

WHAT'S NEW IN RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX 7.6

TECHNOLOGY OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Enterprises choose various cloud, virtual, and bare-metal architectures to support their business needs and reduce the complexity, costs, and skills required to manage hybrid IT environments. They want to continue benefiting from their existing infrastructure and application investments while safely investing in the future.

With Red Hat® Enterprise Linux®, enterprises gain the control, confidence, and freedom to choose the application and infrastructure that makes sense for them. Through the ongoing value of a subscription, enterprises gain:

- Continuous security.
- Access to a broad ecosystem of software, hardware, and cloud providers.
- Over 10 years of support for each major version with the option to standardize on minor versions.
- A commitment to application compatibility.

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 delivers enhanced security and compliance, usability at scale, and continued integration with Windows infrastructure on-premise and in the public cloud. It also offers continued investment in platform manageability for Linux beginners, experts, and Microsoft Windows administrators.

Architects: Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 brings you enhanced interoperability and storage efficiency on-premise and in the cloud. It offers multiplatform support for building network-intensive applications, massively scalable data repositories, and a build-once-deploy-often solution that performs well in physical, virtual, and cloud environments.

System administrators: Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 has new features that help you perform advanced troubleshooting in an easy-to-use web interface, simplify security and compliance at scale and within containers, and improve stability, reliability, and multiplatform support.

Developers: Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 is more than just an operating system—it provides you with a rich application infrastructure and built-in mechanisms for security, identity management, resource allocation, self-service management, and performance optimization.



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FEATURES AND ENHANCEMENTS

SECURITY AND COMPLIANCE

As hybrid IT environments continue to expand and evolve, security must streamline, scale, and complement interoperability to mitigate risk and continue to meet the needs of the business. The security controls built into Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 deliver added freedom for enterprises to extend their infrastructure into public clouds and build, design, and interact with Windows infrastructure. These controls also allow enterprises to deploy more mature workloads within containers.

- **Updated capabilities for information protection** with new, default cryptographic algorithms for Rivest-Shamir-Adleman (RSA) and elliptic-curve cryptography (ECC), which help maintain Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) compliance and meet latest cryptography requirements from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and other standards bodies.
- **Secure sensitive data in the cloud and on-premise** with security enhancements to network-bound disk encryption that support automatic encryption of data volumes. In addition to now supporting LUKS v2, Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 also enables the use of a hardware device, the Trusted Platform Module (TPM) 2.0, to ensure that a physical disk must remain in its original system in order to be accessible.
- **Packet filtering improvements** using the nftables kernel subsystem. This enhancement to firewall capabilities provides filtering and classification of network traffic in a simpler and more efficient way than its predecessor, iptables.

PERFORMANCE AND EFFICIENCY

With the inclusion of the extended Berkeley Packet Filter (eBPF), Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 has new performance tracing capabilities that complement the existing Performance Co-Pilot (PCP) and SystemTap utilities. A set of example tracing tools, the BPF Compiler collection (BCC) is available, providing tracing and monitoring of user, kernel and network activity.

PLATFORM MANAGEABILITY

Existing skill reuse, or lack thereof, continues to be a challenge in organizations optimizing IT investments and deploying new technologies. Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 reduces the learning curve for new Linux administrators, Windows users, experts performing advanced troubleshooting, and developers with self-service needs who do not need to get into the command line.

The **web console (cockpit) provides management** of individual systems, and now includes additional use cases for firewall management and Single Sign-On (SSO) configuration. In addition, the system summary view shows current status of subscriptions and updates.

STABILITY AND RELIABILITY

High availability support is now available for enterprise applications running on Google Cloud Platform and Alibaba Cloud Platform with Pacemaker support via the Red Hat High Availability Add-On and Red Hat Enterprise Linux for SAP® Solutions.

MULTIPLATFORM SUPPORT

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 provides new technology capabilities, such as full support for live patching on IBM® Power® LE systems.

APPLICATION EXPERIENCE

Adding to the previously released Buildah and Skopeo tools, Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6 includes Podman. This addition provides a full set of capabilities to create, maintain, provision, and run standard Open Container Initiative (OCI) containers. Podman can run containers individually and in groups (pods) across both local and remote systems which proves useful in continuous integration/continuous delivery (CI/CD) development and deployment environments.

CONCLUSION

For more information on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6, visit the [Red Hat Enterprise Linux product page](#), review the release notes in the [Red Hat Customer Portal](#), visit the [Red Hat Enterprise Linux blog](#), or [contact a Red Hat sales representative](#).



ABOUT RED HAT

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to provide reliable and high-performing cloud, Linux, middleware, storage, and virtualization technologies. Red Hat also offers award-winning support, training, and consulting services. As a connective hub in a global network of enterprises, partners, and open source communities, Red Hat helps create relevant, innovative technologies that liberate resources for growth and prepare customers for the future of IT.



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@RedHat
linkedin.com/company/red-hat

NORTH AMERICA
1 888 REDHAT1

**EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST,
AND AFRICA**
00800 7334 2835
europe@redhat.com

ASIA PACIFIC
+65 6490 4200
apac@redhat.com

LATIN AMERICA
+54 11 4329 7300
info-latam@redhat.com