

Solaris™ 8 Containers and Solaris 9 Containers

Run Solaris 8 and Solaris 9 applications on the Solaris 10 OS



Highlights

- Quickly deploy Solaris 8 or Solaris 9 applications on the Solaris 10 OS
- Lower costs through consolidation onto newer systems
- Mitigate risks with expert assistance
- Benefit from technology that is developed and supported by Sun
- Implement your solution for one application or as part of a larger virtualization strategy



Sun is making it even easier and faster for customers like you to migrate your existing Solaris™ 8 and Solaris 9 Operating System (OS) application environments to new, more powerful, and energy-efficient systems running the Solaris 10 OS. With Solaris 8 and Solaris 9 Containers and the Solaris 10 OS, you can safely and easily move your existing applications and environments from a physical server to a software Container on the latest SPARC® systems running the Solaris 10 OS. You can then transition these environments to native Solaris 10 Containers at your own pace. Coupled with expert assistance from Sun Professional Services and/or Sun partners, Solaris 8 and Solaris 9 Containers can reduce the amount of work and risk associated with migrating to the latest network computing environments.

Quickly deploy Solaris 8 and Solaris 9 applications on the Solaris 10 OS

Solaris 8 and Solaris 9 Containers software is a transition tool that decouples your hardware upgrade from the operating system and application, giving you more time to upgrade your applications to the Solaris 10 OS. Sun guarantees application compatibility between operating system releases, and builds on that by adding the ability to capture and transfer the surrounding configuration, data, and other elements of the operating system. You can rapidly upgrade to new Sun hardware and the Solaris 10 OS while providing the Solaris 8 or Solaris 9 OS runtime environment as needed.

Lower costs through consolidation onto newer systems

Today's newer systems can be many times more powerful, space efficient, and cost efficient than earlier generations. But upgrading hardware can sometimes create a problematic ripple effect that forces you to upgrade your operating system, and in some instances, your applications as well. In turn, this upgraded application environment may require certification by the ISV or application developer. While the benefits of updating your infrastructure may be clear, concerns associated with upgrading, such as time, cost, risk, and complexity, often hold organizations back.

These issues can be mitigated by decoupling the hardware upgrade from the operating system and application. With this additional Containers software, you can simplify installation and maintenance requirements, reduce hardware, power, cooling, and support costs, and save space by retiring your older, less-efficient systems and installing newer systems with the Solaris 10 OS and Containers hosting your Solaris 8 and/or Solaris 9 applications.

Developed and supported by Sun

Solaris 8 and Solaris 9 Containers work by utilizing the Branded Zones (BrandZ) architecture introduced in the Solaris 10 8/07 OS. BrandZ allows Solaris software to provide runtime support for other operating environments inside Solaris Containers. Each operating environment "flavor" is provided by a brand, which plugs into the framework. Solaris 8 Containers provide the Solaris 8 OS runtime environment on SPARC platforms, creating a virtual environment for hosting Solaris 8 applications. Similarly, Solaris 9 Containers provide the Solaris 9 runtime environment. By taking advantage of existing Solaris Containers features, this virtual environment brings all these benefits and the Solaris 10 OS to applications and services, so that they can:

- Be cloned many times for rapid deployment
- Be migrated to remote hosts

- Control CPU and memory resources with Solaris Resource Manager
- Take advantage of key benefits of the Solaris 10 OS, including:
 - Increased observability with Dynamic Tracing (DTrace)
 - Maximized reliability with Solaris ZFS and Predictive Self Healing
 - Improved network performance by dedicating network ports to Containers
 - Increased security by reducing the super-user privileges assigned to Containers

This additional Containers software was developed by the same engineering team that developed the original Solaris Containers. So you can be confident that this technology is optimized for running your Solaris 8 and Solaris 9 applications on the Solaris 10 OS.

Reduce risks with expert assistance

Sun Professional Services as well as Sun partners combine Sun's extensive technology with their IT infrastructure expertise to help you reduce costs and complexity, improve operational efficiency, and mitigate risks. Leveraging proven tools and methodologies, our consultants analyze your original Solaris 8 or Solaris 9 OS environment, develop a migration plan, and implement and test your solution as a stand-alone project or as part of a larger virtualization plan. The combination of Solaris 8 and/or Solaris 9 Containers with expert assistance can help you achieve a smooth and successful implementation that meets your high expectations.

Requirements and lifecycle

Compatible with all SPARC systems supported by Solaris 10 8/07 OS release or later, Solaris 8 and Solaris 9 Containers allow you to reduce power consumption, space, and costs while improving performance. The software is bundled with a one-year Right-to-Use (RTU) license and premium support. This additional Containers software is meant to be used as a transition tool and provides another option to help you move to the Solaris 10 OS. It is not intended to prolong the use of the Solaris 8 or Solaris 9 OS indefinitely, as the product lifecycle is tied to that of the original operating system. For example, the lifecycle of Solaris 8 Containers is directly tied to the lifecycle of the Solaris 8 OS. For more information about the Solaris 8 lifecycle, visit sun.com/software/solaris/support/sol8.xml.

In addition, you must have a Solaris Subscription Premium Service Plan or a Gold or Platinum Sun System Service Plan to cover the Solaris 10 OS. These service plans include features such as 24/7 online and telephone technical support, interoperability support, software releases and updates (patches), self-help tools, and notifications. You receive enhanced coverage to help you maintain high availability, which is especially important when you have consolidated multiple applications onto a single system.

Learn More

You can download Solaris 8 and Solaris 9 Containers for free with an evaluation license at sun.com/download/products.xml?id=470c4a45.

To learn more about Sun products and services that can help you with your consolidation and virtualization projects, visit:

- **Virtualization and the Solaris OS:**
sun.com/software/solaris/virtual_learning_center.jsp
- **Solaris Containers:**
sun.com/software/solaris/containers.jsp
- **Migration services from Sun Professional Services:**
sun.com/service/enterprisemigration/index.jsp
- **Sun Software Service Plans:**
sun.com/service/serviceplans/software/overview.xml
- **Sun System Service Plans:**
sun.com/service/serviceplans/sunspectrum/index.xml
- **Solaris 10 Evaluation Services:**
sun.com/service/solaris10/solaris10eval.xml