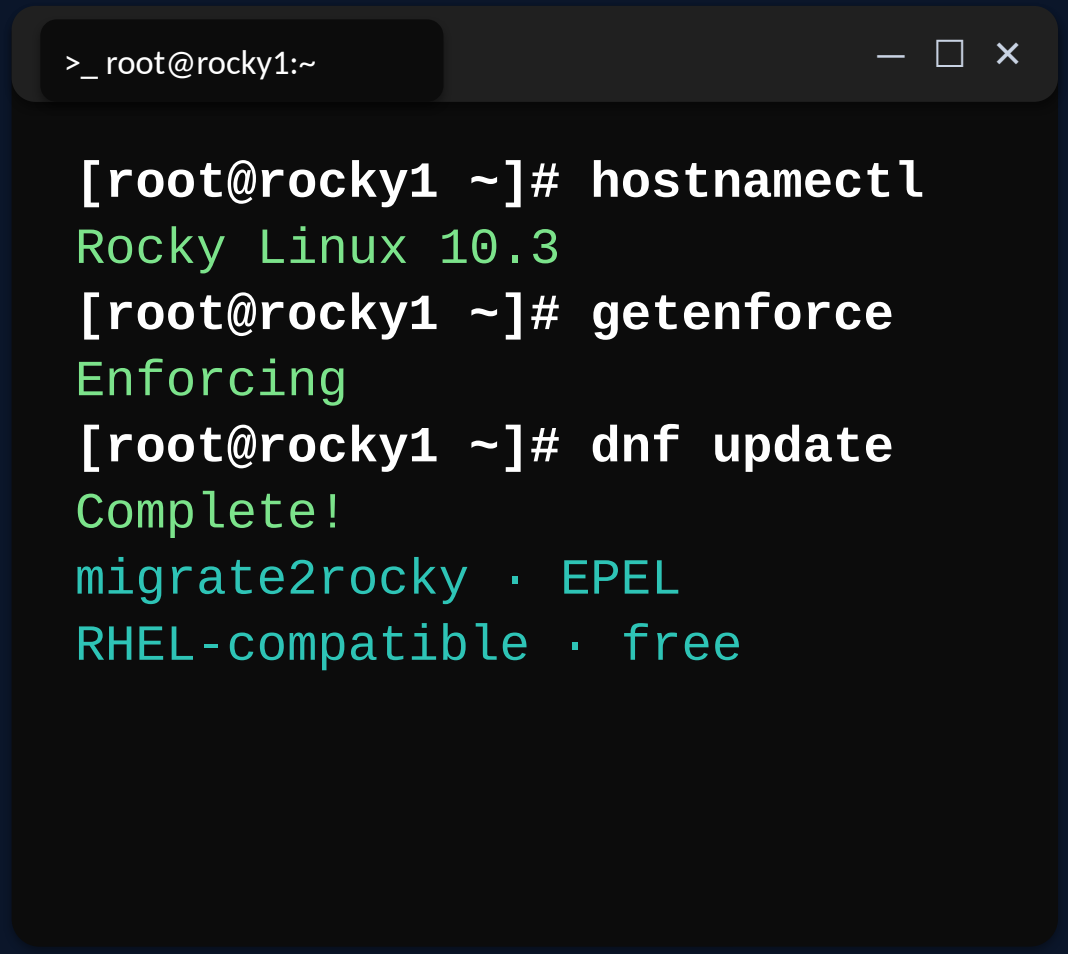


LESSON 9 OF 12

Rocky Linux 9 & 10

Install · Migrate · Differences

Converting Rocky to RHEL or AlmaLinux, and Back

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

What You Will Learn in Lesson 9

- Why convert: support, certification, hardware, upgrades
- The conversion map: who converts to whom
- Rocky → RHEL with Red Hat's conversion tools
- Rocky → AlmaLinux with almalinux-deploy
- AlmaLinux, Oracle, RHEL → Rocky (review)
- Licensing and support considerations
- A safe conversion checklist

Why Convert?

Reason	Typical direction
A vendor requires RHEL for support	Rocky → RHEL
Need Red Hat support, Lightspeed, Satellite, Leapp	Rocky → RHEL
Older x86-64-v2 CPU but want EL10	Rocky → AlmaLinux (x86-64-v2 build)
Want community in-place upgrades (ELevate)	Rocky → AlmaLinux
Leaving a paid subscription; standardizing on Rocky	RHEL / AlmaLinux / Oracle → Rocky
Mergers: two companies, two distributions	Either way — pick one standard

The Conversion Map

From → To	Tool	Notes
Rocky 8/9 → RHEL 8/9	convert2rhel (Red Hat)	Supported by Red Hat with a subscription
Rocky 9 → RHEL 10	Red Hat conversion + upgrade path	Check Red Hat's current docs (RHEL 10.2+)
Rocky 8/9/10 → AlmaLinux	almalinux-deploy.sh	Maintained by the AlmaLinux project
EL 8/9 → Rocky 8/9	migrate2rocky / migrate2rocky9	Lesson 7
Rocky → Oracle Linux	Oracle's centos2ol tool	Check Oracle's supported sources
Anything → Fedora/Ubuntu	—	Not a conversion: reinstall

Rocky → RHEL with convert2rhel

```
# On rocky2 (Rocky 9.9). You need a Red Hat account with RHEL subscriptions.
[student@rocky2 ~]$ sudo curl -o /etc/yum.repos.d/convert2rhel.repo \
      https://cdn-public.redhat.com/content/public/repofiles/convert2rhel-for-rhel-9-x86_64.repo
[student@rocky2 ~]$ sudo dnf install -y convert2rhel
[student@rocky2 ~]$ sudo convert2rhel analyze --org <org-id> --activationkey <key>
[student@rocky2 ~]$ sudo less /var/log/convert2rhel/convert2rhel-pre-conversion.txt
[student@rocky2 ~]$ sudo convert2rhel --org <org-id> --activationkey <key>
[student@rocky2 ~]$ sudo reboot
[student@rocky2 ~]$ cat /etc/redhat-release ; sudo subscription-manager status
```

Rocky → AlmaLinux with almalinux-deploy

```
# On a test clone of a Rocky server
[student@rocky3 ~]$ sudo dnf -y update && sudo reboot
[student@rocky3 ~]$ curl -O \
      https://raw.githubusercontent.com/AlmaLinux/almalinux-deploy/master/almalinux-deploy.sh
[student@rocky3 ~]$ less almalinux-deploy.sh            # read it first
[student@rocky3 ~]$ sudo bash almalinux-deploy.sh
...
Migration to AlmaLinux is completed
[student@rocky3 ~]$ sudo reboot
[student@rocky3 ~]$ cat /etc/almalinux-release
[student@rocky3 ~]$ rpm -qa --qf '%{VENDOR}\n' | sort | uniq -c
```

After Any Conversion

Check	Command or action
Release and kernel	cat /etc/os-release ; uname -r
Repositories	dnf repolist ; dnf check-update
Vendor of packages	rpm -qa --qf '%{VENDOR}\n' | sort | uniq -c
Leftovers	dnf distro-sync ; dnf list extras
Services and apps	systemctl --failed ; test the application
SELinux and boot	getenforce ; grubby --default-kernel
Monitoring, backup, inventory	Update the OS name in your tools and documentation

Licensing and Support

Topic	What to know
RHEL	Each converted system needs a valid RHEL subscription
Rocky and AlmaLinux	Free; no subscription; community or commercial support
Vendor support	Ask the vendor which distribution and version they support
Support during conversion	Red Hat supports convert2rhel for subscribers; community tools are best-effort
Trademarks	Do not ship 'RHEL' branding on Rocky systems, or the reverse
Not legal advice	Check contracts and licenses with your organization

Safe Conversion Checklist

#	Step
1	Decide why; confirm the target is supported by your vendors
2	Inventory: repos, third-party kernel modules (NVIDIA, storage, security agents)
3	Snapshot or full backup; console access; maintenance window
4	Update fully and reboot; run the tool's analysis or dry run if available
5	Convert a test clone first; then production
6	Verify: release, kernel, vendor count, services, apps, SELinux
7	Update monitoring, CMDB and documentation; keep the snapshot a few days

Summary and Homework

- Same packages make conversions possible without reinstalling
- Rocky → RHEL: convert2rhel analyze, then convert (subscription needed)
- Rocky → AlmaLinux: almalinux-deploy.sh
- Back to Rocky: migrate2rocky / migrate2rocky9
- Always: snapshot, analyze, test clone, verify, update records
- Homework: clone rocky2; run convert2rhel analyze (free developer account) and read the report

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.