

Storage Spaces Direct Ready Nodes Upgrade Guidance from Windows Server 2016 to 2019

For Dell EMC customers who are interested in upgrading their S2D Ready Nodes from Windows Server 2016 datacenter edition to 2019 datacenter edition and looking for assistance, Dell EMC is proud to offer the industry's first tested, validated, and globally available Upgrade Service. This service will be a custom offering as there are many variable details which must be considered when planning and executing a successful upgrade.

The Upgrade will be performed by the same group of project management and technical experts who deploy new Ready Solutions globally. Starting from the initial inquiry for a quote, you will receive extensive planning and coordination help with the upgrade. During the implementation phase, your ProDeploy engineer meticulously performs the detailed steps to successfully bring your cluster through the upgrade process to Windows Server 2019. The Dell EMC ProDeploy and ProSupport teams are world class Microsoft technology professionals with remarkable depth and breadth of expertise and global reach.

Please reach out to a Dell EMC sales rep for more details on this offering.

Dell EMC **strongly discourages** customers or partners attempting to upgrade clusters themselves. Dell EMC has thoroughly tested the upgrade process and has identified many steps which must be followed precisely for a successful upgrade.

For Dell EMC customers who are interested in upgrading from Windows Server 2016 to 2019 themselves without Dell EMC Services, Dell EMC **strongly recommends** the use of rolling upgrade approach only by following the "Clean-OS install while VMs are running or stopped" guidance published by Microsoft below:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/storage/storage-spaces/upgrade-storage-spaces-direct-to-windows-server-2019>

Note: In-place upgrade method is not recommended at this time as it has not been fully validated by Dell EMC and could potentially lead to unforeseen issues that could be difficult to troubleshoot. Please be aware that Dell EMC ProSupport entitlement for S2D Solutions does not cover any issues that may arise during upgrades performed by customer/third party vendors. For more details on the ProSupport for S2D service description, please see the link below:

<https://i.dell.com/sites/doccontent/legal/service-descriptions/en/Documents/dell-emc-prosupport-for-software-for-storage-spaces-direct-ready-nodes-supplement-sd-EN.pdf>