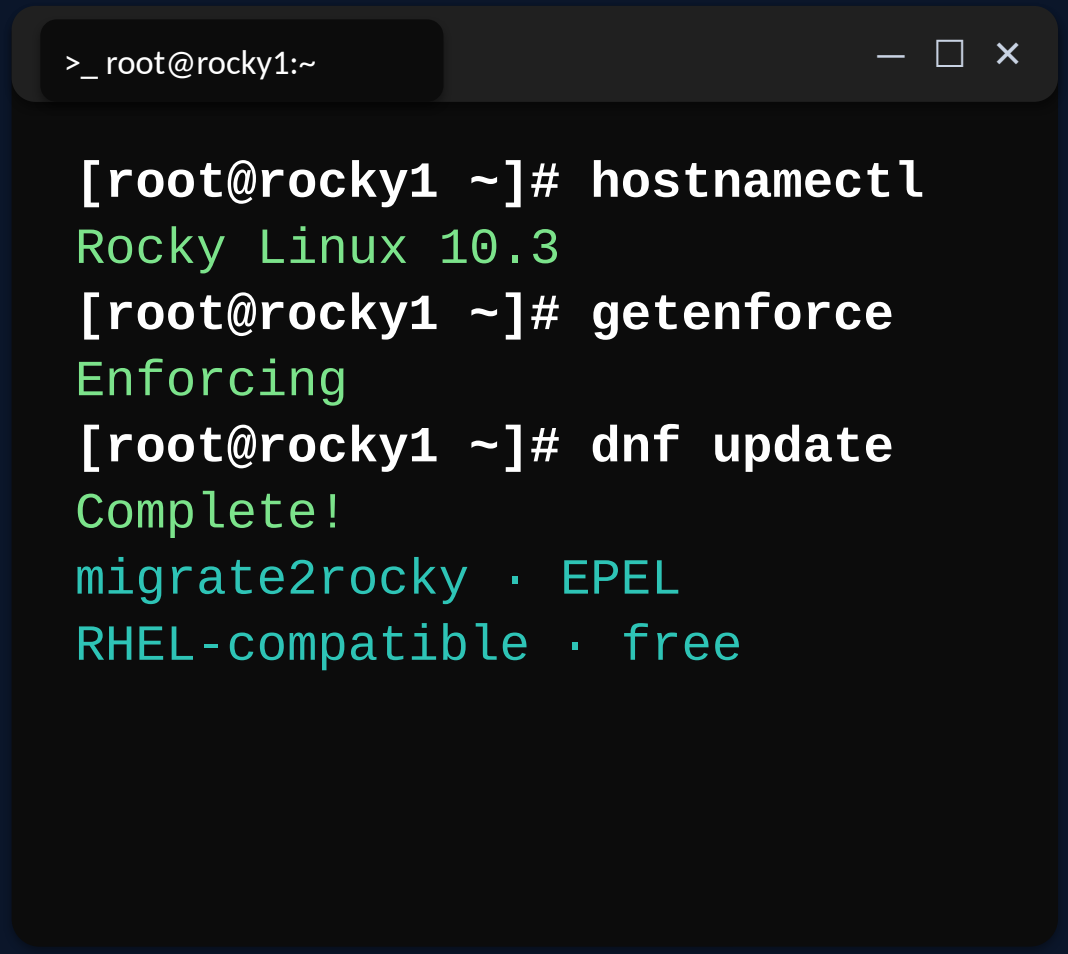


LESSON 2 OF 12

Rocky Linux 9 & 10

Install · Migrate · Differences

Downloading, Verifying & Installing Rocky Linux

Full Course · Rocky Linux 10.3 & 9.9 (Nov 2026)

What You Will Learn in Lesson 2

- Where to download: ISOs, mirrors and torrents
- DVD, Minimal and Boot ISOs
- Verifying downloads with SHA-256 checksums
- Installing Rocky with Anaconda
- First steps: updates, hostname, time, Cockpit
- Rocky on older hardware and on Raspberry Pi
- Kickstart for repeatable installs

Where to Download

Source	Details
rockylinux.org/download	Official page: pick version and architecture
download.rockylinux.org	/pub/rocky/10/isos/x86_64/ and /pub/rocky/9/...
Mirrors	Hundreds of mirrors worldwide; faster near you
Torrents	Good for slow or unreliable connections
Cloud images	AWS, Azure, Google Cloud, generic qcow2 (Lesson 10)
Containers	quay.io/rockylinux/rockylinux:10 (Lesson 10)

Which ISO?

ISO	Size	Use it when
Rocky-10.3-x86_64-dvd1.iso	about 8–12 GB	Offline installs; everything included
Rocky-10.3-x86_64-minimal.iso	about 1.5–2 GB	Small server installs; no GUI packages
Rocky-10.3-x86_64-boot.iso	about 1 GB	Network install from a mirror
CHECKSUM	tiny	SHA-256 hashes of every file — always download it
Rocky 9.9	same names with 9.9	Older x86-64-v2 hardware

Verify the Download

```
# Linux or macOS
$ curl -O https://download.rockylinux.org/pub/rocky/10/isos/x86_64/CHECKSUM
$ sha256sum -c CHECKSUM --ignore-missing
Rocky-10.3-x86_64-minimal.iso: OK
$ shasum -a 256 Rocky-10.3-x86_64-minimal.iso      # macOS alternative

# Windows PowerShell
PS C:\> Get-FileHash .\Rocky-10.3-x86_64-minimal.iso -Algorithm SHA256
# Compare the hash with the line in CHECKSUM — every character must match
```

Installing Rocky with Anaconda

Screen	What to choose
Language	English (United States), or your language
Installation destination	30 GB disk, automatic partitioning (LVM)
Network and host name	Turn on the NIC; rocky1.lab.local
Software selection	Server with GUI (rocky1) or Minimal Install (rocky2)
Root password	Lock root, or a strong password
User	student, Make this user administrator (wheel)
Not on Rocky	No 'Connect to Red Hat' screen — nothing to register

First Steps After Installation

```
[student@rocky1 ~]$ sudo dnf -y update ; sudo reboot
[student@rocky1 ~]$ sudo hostnamectl set-hostname rocky1.lab.local
[student@rocky1 ~]$ sudo timedatectl set-timezone America/Los_Angeles
[student@rocky1 ~]$ dnf repolist
repo id           repo name
appstream         Rocky Linux 10 - AppStream
baseos            Rocky Linux 10 - BaseOS
extras            Rocky Linux 10 - Extras
[student@rocky1 ~]$ sudo dnf install -y cockpit ; sudo systemctl enable --now cockpit.socket
[student@rocky1 ~]$ sudo firewall-cmd --permanent --add-service=cockpit ; sudo firewall-cmd --reload
```

Special Hardware

Hardware	What to use
CPU older than x86-64-v3	Rocky 9.9, supported to 2032
Check your CPU	ld.so --help | grep supported (any Linux live USB)
Raspberry Pi 4 / 5	Rocky ARM images for Raspberry Pi (aarch64)
RISC-V boards	Rocky 10 RISC-V images (new)
Laptops with Wi-Fi	Most work; check the hardware list and firmware packages
Servers	Hardware certified for RHEL works on Rocky

Kickstart for Repeatable Installs

```
# rocky-minimal.ks
url --url=https://download.rockylinux.org/pub/rocky/10/BaseOS/x86_64/os/
lang en_US.UTF-8
keyboard us
timezone America/Los_Angeles --utc
network --bootproto=static --ip=10.0.0.24 --hostname=rocky3.lab.local
rootpw --lock
user --name=student --groups=wheel --password=<hash> --iscrypted
autopart --type=lvm
%packages
@^minimal-environment
%end
# Boot the installer with:  inst.ks=http://10.0.0.21/rocky-minimal.ks
```

Summary and Homework

- Download from rockylinux.org or a mirror: DVD, Minimal or Boot ISO
- Always verify: sha256sum -c CHECKSUM --ignore-missing
- Same Anaconda installer as RHEL; no registration
- BaseOS, AppStream and extras enabled by default
- Rocky 9.9 for CPUs older than x86-64-v3
- Homework: verify and install Rocky 10.3 on rocky1 and Rocky 9.9 on rocky2

Thank You! 🙏

Free videos & PDFs: www.MyWebUniversity.com

Slides for this lesson: MyWebUniversity.com/presentations

YouTube: @MyWebUniversity · @MyWebUniversity-Dari

Wahidullah Lutfy — Founder and Director of IT of MyWebUniversity, and CS teacher

Book: The Direct Path to Linux Ubuntu (Amazon · Barnes & Noble)

Learn it, then pass it on.