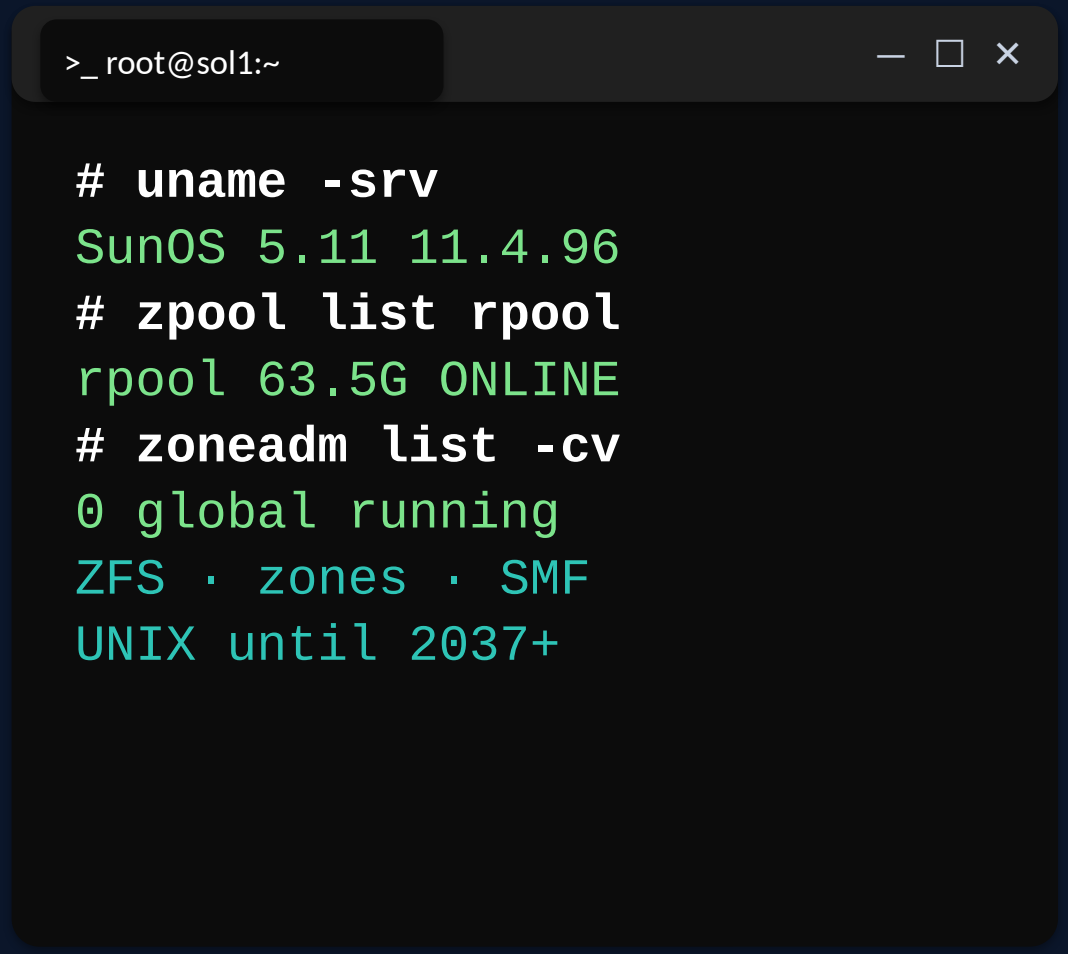


LESSON 1 OF 12

Oracle Solaris 11.4

ZFS · Zones · SMF · LDoms · OLVM

Oracle Solaris Today: History, SRUs, Support to 2037 & the Free CBE

Full Course · Solaris 11.4 SRU96 · OVM (Nov 2026)

What You Will Learn in Lesson 1

- From SunOS to Oracle Solaris 11.4: a short history
- Continuous delivery: one release, many SRUs
- The 2026 SRU cadence: CPU + feature release each quarter
- Support timeline: Premier to 2031, Extended to 2037
- Oracle VM family: SPARC (LDoms), x86 and OLVM
- The free CBE release and our VirtualBox lab
- Course map: 12 lessons

From SunOS to Solaris 11.4

1982	Sun Microsystems founded; SunOS (BSD-based)
1992	Solaris 2 = SunOS 5 (System V Release 4)
2005	Solaris 10: ZFS, zones, DTrace, SMF
2010	Oracle acquires Sun
2011	Solaris 11: IPS packages, boot environments
2018	Solaris 11.4: continuous delivery begins
2026	SRU93+: two updates per quarter; new CBE
2037+	Committed support for 11.4

Continuous Delivery and the 2026 SRU Cadence

Term	Meaning
Solaris 11.4	The single current release — no Solaris 12; features arrive in updates
SRU	Support Repository Update: cumulative update (SRU 96 = 11.4.96)
CPU SRU	Quarterly Critical Patch Update: security fixes (SRU 93, 96…)
Feature SRU	About 6 weeks later: new features (SRU 95: nvmeadm, zpool monitor)
Since SRU 93 (Jun 2026)	Two planned SRUs per quarter instead of three monthly ones
Support repository	pkg.oracle.com — needs a support contract (certificate + key)
Release repository	Free GA/CBE content; no SRU updates

Support Timeline (Nov 2026)

Product	Status
Solaris 11.4	Premier Support to Nov 2031 · Extended to 2037 · Sustaining: indefinite
Solaris 11.3 / 10	Extended Support ends 2027 — plan migration now
OVM Server for SPARC 3.6	Bundled with 11.4; supported with Solaris 11.4
Oracle VM Server for x86	Sustaining Support only since July 1, 2024
Replacement for OVM x86	Oracle Linux KVM + OLVM 4.5 (oVirt-based)
Hardware	SPARC T8, M8, S7, Fujitsu M12; Oracle/third-party x86

Oracle Virtualization Family

Technology	What it is
Zones	OS-level containers sharing one Solaris kernel
Kernel zones	Zones with their own kernel (own SRU level)
OVM Server for SPARC (LDoms)	Firmware hypervisor; ldm command; logical domains
Dynamic Domains / PDoms	Hardware partitions on M-series servers
Oracle VM Server for x86	Xen-based, legacy — migrate away
Oracle Linux KVM + OLVM	Modern x86 virtualization, managed by OLVM
VirtualBox	Desktop hypervisor — our lab

Our Lab: Solaris 11.4 CBE in VirtualBox

Item	Value
Download	oracle.com/solaris → Solaris 11.4 CBE (free Oracle account)
License	Free for developers and non-production personal use
Latest CBE	March 2026 (content near SRU 90)
VM sol1	x86, 4 GB RAM, 2 vCPU, 40 GB disk — 192.168.56.51
VM sol2	Optional second VM for replication — 192.168.56.52
SPARC / LDoms	Needs real SPARC hardware — shown on slides
OLVM lab	Oracle Linux 9 VMs (free) — lesson 10

Course Map

#	Lesson
1–3	Solaris today · Installing the CBE · IPS, SRUs and boot environments
4–6	SMF and FMA · ZFS · Networking with dladm and ipadm
7–8	Users, RBAC and security · Zones and kernel zones
9–10	Oracle VM Server for SPARC (LDoms) · OVM x86 to Oracle Linux KVM and OLVM
11–12	DTrace and troubleshooting · Migrating to 11.4, Solaris vs Linux, next steps

Summary and Homework

- Solaris = SunOS 5.x (SVR4); 11.4 is the one current release
- SRUs are cumulative; since SRU 93 two per quarter (CPU + feature)
- 11.4 supported to at least 2037; 11.3 and 10 end in 2027
- OVM x86 is legacy; Oracle Linux KVM + OLVM replaces it
- CBE: free for developers and non-production use
- Homework: create an Oracle account and download the 11.4 CBE x86 text-install ISO

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.