

# How are Linux kernel updates distributed on Windows Update?

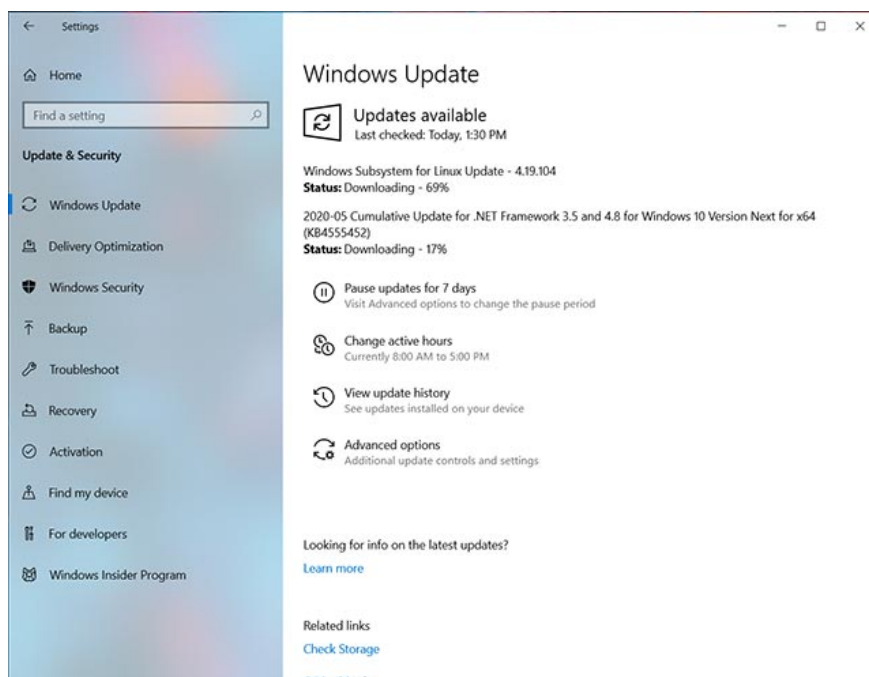
Users will be allowed to download Linux kernel updates in WSL2 from Windows Update.

If you care about the open source world, you probably already know how Microsoft is becoming 'close' to Linux. Instead of a confrontation like many years ago, Microsoft recently changed 180 degrees, moving to "co-develop" with the open source world.

That said, Redmond has contributed a lot of valuable initiatives to the overall development of the Linux Kernel over the last few years, more than any other Linux developer. Typically, there are Windows Subsystem for Linux 2 (WSL2).

Basically, WSL2 still has a way to continue the problem based on the first version, allowing users to run Linux on Windows 10 as well as support seamless connection, direct Windows 10 applications with WSL2 applications through localhost. But especially to mention is a series of advanced tweaks, including the ability to fully support the kernel (Linux) in the distribution installed on the system.

In addition, Microsoft now supports distributing Linux kernel updates through Windows Update. That means new Linux kernel versions can now be downloaded using the 'Check for updates' feature similar to regular Windows 10 updates. In other words, the Linux kernel is now considered a feature or driver pack of Windows 10 installed on the device.



The Linux kernel is distributed on Windows Update

*'We changed the Linux kernel management model inside WSL 2. This change will help remove the Linux kernel from Windows image and move it to support via Microsoft Update, in the same way that 3rd party drivers (like graphics or touchpad) installed and updated on your computer as usual, ' Microsoft explained.*

The change was first mentioned earlier this year when Microsoft confirmed that users will be allowed to download Linux kernel updates in WSL2 from Windows Update. Note, however, that the latest Linux kernel will automatically be installed when you set up WSL2 on the device. You then need to check for updates (manually) in Windows Update for the latest version.

Of course, Windows Update will also automatically push these updates to your device, just like a regular update for Windows systems. You will be notified by Windows Update when you install a new version of the Linux kernel. In addition, Microsoft also details Linux kernel updates, making it easy for users to understand the new improvements that come with the latest versions.

'The Linux kernel in WSL2 will now be served in a new way, meaning you'll get the latest kernel version independent of using the update for your Windows image. You can manually check for new kernel updates by clicking the 'Check for Updates' button, or you can also have Windows automatically update you as usual.

WSL2 is a utility specifically for Windows 10 2004 users (May 2020 Update), a major feature update that was released late last month.

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