



Locking a Linux System to a Specific OS Version

Avi Technical Reference (v20.1)

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CentOS Linux

To prevent CentOS from being updated beyond some release level, it's necessary to appropriately set the `$releasever` parameter. Create a new file, `/etc/yum/vars/releasever`, containing the value of the highest point release to which an update is acceptable.

There are two ways we can do this.

```
head -n1 /etc/centos-release | awk '{print $4}' > /etc/yum/vars/releasever
```

```
echo '7.2.1511' > /etc/yum/vars/releasever
```

Some will prefer the first, as it automatically restricts to whatever release is currently running.

Red Hat Enterprise Linux

RHEL is a bit more complicated, as there are many possible options, which are detailed here: <https://access.redhat.com/solutions/238533>. To summarize all but the EUS Subscription details:

Systems not registered to Customer Portal or Satellite

Any of the following will work.

- **Modify the `/etc/yum.conf` file under the `[main]` heading:**

```
[main] distroverpkg=7.2
```

- **Create the var file to override `$releasever`:**

```
head -n1 /etc/redhat-release | awk '{print $7}' > /etc/yum/vars/releasever
```

- **Alternatively ...**

```
echo '7.2' > /etc/yum/vars/releasever
```

Systems registered to Customer Portal or Satellite

- **See a list of possible releases:**

```
subscription-manager release --list
```

- **Set the release:**

```
subscription-manager release --set=7.2
```

- **Clean your yum cache:**

```
yum clean all
```

- **Verify the system is set to the correct release:**

```
subscription-manager release --show
```