customer Service www.redhat.com/about/contact/dir/#custservice

• For a DELL purchase:
  • Refer to the poster included with the media kit or contact Red Hat customer service.
  • An installation number is not required if Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 was pre-installed on your system.
• For an OEM purchase such as IBM, HP, or other OEM:
  • Refer to the front of the poster included with the media kit.

When am I required to use an installation number?

You will be given an opportunity to provide your installation number during the Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 installation process for both attended and unattended (such as Kickstart) installations.

You will also be required to provide your installation number in the Firstboot section of the installation or at the Red Hat "Activate Your Subscription" page: www.redhat.com/activate, if you have purchased subscriptions that were not already activated for you.

Please check the documentation provided with your purchase, such as emails or product documentation, to determine whether the installation number requirement applies to you.

Can Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 be installed without an installation number?

Although not recommended, Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 can be installed without using an installation number. However, if you choose not to use an installation number during your installation of Red Hat Enterprise Linux, your system may include only a subset of the fully supported set of packages associated with your purchase. You may need to manually subscribe your system to the software channels associated with your subscription to install and receive updates for the packages not installed because the installation number was not used.

www.redhat.com

Should I use an installation number with Red Hat Enterprise Linux versions 2.1, 3, or 4?

No. The installation number is required only if you plan to move your active Red Hat Enterprise Linux - versions 2.1, 3, or 4 to version 5. In many cases, you will not need any numbers to install Red Hat Enterprise Linux versions 2.1, 3, or 4. However, in some cases you may need to use a subscription number. In these cases, you may retrieve your subscription number from:

Red Hat Subscription Management
www.redhat.com/apps/support/IN.html

Red Hat Customer Service
www.redhat.com/about/contact/dir/#custservice

I have existing Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscriptions and currently use Red Hat Enterprise Linux versions 2.1, 3, or 4. If I want to reinstall my systems with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5, where will I be able to find appropriate installation numbers to use during installation?

Please refer to Subscription Management (www.redhat.com/apps/support/IN.html) for installation numbers or contact Red Hat customer service at: www.redhat.com/about/contact/dir/#custservice.

I have subscription numbers from my previous purchases of Red Hat Enterprise Linux. Do those subscription numbers still work?

Yes. If you have subscription numbers from previous purchases of Red Hat Enterprise Linux that you have not yet activated, you will first need to activate them, to both activate your subscription and to access your Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 installation number. Activate your subscription(s) at www.redhat.com/activate.

Please refer to Subscription Management (www.redhat.com/apps/support/IN.html) for installation numbers or contact Red Hat customer service at: www.redhat.com/about/contact/dir/#custservice.

My organization recently purchased a subscription for Red Hat Enterprise 5 Server. Now we want to upgrade to the Red Hat Enterprise Linux Advanced Platform. What happens to the installation number for the first product?

The existing installation number will be deactivated and a new installation number will be created.

What if I lose or misplace my installation number? Where can I locate the installation number for Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5?

Please refer to Subscription Management (www.redhat.com/apps/support/IN.html) for installation numbers or contact Red Hat or contact customer service at www.redhat.com/about/contact/dir#custservice..

My organization placed an order for various Red Hat subscriptions, including Red Hat Enterprise Linux, Cluster Suite, and Global File System. How are the installation numbers associated with each subscription used to enable the layered applications?

Installation numbers are only for use with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5. They are not used to enable layered applications during the installation process.

To install layered applications that are not bundled with your Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 subscription, follow the same process for previous versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux and appropriate child channels (refer to the Red Hat Kbase article #6227http://kbase.redhat.com/faq/FAQ_58_6227.shtm).

Depending on the product, the appropriate packages associated with the Red Hat software product will be installed via yum.

My organization returned subscriptions to Red Hat. What happens to the installation number for these subscriptions?

If you return a subscription for a Red Hat product that has not yet been activated, Red Hat will disable the installation number, and it will no longer activate subscriptions. If you return a subscription for a product that has been activated, Red Hat will deactivate the subscriptions associated with the product you are returning, and the installation number will no longer be available.

Are all installation numbers unique?

Installation numbers are unique per transaction; not per system. The installation number represents the Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscription features. It is primarily used to configure the installer. You can install multiple systems that have identical subscription features and SLAs with identical installation numbers.

Does the installer perform any online verification of the installation number or is it used to track a system?

The installer does not perform any online verification of the installation number. The installation number is used to ensure the correctness of the package set offered for installation. For a small number of customers it can be used to activate a subscription. In this case the number is only used to identify which subscriptions you are entitled to in order to activate the subscriptions in the account your registering your system(s).

Both the customer and Red Hat Support can use the installation number to verify compliance with a subscription level.

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