

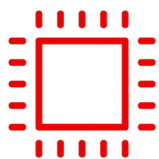


Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10.2 and 9.8

Marc Skinner
Principal Solutions Architect



New Marquee Features



1. goose command-line tool in RHEL Extensions repository

An optional alternative to the command line assistant



2. Red Hat Enterprise Linux MCP Server

Allow your AI Agents to interact with RHEL



3. Red Hat Enterprise Linux upgrade system role

A more automated approach to in place upgrades



4. Sealed images enabled by image mode (Tech preview)

Attestation at an OS level with Image Mode



Innovate

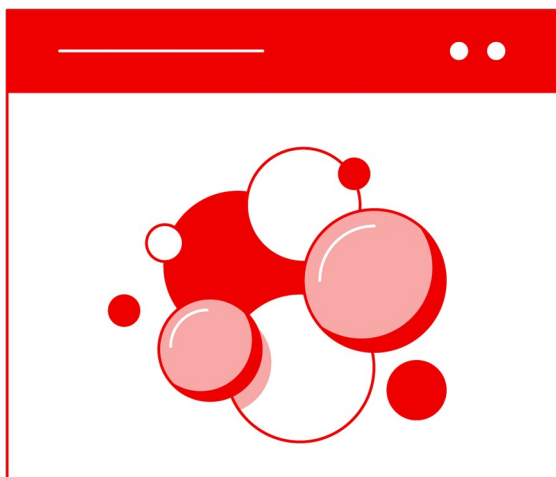
RHEL 10.2 and 9.8
introduce advanced AI
capabilities to simplify
Linux and empower teams
to innovate more quickly



Red Hat Enterprise Linux Command-Line Assistant

Improved output, and the *Goose* alternative

Proactive guidance,
knowledge, and
recommendations



goose - An advanced, optional, command-line tool available via the RHEL Extensions Repository. *goose* delivers faster, streaming AI responses, for power users, utilizing the same back-end as the RHEL Command Line Assistant



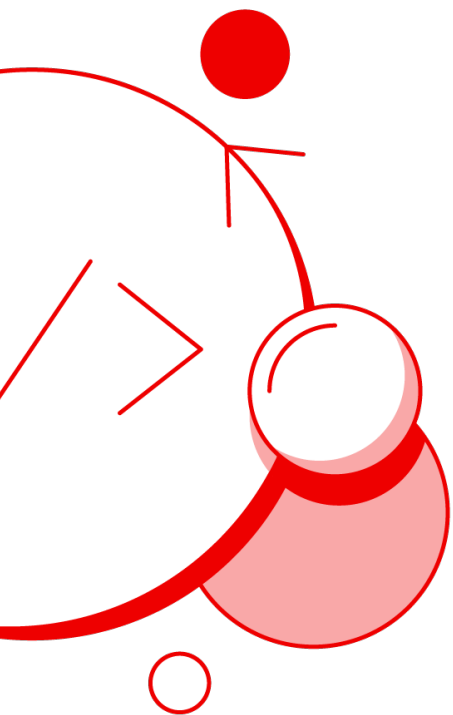
Command-Line Assistant Improvements - Enhanced color output in the RHEL Command Line Assistant. Making it easier to differentiate between text, and scripts for example.



Offline Command Line Assistant

Command-line assistant, on-premises (Developer Preview)

A containerized version of the RHEL Command Line Assistant, that runs locally, with no external network connection required. Great for air-gapped networks. (Requires a Satellite Subscription)

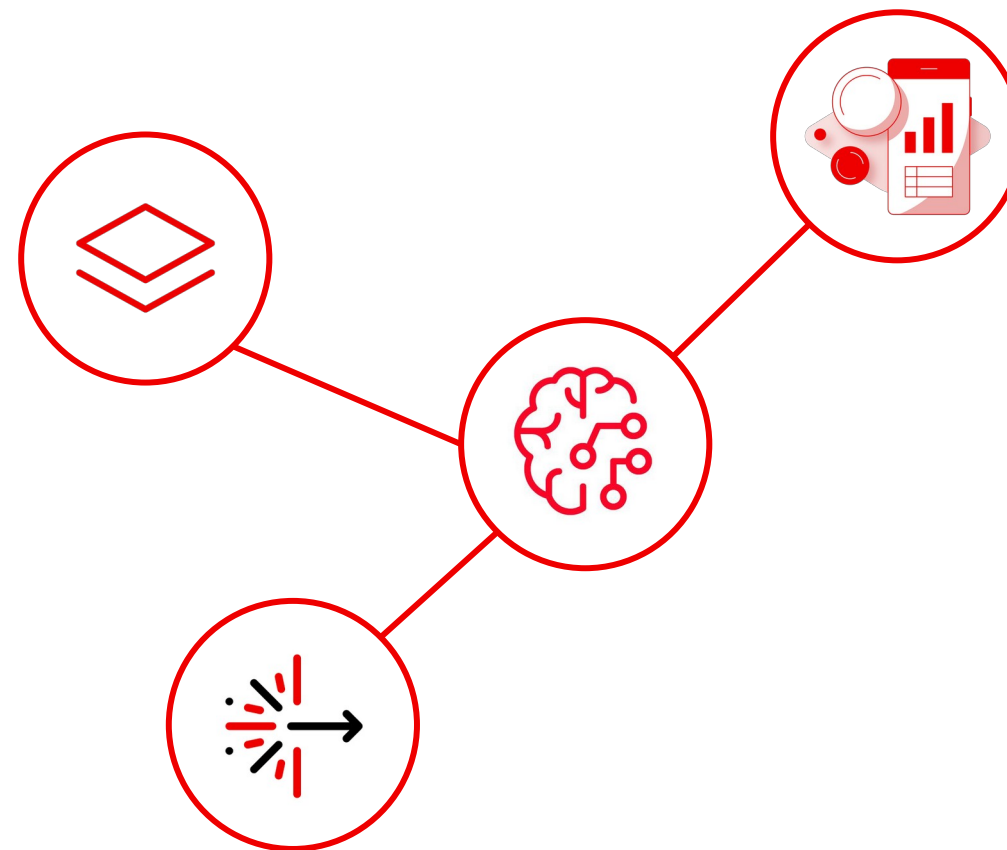


Model Context Protocol

MCP for RHEL, Satellite, and Lightspeed

Model Context Protocol (MCP) servers bridge your AI clients (like Claude Code and Cursor) to Red Hat products.

- MCP for RHEL (Developer Preview)
- MCP for Lightspeed (Developer Preview)
- MCP for Satellite (Technology Preview)



Innovate with Lightspeed Planning and MCP

AI-Driven Lifecycle Intelligence tailored to your inventory



What is Planning?

The principal source for package and application lifecycle dates across RHEL 8, 9, and 10+, capable of being tailored to your environment.

Powered by MCP (Developer Preview)

Bridge AI clients directly to Planning data, allowing your agents to interact directly with RHEL lifecycle and roadmap intelligence.

Cursor - Agent Mode

Which of my RHEL systems are approaching end of life?

`planning_get_relevant_rhel_lifecycle`

Based on your **10 registered systems**:

5 systems on RHEL 8.6 – EUS ends 05/26

5 systems on RHEL 9.4 – supported until 11/26

I recommend prioritizing upgrades for the 5 systems on 8.6 before May.

New developer features and enhancements

With RHEL 10.2 and 9.8, the following are now available

Go Toolset 1.26 - New default garbage collector

LLVM Toolset 21 - Enhanced compiler optimizations for faster and more efficient application binaries

Rust Toolset 1.92 - Streamlined build processes, more reliable systems-level development

Ruby 4.0 - Significant performance gains for Ruby applications and enhanced concurrency

MariaDB 11.8 - Ready for modern data workloads, including AI/ML vector processing and broader character support

PHP 8.4 - Modern language features for cleaner, more robust PHP development

OpenJDK 25 - Substantial performance and stability improvements for Java applications

Git 2.51 - More efficient code management, faster and more reliable source control operations

PostgreSQL 18 - Significant database performance boosts and advanced data management capabilities

Python 3.14 - Greater developer productivity and readiness for next-generation Python workloads



Simplify

These releases focus on enhancing efficiency and providing a consistent operating system platform across all deployment environments.



Pre-Download updates for Image Mode

Stage, and switch on your own schedule



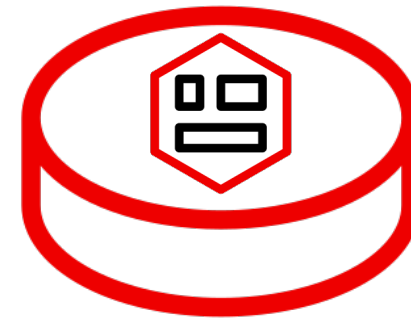
Allowing administrators to save time during planned maintenance windows, by downloading but not staging your updated bootc image. Then only applying it on your schedule (instead of the next reboot).



Efficient bootc image Storage

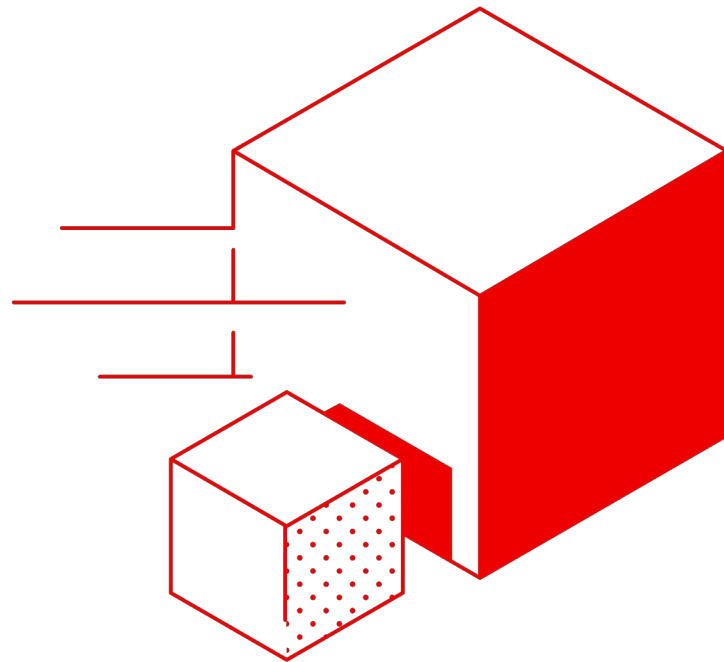
Reducing disk footprint for bootc images

A new storage architecture for bootc that isolates a dedicated copy of the OS in a container store.



RHEL Image Builder CLI

A more interoperable Image Builder (Tech Preview)



A container-friendly CLI for creating RHEL images that does not require a continuously running background service.



Streamlined bootc testing with BCVK

Running a VM from your bootc image for testing just got easier

The Bootable Containers and Virtualization Kit (BCVK) simplifies spinning up ephemeral VMs directly from local Podman builds.



RHEL Upgrades System Role

Making your upgrades easier

Certified Ansible content that runs locally to automatically fix pre-upgrade issues identified by Leapp and generate a pre-upgrade report.

Protect

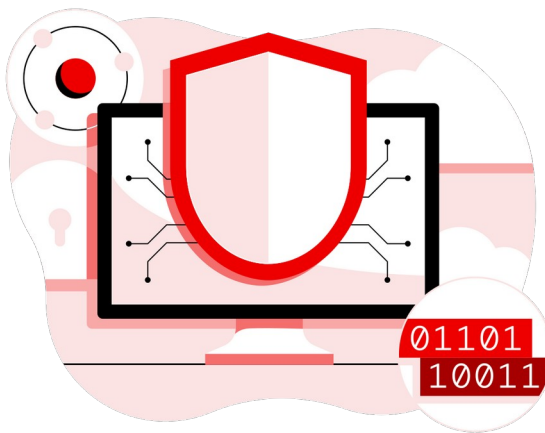
Security is enhanced with new and improved features to safeguard against current and future threats.



Customer-Controlled Security with Sealed Images

Cryptographically signed image mode boot images (Tech preview)

- ▶ Customer-Controlled Signing: Use your own organization's Secure Boot keys to sign container images directly at build time.
- ▶ Targeted Trust: Configure target systems to exclusively trust your internally certified, signed images.



- ▶ Complete Chain of Trust: Provides end-to-end cryptographic integrity protection across the entire deployment lifecycle.
- ▶ Continuous Runtime Verification: Cryptographically verifies every OS component before execution and continuously enforces those checks at runtime to prevent tampered hosts from booting.



Trust

RHEL 10.2 and 9.8 provide capabilities to help organizations manage system lifecycles effectively.



Single-step conversion and Upgrade

Convert other Linux's to RHEL, and get up to the latest release

A massive enhancement to Leapp that natively converts a RHEL clone (CentOS Stream, Oracle, Alma, or Rocky Linux) into RHEL and performs a major version upgrade in a single command.



AI Assisted Upgrades with Ansible Automation

RHEL, Ansible Automation platform, and Lightspeed help you upgrade your fleet

Official Ansible Certified Content that wraps Red Hat's upgrade heuristics into automated workflows.



Red Hat Enterprise Linux Extended Life Cycle, Premium

Enterprise-grade security and premium support throughout the lifecycle



Security and bug fixes

Security fixes: Covers critical, important, and moderate CVEs with a CVSS score of 7 or higher.

Bug fixes: Provides urgent and selected high priority bug fixes for supported packages.

Active maintenance: Ensures ongoing protection for all packages prior to their end-of-life (EOL) date.

Service level components

24x7 technical support: Access global support engineers around the clock for severity 1 and 2 issues.

Unlimited incidents: Open as many support cases as needed without additional costs or caps.

Multi-channel access: Reach Red Hat experts via web or phone for flexible, immediate assistance.

For more information, please review the [lifecycle customer portal page](#) ►



Red Hat Enterprise Linux Long-Life Add-On

"RHEL FOREVER"

- ▶ Optional extension designed to provide **extended maintenance support** - essentially offering organizations "RHEL forever"
- ▶ Provides continuous **security patches and critical bug fixes** for a specific RHEL version with no predetermined end date
- ▶ **Simplifies lifecycle management** by decoupling infrastructure lifecycles from the calendar, supporting change-averse systems that operate on multi-decade refresh cycles
- ▶ Offers ultimate **architectural control**, allowing organizations to maintain a trusted, validated foundation for as long as their business requires (10, 20, or 30+ years)
- ▶ **Reduces operational risk** and friction by eliminating the need for forced, frequent OS upgrades

Announcement May 12, 2026 - Available Q3 2026



LEAPP upgrades from RHEL 9.8 to 10.2

LEAPP upgrades are now supported from the latest RHEL 9.8 to RHEL 10.2



**Red Hat
Enterprise
Linux 9**

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.8



**Red Hat
Enterprise
Linux 10**

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10.2



Thank you

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of enterprise open source software solutions. Award-winning support, training, and consulting services make Red Hat a trusted adviser to the Fortune 500.



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