

Dell Reseller Option Kit

Important Information

Notes, cautions, and warnings

 **NOTE:** A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your product.

 **CAUTION:** A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

 **WARNING:** A WARNING indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

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Overview

Dell Reseller Option Kit (ROK) is a stand-alone Dell branded operating system (OS) kit, specially designed for Dell servers. This offering provides business with an easy, prelicensed solution for installing Microsoft Windows server.

Dell ROK is available in the following editions:

- Microsoft Windows Server 2025
- Microsoft Windows Server 2022

The ROK license is designed exclusively for new server installations and must be deployed by a Dell-authorized reseller before the server reaches the customer. This guarantees that the operating system is correctly licensed and properly configured on the server hardware.

Downgrade Rights and Licensing

Dell ROK does not provide downgrade rights for earlier versions of Windows Server, such as moving from Windows Server 2025 to 2022. Each version must be purchased separately. Customers seeking downgrade licenses and installation media must acquire them independently from Dell-approved sources for the specific earlier versions they wish to install.

NOTE: ROK Datacenter, Standard and Essentials SKU supported only in English, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Polish, Italian, and Simplified Chinese.

Topics:

- [Installing operating system](#)
- [Related information](#)
- [Important information](#)

Installing operating system

The ROK licensing only allows for use on PowerEdge servers, and any VMs hosted by that installed OS instance. If you try to install the Windows Server operating system (OS) on a non-Dell PowerEdge system or on a VM hosted on a non-Dell PowerEdge system, the installation may fail, and the system verification failure message is displayed.

The system verification failure message is displayed in the language the OS media is booted:

- **Simplified Chinese:** Failure message is displayed in Simplified Chinese language.
- **Multilingual Image:** Failure message is displayed in all the languages embedded in the multilingual SKU.

NOTE: Windows Server OS can be supported only on certain Dell PowerEdge systems. For a list of the Dell supported PowerEdge systems and OS combinations, see the *Operating System Support Matrix for Dell PowerEdge Systems* document at [Dell.com/ossupport](https://www.dell.com/ossupport).

Related information

- Installation Guides, and Important Information Guides for the following operating system (OS) are available at <https://www.dell.com/operatingsystemmanuals>.

NOTE:

- Dell offers multilingual media from Windows Server 2012 onwards, from which you can select the language of your choice to install the OS.
- Dell offers separate Simplified Chinese media from Windows Server 2012 version onwards.

Important information

Preparing hypervisor for using ROK media on a Dell PowerEdge system

- Description** Windows Server OS installation on a VM hosted on a Dell PowerEdge system may fail, when the hypervisor (Hyper-V, ESXi, Citrix XenServer) is not prepared to support the guest OS installation.
- Workaround** To resolve the issue and prepare your hypervisor, follow the procedures depending on the hypervisor that you are using.
- NOTE:** Ensure that you perform the following procedures on the system that hosts the VM.
- To prepare your ESX/ESXi hypervisor for using ROK media:**
1. Go to `/vmfs/volumes/<datastore name>/<VM name>`.
 2. Open the `<VM name>.vmx` file in an editor, and add the following line:
- ```
smbios.reflectHost = TRUE
```
- NOTE:** Ensure that you edit the `vmx` file for every VM that you create.
- To prepare your Microsoft hypervisor for using ROK media:**
1. Insert the ROK media, and go to `<DVD drive>: \ROK`.
  2. Run `hyperv_prep.vbe` on the Windows Server OS running Hyper-V, and follow the on-screen instructions.
- To prepare your Citrix XenServer hypervisor for using the ROK media:**
1. Use XenCenter client to connect to the Xen Server.
  2. Create VM using XenCenter client, check box corresponding to **Copy host BIOS string to VM** should be checked.
- NOTE:** Ensure that the XenServer version is 5.5 or later.

## Running hyperv\_prep.vbe may fail

- Description** Running `hyperv_prep.vbe` from the ROK media may fail in a Windows Server operating system, and an error message is displayed.
- Workaround** Ensure that:
- The Windows server operating system supports the Hyper-V role. Virtualization Technology feature is to be enabled in BIOS.
  - The Hyper-V role is enabled on your system. If not, enable the role and proceed with the installation.

## Operating system support matrix for the Dell PowerEdge systems

Windows Server OS can only be installed on certain Dell PowerEdge systems. For a list of the Dell supported PowerEdge systems and OS combinations, see the *Operating System Support Matrix for Dell PowerEdge Systems* at [Dell.com/ossupport](https://www.dell.com/ossupport).

## Microsoft Windows videos for Dell PowerEdge servers

**Table 1. Microsoft Windows videos for Dell PowerEdge servers**

| Video title                                                   | Links                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Downloading the driver for Windows from the Dell support site | <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r55q4HuyskM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r55q4HuyskM</a> |

## Resources and support

### Topics:

- Operating system support matrix for Dell PowerEdge servers
- Documentation and video resources
- Identifying the series of your PowerEdge servers
- Download drivers and firmware

## Operating system support matrix for Dell PowerEdge servers

Windows Server operating system can be installed only on selected Dell PowerEdge servers. For the list of Dell PowerEdge servers and supported operating systems, see Microsoft Server operating systems supported on specific PowerEdge models at [Dell.com/ossupport](https://Dell.com/ossupport).

## Documentation and video resources

**Table 2. Additional documentation and video resources for your server**

| Task                    | Description                                                                                                                                                                                   | Location                                                                                              |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Setting up your server  | For information about installing the server into a rack, see the Rack documentation included with your rack solution or the <i>Getting Started</i> document that is shipped with your server. | <a href="https://www.dell.com/poweredgemanuals">https://www.dell.com/poweredgemanuals</a>             |
|                         | For information about turning on the server and the technical specifications of your server, see the <i>Getting Started</i> document that is shipped with your server.                        | <a href="https://www.dell.com/poweredgemanuals">https://www.dell.com/poweredgemanuals</a>             |
| Configuring your server | For information about the iDRAC features, configuring and logging in to iDRAC, and managing your server remotely, see the <i>Integrated Dell Remote Access Controller User's Guide</i> .      | <a href="https://www.dell.com/idracmanuals">https://www.dell.com/idracmanuals</a>                     |
|                         | For information about installing the operating system, see the operating system documentation.                                                                                                | <a href="https://www.dell.com/operatingsystemmanuals">https://www.dell.com/operatingsystemmanuals</a> |
|                         | For information about understanding Remote Access Controller Admin (RACADM) subcommands and supported RACADM interfaces, see the <i>RACADM Command Line Reference Guide for iDRAC</i> .       | <a href="https://www.dell.com/idracmanuals">https://www.dell.com/idracmanuals</a>                     |

**Table 2. Additional documentation and video resources for your server (continued)**

| Task                                             | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Location                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                  | For information about updating drivers and firmware, see the <a href="#">Download drivers and firmware</a> section in this document.                                                                                                                                        | <a href="http://www.dell.com/support/drivers">www.dell.com/support/drivers</a>                                                            |
| Managing your server                             | For information about server management software offered by Dell, see the <i>Dell OpenManage Systems Management Overview Guide</i> .                                                                                                                                        | <a href="https://www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals">https://www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals</a>                                               |
|                                                  | For information about setting up, using, and troubleshooting OpenManage, see the <i>Dell OpenManage Server Administrator User's Guide</i> .                                                                                                                                 | <a href="https://www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals">https://www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals</a>                                               |
|                                                  | For information about installing, using, and troubleshooting Dell OpenManage Essentials, see the <i>Dell OpenManage Essentials User's Guide</i> .                                                                                                                           | <a href="https://www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals">https://www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals</a>                                               |
|                                                  | For information about installing and using Dell System E-Support Tool (DSET), see the <i>Dell System E-Support Tool (DSET) User's Guide</i> .                                                                                                                               | <a href="https://www.dell.com/supportassist">https://www.dell.com/supportassist</a>                                                       |
|                                                  | For understanding the features of Dell Lifecycle Controller (LCC), see the <i>Dell Lifecycle Controller User's Guide</i> .                                                                                                                                                  | <a href="https://www.dell.com/idracmanuals">https://www.dell.com/idracmanuals</a>                                                         |
|                                                  | For information about partner programs enterprise systems management, see the <i>OpenManage Connections Enterprise Systems Management</i> documents                                                                                                                         | <a href="https://www.dell.com/OMConnectionsEnterpriseSystemsManagement">https://www.dell.com/OMConnectionsEnterpriseSystemsManagement</a> |
|                                                  | For information about connections and client systems management, see the <i>OpenManage Connections Client Systems Management</i> documentation.                                                                                                                             | <a href="https://www.dell.com/omconnectionsclient">https://www.dell.com/omconnectionsclient</a>                                           |
|                                                  | For information about viewing inventory, performing configuration, and monitoring tasks, remotely turning on or off servers, and enabling alerts for events on servers and components using the Dell Chassis Management Controller (CMC), see the <i>CMC User's Guide</i> . | <a href="https://www.dell.com/cmmanuals">https://www.dell.com/cmmanuals</a>                                                               |
| Working with the Dell PowerEdge RAID controllers | For information about understanding the features of the Dell PowerEdge RAID controllers (PERC) and deploying                                                                                                                                                                | <a href="http://www.dell.com/storagecontrollermanuals">www.dell.com/storagecontrollermanuals</a>                                          |

**Table 2. Additional documentation and video resources for your server (continued)**

| Task                                   | Description                                                                                                                                                                                            | Location                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                        | the PERC cards, see the Storage controller documentation.                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                             |
| Understanding event and error messages | For information about checking the event and error messages generated by the system firmware and agents that monitor server components, see the <i>Dell Event and Error Messages Reference Guide</i> . | <a href="https://www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals">https://www.dell.com/openmanagemanuals</a> |

## Identifying the series of your PowerEdge servers

The PowerEdge series of servers are divided into different categories based on their configuration. They are referred as YX2X, YX3X, YX4X, YX4XX, or YX5XX series of servers. The structure of the naming convention is described below:

The letter Y denotes the character in the server model number. The character denotes the form factor of the server. The form factors are listed below:

- C- Cloud
- F- Flexible
- M or MX- Modular
- R- Rack
- T- Tower

The letter X denotes the numbers in the server model number. The number denotes multiple characteristics about the server. They are listed as follows:

- The first digit (X) denotes the value stream or class of the server.
  - 1-5—iDRAC basic
  - 6-9—iDRAC Express
- The second digit denotes the series of the server. It is retained in the server naming convention and does not replace the letter X.
  - 0—series 10
  - 1—series 11
  - 2—series 12
  - 3—series 13
  - 4—series 14
  - 5—series 15
- The last digit (X) always denotes the make of the processor as described below:
  - 0-Intel
  - 5-AMD

**i NOTE:** For servers that use an AMD processor, the model number is made up of four digits instead of three. The third digit (X) denotes the number of processor sockets that the series of server supports.

- 1—one socket server
- 2—two socket server

**Table 3. PowerEdge servers naming convention and examples**

| YX3X servers   | YX4X servers   | YX4XX servers   | YX5XX servers   |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| PowerEdge M630 | PowerEdge M640 | PowerEdge R6415 | PowerEdge R6515 |
| PowerEdge M830 | PowerEdge R440 | PowerEdge R7415 | PowerEdge R7515 |
| PowerEdge T130 | PowerEdge R540 | PowerEdge R7425 | PowerEdge R6525 |

# Download drivers and firmware

It is recommended that you download and install the latest BIOS, drivers, and systems management firmware on your system.

## Prerequisites

Ensure that you clear the web browser cache before downloading the drivers and firmware.

## Steps

1. Go to [www.dell.com/support/drivers](http://www.dell.com/support/drivers).
2. In the **Drivers & Downloads** section, enter the Service Tag of your system in the **Enter a Dell Service Tag, Dell Product ID, or Model** text box, and then click the right arrow button.

 **NOTE:** If you do not have the Service Tag, click **Detect PC** to allow the system to automatically detect your Service Tag.

3. Click **Drivers & Downloads**.  
A list of applicable downloads is displayed.
4. Download the drivers or firmware to a USB drive, CD, or DVD.

## Contacting Dell Technologies

Dell Technologies provides several online and telephone-based support and service options. Availability varies by country, region, and product, and some services may not be available in your area. To contact Dell for sales, technical support, or customer service issues, see <https://www.dell.com/contactdell>.

If you do not have an active Internet connection, you can find contact information on your purchase invoice, packing slip, bill, or the product catalog.