



Software Upgrade Guidelines

For your convenience, this document duplicates the critical and release-specific software upgrade guidelines published in the FTD release notes. For FXOS upgrade guidelines for the Firepower 4100/9300, see [Upgrade Guidelines for the Firepower 4100/9300 Chassis](#).



Important You must still read the release notes, which can contain additional critical and version-specific information. For example, new and deprecated features can require pre- or post-upgrade configuration changes, or even prevent upgrade. Or, known issues (open bugs) can affect upgrade.

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Minimum Version to Upgrade

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You can upgrade directly to Version 6.2.3 as follows.

Table 1: Minimum Version to Upgrade to Version 6.2.3

Platform	Minimum Version
FTD	6.1 with FMC 6.2 with FDM FXOS 2.3.1.73 is required for the Firepower 4100/9300. In most cases, we recommend you use the latest FXOS build in each major version. To help you decide, see the Cisco Firepower 4100/9300 FXOS Release Notes, 2.3(1) . Note Firepower 6.2.3.16+ requires FXOS 2.3.1.157+.

Unresponsive Upgrades

Do not make or deploy configuration changes during upgrade. Even if the system appears inactive, do not manually reboot or shut down during upgrade. You could place the system in an unusable state and require a reimage. If you encounter issues with the upgrade, including a failed upgrade or unresponsive appliance, contact Cisco TAC.

Time and Disk Space

Time to Upgrade

We recommend you track and record your own upgrade times so you can use them as future benchmarks. The following table lists some things that can affect upgrade time.



Caution Do not make or deploy configuration changes during upgrade. Even if the system appears inactive, do not manually reboot or shut down. In most cases, do not restart an upgrade in progress. You could place the system in an unusable state and require a reimage. If you encounter issues with the upgrade, including a failed upgrade or unresponsive appliance, contact Cisco TAC.

Table 2: Upgrade Time Considerations

Consideration	Details
Versions	Upgrade time usually increases if your upgrade skips versions.
Models	Upgrade time usually increases with lower-end models.
Virtual appliances	Upgrade time in virtual deployments is highly hardware dependent.
High availability and clustering	In a high availability or clustered configuration, devices upgrade one at a time to preserve continuity of operations, with each device operating in maintenance mode while it upgrades. Upgrading a device pair or entire cluster, therefore, takes longer than upgrading a standalone device.
Configurations	Upgrade time can increase with the complexity of your configurations, size of event databases, and whether/how they are affected by the upgrade. For example, if you use a lot of access control rules and the upgrade needs to make a backend change to how those rules are stored, the upgrade can take longer.
Components	You may need additional time to perform operating system or virtual hosting upgrades, upgrade package transfers, readiness checks, VDB and intrusion rule (SRU/LSP) updates, configuration deployment, and other related tasks.

Disk Space to Upgrade