



ROCKY

LINUX

10.2

Using Hyper-V Manager

INSTALLATION & POST-INSTALLATION

Wahidullah Lutfy

VERSION 10.2

THE DIRECT PATH TO

ROCKY LINUX 10.2

Using Hyper-V Manager

DOWNLOAD • INSTALL • NEW FEATURES • FRESH INSTALL ONLY

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```
# whoami
root
$ cat /etc/os-release
NAME="Rocky Linux"
VERSION="10.2"
$ _
```

THE DIRECT PATH TO

ROCKY LINUX

10.2

Download • Install on Hyper-V (Windows 11) • New Features • Fresh Install, Not Leapp

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What We'll Cover

- ✦ What's new in Rocky Linux 10.2 — the features every admin, developer, and student should know
- ✦ System requirements: the x86-64-v3 CPU baseline, and why Rocky 9-era hardware may not qualify
- ✦ Downloading the official Rocky Linux 10.2 ISO from rockylinux.org
- ✦ Configuring Hyper-V on a Windows 11 host to run Rocky Linux 10.2 cleanly
- ✦ A full guided install, start to finish
- ✦ Why Rocky Linux does NOT support in-place major upgrades — and what to do instead
- ✦ Where Rocky Linux fits next to RHEL, and what stays identical between them

SECTION 1

Download & System Requirements

Getting the bits, the safe and supported way

System Requirements Before You Download

CPU Baseline

Rocky Linux 10 requires an x86-64-v3 capable CPU — Intel Haswell (2013) or newer, AMD Excavator/Zen (2015) or newer. Older v2-only CPUs cannot boot Rocky 10 at all, virtualized or not.

Memory & Disk

Minimum 2 GB RAM (4 GB+ recommended for a comfortable desktop/demo experience). Plan for 20 GB+ of virtual disk for a full DVD install with AppStream packages.

Firmware

Rocky Linux 10 installs cleanly under UEFI. You cannot switch an existing BIOS install to UEFI later — decide your firmware mode before you create the VM.

Downloading the Rocky Linux 10.2 ISO

- ✦ Go to rockylinux.org/download and select Rocky Linux 10, architecture x86_64
- ✦ Choose the full DVD ISO (~10 GB) for a fully offline install with BaseOS + AppStream
- ✦ Rocky Linux is 100% free with no account or subscription required — unlike RHEL, there's no Developer Subscription step
- ✦ Always verify the SHA256 checksum listed on the download page against your downloaded file
- ✦ Save the ISO somewhere your Windows 11 host running Hyper-V can reach easily, e.g. D:\ISOs\

SECTION 2

Hyper-V Setup on Windows 11

One clean VM, zero impact on your other guests

Building the VM (Hyper-V Manager)

- ✦ `New-VM -Name "Rocky10.2-Demo" -Generation 4 -MemoryStartupBytes 8GB -NewVHDPath "D:\VMs\Rocky10.2\disk.vhdx" -NewVHDSIZEBytes 60GB -SwitchName "External-Lab-Switch"`
- ✦ `Set-VMProcessor -VMName "Rocky10.2-Demo" -Count 2`
- ✦ `Set-VMFirmware -VMName "Rocky10.2-Demo" -EnableSecureBoot On -SecureBootTemplate "MicrosoftUEFICertificateAuthority"`
- ✦ `Add-VM DVD Drive -VMName "Rocky10.2-Demo" -Path "D:\ISOs\Rocky-10.2-x86_64-dvd.iso"`
- ✦ Start-VM -Name "Rocky10.2-Demo", then connect via Hyper-V Manager's Connect window

Windows 11 Host Gotchas

- ✦ Secure Boot template: Linux guests need the "Microsoft UEFI Certificate Authority" template, not the default Windows one — set this before first boot
- ✦ Generation 2 VMs boot UEFI directly — no legacy BIOS fallback exists, so double-check firmware settings before installing
- ✦ Reuse your existing External-Lab-Switch from the Hyper-V setup video — no new switch needed for this VM
- ✦ Dynamic Memory works fine for a demo VM, but disable it if you want consistent benchmark results

SECTION 3

Guided Installation

Boot the ISO and walk through Anaconda

Installing Rocky Linux 10.2 Step by Step

- ✦ Boot the VM from the mounted DVD ISO — the same Anaconda installer used by RHEL appears
- ✦ Select language, then configure Installation Destination (automatic partitioning is fine for a demo VM)
- ✦ Set the time zone using the text-based options
- ✦ Configure networking and hostname; confirm the network device is enabled
- ✦ Create the initial user — by default this account gets administrative (sudo) privileges unless you deselect it
- ✦ Begin Installation, then reboot into your new Rocky Linux 10.2 system — no registration step required

SECTION 4

What's New in Rocky Linux 10.2

What every admin, developer, and student must know

Post-Quantum Cryptography & Security

- ✦ Rocky Linux 10.2 expands post-quantum cryptography support: OpenSSH now supports ML-KEM hybrid key exchange in FIPS mode
- ✦ libssh adds PQ/T hybrid key exchange methods, combining ML-KEM with traditional ECDH
- ✦ Podman switches its image-signature verification to Sequoia-PGP, alongside continued GnuPG support
- ✦ Why it matters: this protects data captured today against decryption by future quantum computers

Networking and App Delivery Changes

- ✦ The legacy ISC DHCP server is replaced by Kea DHCP across Rocky Linux 10
- ✦ The standalone DHCP client is retired in favor of NetworkManager's integrated DHCP subsystem
- ✦ Wayland is the default display protocol; Xorg remains available via Xwayland for compatibility
- ✦ Firefox and Thunderbird now ship as Flatpaks by default instead of traditional RPMs

Kernel, Toolchain & New Architectures

- ✦ Same Linux 6.12 kernel lineage as RHEL 10, plus refreshed compiler and language runtimes (GCC, Python 3.12, PHP 8.3)
- ✦ Database and web stack updates: PostgreSQL, MariaDB, and Nginx all move to newer major versions
- ✦ RISC-V64 joins the supported architecture list, alongside x86-64-v3, aarch64, ppc64le, and s390x
- ✦ 32-bit x86 compatibility packages are fully removed — 32-bit dependencies now require containers

Rocky Linux 10.2 vs. RHEL 10.2: What Actually Differs

- ✦ Rocky Linux is built to be bug-for-bug binary compatible with RHEL — the same kernel, the same package versions, the same behavior
- ✦ No subscription, no Developer Program sign-up, and no registration step after install
- ✦ Rocky does not support Extended Life Cycle or live kernel patching without third-party services — RHEL does, for a price
- ✦ Certification-wise, RHCSA/RHCE exams are tied to RHEL specifically, but the day-to-day command set transfers directly

Know Before You Migrate: Breaking Changes

- ✦ x86-64-v3 is now the CPU floor — v2-only hardware cannot run Rocky Linux 10 at all
- ✦ 32-bit x86 package support has been removed entirely
- ✦ The ISC DHCP server and standalone DHCP client are both gone — plan for Kea DHCP and NetworkManager instead
- ✦ Rocky Linux does not support in-place upgrades between major versions — 8.x and 9.x systems require a fresh install to reach 10.x

SECTION 5

Post-Install: Bringing Your Apps Back

My recommendation: fresh install Rocky 10.2, then reinstall and verify your applications one at a time — test in Development before touching Production.

No Leapp, no in-place upgrade — a clean install plus a deliberate app-by-app reinstall

Installing Your Applications on Rocky 10.2

- ✦ Check AppStream module streams first: `dnf module list` shows which versions of PHP, Python, Node.js, and more ship for EL10
- ✦ Enable EPEL 10 for extra community packages not included in BaseOS/AppStream
- ✦ Rocky's binary compatibility with RHEL means most EL10-built RPMs and vendor packages install without modification
- ✦ For anything not yet packaged for EL10, Podman containers are a safe fallback that don't block your migration
- ✦ Take a Hyper-V checkpoint before installing anything unfamiliar — roll back instantly if something breaks
- ✦ Validate each application in a Development VM first; only then repeat the same steps in Production

You're ready for Rocky Linux 10.2

- ✦ Subscribe for the companion RHEL 10.2 walkthrough (if you haven't already) and the upcoming Ubuntu video
- ✦ Full written guide and command reference: MyWebUniversity.com
- ✦ "The Direct Path to Linux Ubuntu" and the upcoming UNIX & Linux 101 series — available on Amazon KDP and Barnes & Noble Press
- ✦ Questions? Drop them in the comments — every one gets a reply