

# Upgrading

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Upgrading across multiple versions is handled automatically. However, if in your migration path you have an LTS version, you must first migrate to this LTS and then migrate to your target version.

Example 1 : 4.2 -> 6.1, migration path is 4.2 -> 4.5.7 LTS -> 5.6 LTS -> 6.1

Example 2 : 5.1 -> 5.6, migration path is 5.1 -> 5.6

## How to Upgrade?

This is a generic upgrade guide, please read carefully the Upgrade Notes of your target version and of each intermediate version, if any (below).

Before you start, backup your SonarQube Database. Upgrade problems are rare, but you'll want the backup if anything does happen.

1. [Download](#) and unzip the new SonarQube distribution in a **fresh** directory, let's say *NEW\_SONARQUBE\_HOME*
2. [Install the plugins](#) compatible with your version of SonarQube. Use the [Compatibility Matrix](#) to ensure that the versions you install are compatible with your server version. Note that simply copying plugins from the old server to the new is not recommended; incompatible plugins could cause startup errors.
3. Update the contents of *sonar.properties* and *wrapper.conf* files (in *NEW\_SONARQUBE\_HOME/conf*) with the settings of the related files in the *OLD\_SONARQUBE\_HOME/conf* directory (web server URL, database, ldap settings, etc.). **Do not copy-paste the old files.**
  - a. If you are using the Oracle DB, copy its JDBC driver into *NEW\_SONARQUBE\_HOME/extensions/jdbc-driver/oracle*
4. Stop your old SonarQube Server
5. Start your new SonarQube Server
6. Browse to <http://yourSonarQubeServerURL/setup> and follow the setup instructions
7. Analyze your projects (and compute your Views if you own the Governance product) to get fresh data

## Anything Else?

### Oracle Clean-up

Starting with 6.6, there's an additional step you may want to perform if you're using Oracle. On Oracle the database columns to be dropped are now marked as UNUSED and are not physically dropped anymore. To reclaim disk space, Oracle administrators must drop these unused columns manually. The SQL request is `ALTER TABLE foo DROP UNUSED COLUMNS`. The relevant tables are listed in the system table `all_unused_col_tabs`.

### Additional Database Maintenance

Refreshing your database's statistics and rebuilding your database's indices are recommended once the technical upgrade is done (just before the very last step).

### Scanner Update

Check the documentation pages of the [Scanners](#) you use to see if upgrades are available.

### SonarQube as a Linux or Windows Service

If you use external configuration, such as a script or Windows Service to control your server, you'll need to update it to point to *NEW\_SONARQUBE\_HOME*

In case you used the `InstallNTService.bat` to install SonarQube as a Windows Service, run the `OLD_SONARQUBE_HOME/bin/.../UninstallNTService.bat` before running the `InstallNTService.bat` of the *NEW\_SONARQUBE\_HOME*.

## Release Upgrade Notes

Usually SonarQube releases come with some specific recommendations for upgrading from the previous version. You should read the upgrade notes for each version between your current version and the target version. To upgrade from a version not listed here, see [Documentation for Previous Versions](#).

- [Release 6.6 Upgrade Notes](#)
- [Release 6.5 Upgrade Notes](#)
- [Release 6.4 Upgrade Notes](#)
- [Release 6.3 Upgrade Notes](#)
- [Release 6.2 Upgrade Notes](#)
- [Release 6.1 Upgrade Notes](#)
- [Release 6.0 Upgrade Notes](#)
- [Release 5.6 Upgrade Notes](#)