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Amazon OpenSearch Service

Developer Guide

[Documentation](#)[\(https://docs.aws.amazon.com/index.html\)](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/index.html)[Amazon OpenSearch Service](#)[\(https://docs.aws.amazon.com/opensearch-service/index.html\)](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/opensearch-service/index.html)

Service software updates in Amazon OpenSearch Service

[PDF \(/pdfs/opensearch-service/latest/developerguide/opensearch-service-dg.pdf#service-software\)](#)[RSS \(amazon-opensearch-service-release-notes.rss\)](#)[Markdown \(service-software.md\)](#)☐ Focus mode[What is Amazon OpenSearch Service?](#) (what-is.html)[Setting up](#) (setting-up.html)[▶ Getting started](#) (gsg.html)[▶ Amazon OpenSearch Ingestion](#) (ingestion.html)[▶ Amazon OpenSearch Serverless](#) (serverless.html)[▼ Creating and managing domains](#) (createupdatedomains.html)[Automatic semantic enrichment](#) (opensearch-semantic-enrichment.html)[Configuring managed domains on changes configuration](#) (manageddomains-on-changes-configuration-changes.html)[Service software updates](#) (service-software.html)[Off-peak windows](#) (off-peak.html)[Notifications](#) (manageddomains-notifications.html)[Configuring a multi-AZ domain](#) (manageddomains-multi-az.html)[▶ VPC support](#) (vpc.html)[▶ Creating index snapshots](#) (manageddomains-snapshots.html)[▶ Upgrading domains](#) (version-migration.html)[Creating a custom endpoint](#) (customendpoint.html)[▶ Auto-Tune](#) (auto-tune.html)[▶ Tagging domains](#) (manageddomains-awsresourcetagging.html)

On this page

[Optional versus required updates\(#service-software-optional-required\)](#)[Patch updates\(#service-software-patches\)](#)[Considerations\(#service-software-considerations\)](#)[Starting an update\(#service-software-requesting\)](#)[Off-peak windows\(#service-software-offpeak\)](#)[Monitoring updates\(#service-software-monitor\)](#)[When domains are ineligible for an update\(#service-software-ineligible\)](#)[Rolling back updates\(#service-software-rollback\)](#)

Related resources

[Amazon OpenSearch Service API Reference \(https://docs.aws.amazon.com/opensearch-service/latest/APIReference/API_Operations_Amazon_OpenSearch_Service.html\)](#)[AWS CLI commands for Amazon OpenSearch Service \(https://docs.aws.amazon.com/cli/latest/reference/opensearch/\)](#)[SDKs & Tools ↗ \(https://aws.amazon.com/tools/\)](#)**Did this page help you?**

► [Performing administrative actions](#) (admin-actionsoptions.html)

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📘 Note

For explanations of the changes and additions made in each *major* (no patch) service software update, see the [release notes](#) ([./release-notes.html](#)) .

Amazon OpenSearch Service regularly releases service software updates that features or otherwise improve your domains. The **Notifications** panel in the console is the easiest way to see if an update is available or to check the status of an update. Each notification includes details about the service software update. All service software updates use blue/green deployments to minimize downtime.

Service software updates differ from OpenSearch Service *version* upgrades. For information about upgrading to a later version of OpenSearch Service, see [Upgrading Amazon OpenSearch Service domains](#) ([./version-migration.html](#)) .

OpenSearch Service requires you to apply required service software updates within 30 days of their availability. These updates are critical for maintaining security compliance.

If you don't apply required updates within the 30-day period, you'll receive reminder notifications every 15 days for 30 days. After this period without compliance, your domain will be isolated with the following effects:

- All network access to your domain is removed
- Domain status changes to **isolated**
- The domain remains unusable until you apply the required updates

During isolation, you'll continue receiving reminder notifications every 15 days for 60 days. If you don't apply the required updates within this period, your OpenSearch Service domain and all associated data will be permanently deleted. For more information, see [Troubleshooting validation errors](#) ([./manageddomains/configuration-changes.html#validation](#)) .

Optional versus required updates

OpenSearch Service has two broad categories of service software updates:

Optional updates

Optional service software updates generally include enhancements and support for new features or functionality. Optional updates aren't enforced on your domains, and there's no hard deadline to install them. The availability of the update is communicated through email and a console notification. You can choose to apply the update immediately or reschedule it for a more appropriate date and time. You can also schedule it during the domain's [off-peak window](#) ([./off-peak.html](#)). The majority of software updates are optional.

Regardless of whether or not you schedule an update, if the `UseLatestServiceSoftwareForBlueGreen` setting is enabled and you make a change on the domain that causes a [blue/green deployment](#) ([./managedomain-configuration-changes.html](#)), OpenSearch Service automatically updates your service software for you. If this setting is disabled, the service software is not automatically updated during a blue/green deployment.

You can configure your domain to automatically apply optional updates during [off-peak hours](#) ([./off-peak.html](#)). When this option is turned on, OpenSearch Service waits at least 13 days from when an optional update is available and then schedules the update after seven days. You receive a console notification when an update is scheduled and you can choose to reschedule it for a later date.

To turn on automatic software updates, select **Enable automatic software updates** when you create or update your domain. To configure the same setting using AWS CLI, set `--software-update-options` to `true` when you create or update your domain.

Required updates

Required service software updates generally include critical security fixes or other mandatory updates to ensure the continued integrity and functionality of your domain. Examples of required updates are Log4j Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVEs) and enforcement of Instance Metadata Service Version 2 (IMDSv2). The number of mandatory updates in a year is usually less than three.

OpenSearch Service automatically schedules these updates and notifies you several days before the scheduled update through email and a console notification. You can choose to apply the update immediately or reschedule it for a more appropriate date and time *within the allowed timeframe*. You can also schedule the update during the domain's next [off-peak window](#) ([./off-peak.html](#)). If you take no action on a required update and you don't make any domain changes that cause a blue/green deployment, OpenSearch Service can initiate the update at any time beyond the specified deadline (typically 14 days from availability), within the domain's off-peak window.

Regardless of when the update is scheduled for, if the `UseLatestServiceSoftwareForBlueGreen` setting is enabled and you make a change on the domain that causes a [blue/green deployment](#) ([./managedomain-configuration-changes.html](#)), OpenSearch Service automatically updates your

domain for you. If this setting is disabled, the service software is not automatically updated during a blue/green deployment.

Patch updates

Service software versions that end in "-P" and a number, such as R20211203-P1, are patch releases. Patches are likely to include performance improvements, bug fixes, and security fixes or posture improvements. Patch releases do not include new features or breaking changes, and they generally don't have a direct or noticeable impact on users. The service software notification tells you if a release is optional or mandatory.

Considerations

Consider the following when deciding whether to update your domain:

- Manually updating your domain lets you take advantage of new features quickly. When you choose **Update**, OpenSearch Service places the request in a queue and begins the update when it has time.
- When you initiate a service software update, OpenSearch Service sends a notification when the update starts and when it completes.
- Software updates use blue/green deployments to minimize downtime. Updates can temporarily strain a cluster's dedicated master nodes, so make sure to maintain sufficient capacity to handle the associated overhead.
- Updates typically complete within minutes, but can also take several hours or even days if your system is experiencing heavy load. Consider updating your domain during the configured [off-peak window](#) ([./off-peak.html](#)) to avoid high-traffic update periods.

Note

The `UseLatestServiceSoftwareForBlueGreen` setting is disabled by default. When enabled, any blue/green deployment on your domain automatically applies the latest available service software update along with the configuration change. To enable this setting, use the `UpdateDomainConfig` API or the AWS CLI.

Starting a service software update

You can request a service software update through the OpenSearch Service console, the AWS CLI, or one of the SDKs.

▼ Console

To request a service software update

1. Open the Amazon OpenSearch Service console at <https://console.aws.amazon.com/aos/home> [↗](https://console.aws.amazon.com/aos/home) (<https://console.aws.amazon.com/aos/home>) .
2. Select the domain name to open its configuration.
3. Choose **Actions, Update** and select one of the following options:
 - **Apply update now** - Immediately schedules the action to happen in the current hour *if there's capacity available*. If capacity isn't available, we provide other available time slots to choose from.
 - **Schedule it in off-peak window** – Only available if the off-peak window is enabled for the domain. Schedules the update to take place during the domain's configured off-peak window. There's no guarantee that the update will happen during the next immediate window. Depending on capacity, it might happen in subsequent days. For more information, see [Scheduling software updates during off-peak windows \(#service-software-offpeak\)](#) .
 - **Schedule for specific date and time** – Schedules the update to take place at a specific date and time. If the time that you specify is unavailable for capacity reasons, you can select a different time slot.

If you schedule the update for a later date (within or outside the domain's off-peak window), you can reschedule it at any time. For instructions, see [Rescheduling actions \(./off-peak.html#off-peak-reschedule\)](#) .

4. Choose **Confirm**.

► AWS CLI

Send a [start-service-software-update](#)

(<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/cli/latest/reference/opensearch/start-service-software-update.html>) AWS CLI request to initiate a service software update. This example adds the update to the queue immediately:

```
aws opensearch start-service-software-update \  
  --domain-name my-domain \  
  --schedule-at "NOW"
```

Response:

```
{
  "ServiceSoftwareOptions": {
    "CurrentVersion": "R20220928-P1",
    "NewVersion": "R20220928-P2",
    "UpdateAvailable": true,
    "Cancellable": true,
    "UpdateStatus": "PENDING_UPDATE",
    "Description": "",
    "AutomatedUpdateDate": "1969-12-31T16:00:00-08:00",
    "OptionalDeployment": true
  }
}
```

Tip

After you request an update, you have a narrow window of time in which you can cancel it. The duration of this `PENDING_UPDATE` state can vary greatly and depends on your AWS Region and the number of concurrent updates that OpenSearch Service is performing. To cancel an update, use the console or `cancel-service-software-update` AWS CLI command.

If the request fails with a `BaseException`, it means that the time you specified isn't available for capacity reasons, and you must specify a different time. OpenSearch Service provides alternate available slot suggestions in the response.

► AWS SDKs

This sample Python script uses the [describe_domain](https://boto3.amazonaws.com/v1/documentation/api/latest/reference/services/opensearch.html#OpenSearchService.Client.describe_domain) [↗] (https://boto3.amazonaws.com/v1/documentation/api/latest/reference/services/opensearch.html#OpenSearchService.Client.describe_domain) and [start_service_software_update](https://boto3.amazonaws.com/v1/documentation/api/latest/reference/services/opensearch.html#OpenSearchService.Client.start_service_software_update) [↗] (https://boto3.amazonaws.com/v1/documentation/api/latest/reference/services/opensearch.html#OpenSearchService.Client.start_service_software_update) methods from the AWS SDK for Python (Boto3) to check whether a domain is eligible for a service software update and if so, starts the update. You must provide a value for `domain_name`.

```
import boto3
from botocore.config import Config
import time
```

```

# Build the client using the default credential
configuration.
# You can use the CLI and run 'aws configure' to
set access key, secret
# key, and default region.

my_config = Config(
    # Optionally lets you specify a Region other
    than your default.
    region_name='us-east-1'
)

domain_name = '' # The name of the domain to check
and update

client = boto3.client('opensearch',
config=my_config)

def getUpdateStatus(client):
    """Determines whether the domain is eligible
    for an update"""
    response = client.describe_domain(
        DomainName=domain_name
    )
    sso = response['DomainStatus']
['ServiceSoftwareOptions']
    if sso['UpdateStatus'] == 'ELIGIBLE':
        print('Domain [' + domain_name + '] is
eligible for a service software update from version
' +
            sso['CurrentVersion'] + ' to version
' + sso['NewVersion'])
        updateDomain(client)
    else:
        print('Domain is not eligible for an update
at this time.')

def updateDomain(client):
    """Starts a service software update for the
    eligible domain"""
    response =
client.start_service_software_update(
        DomainName=domain_name
    )
    print('Updating domain [' + domain_name + '] to
version ' +

```

```

        response['ServiceSoftwareOptions']
        ['NewVersion'] + '...')
        waitForUpdate(client)

def waitForUpdate(client):
    """Waits for the domain to finish updating"""
    response = client.describe_domain(
        DomainName=domain_name
    )
    status = response['DomainStatus']
    ['ServiceSoftwareOptions']['UpdateStatus']
    if status == 'PENDING_UPDATE' or status ==
    'IN_PROGRESS':
        time.sleep(30)
        waitForUpdate(client)
    elif status == 'COMPLETED':
        print('Domain [' + domain_name +
              '] successfully updated to the latest
software version')
    else:
        print('Domain is not currently being
updated.')

def main():
    getUpdateStatus(client)

```

Scheduling software updates during off-peak windows

Each OpenSearch Service domain created after February 16, 2023 has a daily hour window between 10:00 P.M. and 8:00 A.M. local time that we consider the [off-peak window](#) ([./off-peak.html](#)). OpenSearch Service uses this window to schedule service software updates for the domain. Off-peak updates help to minimize strain on a cluster's dedicated master nodes during higher traffic periods. OpenSearch Service can't initiate updates outside of this 10-hour window without your consent.

- For *optional* updates, OpenSearch Service notifies you of the update's availability and prompts you to schedule the update during an upcoming peak window.
- For *required* updates, OpenSearch Service automatically schedules the update during an upcoming off-peak window and notifies you three days ahead of time. You can reschedule the update (for within or outside the off-peak

window), but only within the required timeframe for the update to be completed.

For each domain, you can choose to override the default 10:00 P.M. start time with a custom time. For instructions, see [Configuring a custom off-peak window \(./off-peak.html#off-peak-custom\)](#).

▼ Console

To schedule an update during an upcoming off-peak window

1. Open the Amazon OpenSearch Service console at <https://console.aws.amazon.com/aos/home> [↗](#) (<https://console.aws.amazon.com/aos/home>).
2. Select the domain name to open its configuration.
3. Choose **Actions, Update**.
4. Select **Schedule it in off-peak window**.
5. Choose **Confirm**.

You can view the scheduled action on the **Off-peak window** tab and reschedule it at any time. See [Viewing scheduled actions \(./off-peak.html#off-peak-view\)](#).

► CLI

To schedule an update during an upcoming off-peak window using the AWS CLI, send a [StartServiceSoftwareUpdate](#) (https://docs.aws.amazon.com/opensearch-service/latest/APIReference/API_StartServiceSoftwareUpdate.html) request and specify OFF_PEAK_WINDOW for the `--schedule-at` parameter:

```
aws opensearch start-service-software-update \
  --domain-name my-domain \
  --schedule-at "OFF_PEAK_WINDOW"
```

Monitoring service software updates

OpenSearch Service sends a [notification \(./manageddomains-notifications.html\)](#) when a service software update is available, required, started, completed, or failed. You can view these notifications on the **Notifications** panel of the OpenSearch Service console.

OpenSearch Service also sends service software events to Amazon EventBridge. You can use EventBridge to configure rules that send an email or perform a specific action when an event is received. For an example walk through, see [Tutorial: Sending Amazon SNS alerts for available software updates \(/sns-events.html\)](#).

To see the format of each service software event sent to Amazon EventBridge, see [Service software update events \(/monitoring-events.html#monitoring-events-ssu\)](#).

When domains are ineligible for an update

Your domain is ineligible for a service software update if it's in any of the following states:

State	Description
Domain in processing	The domain is in the middle of a configuration change. Check update eligibility after the operation completes.
Red cluster status	One or more indexes in the cluster is red. For troubleshooting steps, see Red cluster status (/handling-errors.html#handling-errors-red-cluster-status) .
High error rate	The OpenSearch cluster is returning a large number of 5xx errors when attempting to process requests. This problem is usually the result of too many simultaneous read or write requests. Consider reducing traffic to the cluster or scaling your domain.
Split brain	<i>Split brain</i> means your OpenSearch cluster has more than one master node and has split into two clusters that never will rejoin on their own. You can avoid split brain by using the recommended number of dedicated master nodes (/manageddomains-dedicatedmasternodes.html) . For help recovering from split brain, contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) .
Amazon Cognito integration issue	Your domain uses authentication for OpenSearch Dashboards (/cognito-auth.html) , and OpenSearch Service can't find one or more Amazon Cognito resources. This problem usually occurs if the Amazon Cognito user pool is missing. To correct the issue, recreate the missing resource and configure the OpenSearch Service domain to use it.

State	Description
Other service issue	Issues with OpenSearch Service itself might cause your domain to display as ineligible for an update. If none of the previous conditions apply to your domain and the problem persists for more than a day, contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) .

Rolling back a service software update

Amazon OpenSearch Service supports rolling back service software updates. You can initiate a rollback using the OpenSearch Service console, the AWS CLI, or one of the AWS SDKs. Software updates are rolled back using a blue/green deployment.

 **Note**

Rollback is supported only for service software updates applied on or after April 24, 2026. Engine version upgrades cannot be rolled back.

Rollback eligibility and considerations

Your domain must meet all of the following conditions for a rollback to be available:

- **Domain is active** – The domain must be in an `Active` state. Rollback is not available while a configuration change, software update, or other blue/green deployment is in progress.
- **Within the rollback time window** – The software update must have been applied within the allowed rollback period. See [Rollback time windows](#) ([#service-software-rollback-windows](#)) .
- **No configuration changes after the update** – If you made a configuration change to the domain after the software update was applied, rollback is blocked. Configuration changes can affect domain settings in ways that are incompatible with the previous software version. For example, changing instance types, enabling replicas, or adjusting storage settings after an update will block rollback.
- **Update was not auto-applied by the service** – If you did not act on a mandatory update within the 30-day availability window and OpenSearch Service applied the update automatically, rollback is not available for that update.
- **Update was not an engine version upgrade** – Engine version changes (for example, upgrading from OpenSearch 1.3 to OpenSearch 2.11) are irreversible. Only service software version rollbacks are supported.

- **A previous software version exists** – Rollback is available only for software updates applied after this feature became generally available (GA). Domains that have not yet undergone a software update since GA do not have a previous version to roll back to.
- **Only one rollback is permitted per update** – Once a rollback is complete, a domain is considered to be in a rolled-back state. You cannot roll back again until a new software update has been successfully applied.
- **Software update was explicitly initiated** – Rollback is only available when the software update was explicitly initiated by you or automatically scheduled by OpenSearch Service as part of a mandatory or optional update. Rollback is not available when:
 - The software update was applied during a blue/green deployment triggered by a configuration change. This includes cases where the `UseLatestServiceSoftwareForBlueGreen` setting is enabled, which bundles the latest software update with configuration changes. This setting is disabled by default.
 - The update was applied during a service-initiated maintenance operation on your domain, such as infrastructure recovery, automated remediation, or other internal operations performed by OpenSearch Service to maintain the health and availability of your domain.

Rollback time windows

The rollback window depends on the type of software update that was applied.

Update type	Rollback window	Notes
Optional	15 days from the date the update was applied	Applies whether you applied the update manually, scheduled it, or it was applied automatically during off-peak hours.
Mandatory	15 days from the date the update was applied	Available only if you applied the update yourself within the 30-day availability window. If the service auto-applied the update after the deadline, rollback is not available.

After the rollback window expires, self-service rollback is no longer available. Contact [Support](https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) if you are experiencing a critical issue after the window has closed.

How to request a rollback

You can request a rollback using the `RollbackServiceSoftwareUpdate` API.

Request

```
POST /2021-01-01/opensearch/serviceSoftwareUpdate/rollback
```

Request body:

```
{
  "DomainName": "your-domain-name"
}
```

Response

The API returns an HTTP 200 response in all non-error cases. The RollbackAvailable field in the response body indicates whether the rollb was initiated.

```
{
  "RollbackServiceSoftwareOptions": {
    "CurrentVersion": "string",
    "NewVersion": "string",
    "RollbackAvailable": boolean,
    "Description": "string"
  }
}
```

Response fields:

Field	Type	Description
CurrentV ersion	Stri ng	The software version currently running on the domain.
NewVersi on	Stri ng	The software version the domain will be rolled back to. Returns null if rollback is not available
Rollback Availabl e	Bool ean	true if the rollback has been successfully initiated. false if the domain is not eligible fo rollback.
Descript ion	Stri ng	A human-readable message describing the resu or the reason rollback is unavailable.

Error responses

Error	Description
ResourceNotFoundException	The specified domain does not exist.
ValidationException	The domain is not in an active state. Wait for any progress changes to complete before retrying.
InternalException	The service encountered an internal error. Retry the request.
DisabledOperationException	The rollback operation is not supported for this domain.

Response messages

The following table describes the possible response messages returned by the RollbackServiceSoftwareUpdate API.

Case	Description
Success	Rollback initiated successfully. The domain will be rolled back from <i>current-version</i> to <i>previous-version</i> .
Feature not enabled	Rollback is not available. Contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) for assistance.
Previous software not available	No previous software version available for rollback. Contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) for assistance.
Previous software is same as current	Rollback is not available. No previous software version available for rollback. Contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) for assistance.
Domain is already rolled back	Domain is already in a rolled-back state.
Rollback not available	Rollback is not available. A service-side configuration is preventing rollback for this domain. Contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) for assistance.

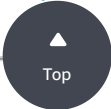
Case	Description
Outside the time window	Rollback is not available. The 15-day rollback window has expired. Contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) for assistance.
Mandatory service update auto-applied	Rollback is not available. The current version was applied through a mandatory service update. Contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) for assistance.
Engine version upgrade	Rollback is not available. Engine version upgrades are irreversible. Contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) for assistance.
Configuration changed after update	Rollback is not available. Cluster configuration has changed since last software update. Contact Support (https://console.aws.amazon.com/support/home) for assistance.

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(<https://aws.amazon.com/getting-started/hands-on/>)

AWS Solutions Library [↗](#)

(<https://aws.amazon.com/solutions-library/>)

AWS Decision Guides

(<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/decisions/>)

Choosing a generative AI service

(<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/decisions/guides/latest/decision-guides/genai-guide.html>)

AWS service guides

(<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/#services>)

AWS CLI Tutorials on GitHub [↗](#)

(<https://github.com/aws-samples/sample-developer-tutorials>)

AWS Code Example Library

(<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/code-library/latest/ug/what-is-code-library.html>)

AWS CLI

(<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/cli/>)

AWS Builder Center [↗](#)

(<https://builder.aws.com/>)

AWS Developer Tools Blog [↗](#)

(<https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/developer/>)

Download the AWS Docs MCP Server [↗](#)

(<https://github.com/aws-labs/mcp/tree/main/src/documentation-mcp-server>)

AWS re:Post [↗](#)

(<https://repost.aws/>)

Example response:

```
{
  "RollbackServiceSoftwareOptions": {
    "CurrentVersion": "OpenSearch_2_11_R20240115",
    "NewVersion": "OpenSearch_2_11_R20231023",
    "RollbackAvailable": true,
    "Description": "Rollback initiated successfully. The domain will be rolled back from OpenSearch_2_11_R20240115 to OpenSearch_2_11_R20231023."
  }
}
```

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English

When rollback is not available, RollbackAvailable returns false and th