



VMware Infrastructure Compatibility Matrixes

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Introduction

The following matrixes describe version compatibilities for VMware® ESX Server, VMware VirtualCenter Server, and VMware Infrastructure Client. Where appropriate, information about VMware Server and VMware Update Manager is also provided.

- [ESX Server, VMware Server, and VI Client Compatibility](#)
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- [Operating System Compatibility for VI Client, VirtualCenter, and VMware Update Manager](#)

“YES” means the versions are compatible, “No” means the versions are not compatible. “N/A” means that the support combination does not apply.

ESX Server 3.5 includes ESX Server 3 version 3.5 and ESX Server 3i version 3.5.

ESX Server, VMware Server, and VI Client Compatibility

Table 1 lists the version compatibility for ESX Server, VMware Server, and VI Client.

Table 1. ESX Server, VMware Server, and VI Client Version Compatibility

ESX Server and VMware Server	VI Client												
	2.0.1 ⁴	2.0.2 ⁴	2.0.2 U1	2.0.2 U2	2.0.2 U3	2.0.2 U4	2.0.2 U5	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4	
ESX Server 2.x ⁴	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
ESX Server 3.0.x ⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ³	YES ³	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ^{1,3}	YES ^{1,3}	YES ^{1,3}	YES ^{1,3}
ESX Server 3.5 ²	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
VMware Server 1.0 ⁴	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
VMware Server 2.0 ⁴	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

1. The first time you try to connect from VI Client 2.5 to an ESX Server 3.0.x, a 2.0.x VI client is downloaded and installed on the VI host. For all subsequent connections, VMware determines which version of VI Client must be used and opens the correct one.
2. Including all updates unless otherwise noted.
3. Applicable to ESX Server 3.0.3.
4. This product release has reached a limited support or non-supported status according to VMware support life cycle policy. See http://www.vmware.com/support/policies/eos_vi.html for more information.

ESX Server and VirtualCenter Compatibility

Table 2 lists the version compatibility for ESX Server and VirtualCenter.

Table 2. ESX Server and VirtualCenter Version Compatibility

ESX Server and VMware Server	VirtualCenter													
	1.4 ²	2.0 ²	2.0.1 P2 ²	2.0.2 ²	2.0.2 U1	2.0.2 U2	2.0.2 U3	2.0.2 U4	2.0.2 U5	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
ESX Server 2.0.x ²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	No	No
ESX Server 2.1.x ²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	No	No
ESX Server 2.5.x ²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ESX Server 3.0 ²	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

1. Requires ESX Server 3.0.1 patches: ESX-1002083, ESX-1002085, and ESX-7557441. For more information on patch ESX-7557441, refer to KB 1003401. For ESX Server 3.0.2 patches: ESX-1002088 and ESX-1002090.
2. This product release has reached a limited support or non-supported status according to VMware support life cycle policy. See http://www.vmware.com/support/policies/eos_vi.html for more information.

Table 2. ESX Server and VirtualCenter Version Compatibility (Continued)

ESX Server and VMware Server	VirtualCenter													
	1.4 ²	2.0 ²	2.0.1 P2 ²	2.0.2 ²	2.0.2 U1	2.0.2 U2	2.0.2 U3	2.0.2 U4	2.0.2 U5	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
ESX Server 3.0.1 ²	No	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹
ESX Server 3.0.2 ²	No	No	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹
ESX Server 3.0.3	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ESX Server 3.5	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ESX Server 3.5 Update 1	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES
ESX Server 3.5 Update 2	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES
ESX Server 3.5 Update 3	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES
ESX Server 3.5 Update 4	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES
VMware Server 1.0 ²	YES	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
VMware Server 2.0 ²	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

1. Requires ESX Server 3.0.1 patches: ESX-1002083, ESX-1002085, and ESX-7557441. For more information on patch ESX-7557441, refer to KB 1003401. For ESX Server 3.0.2 patches: ESX-1002088 and ESX-1002090.

2. This product release has reached a limited support or non-supported status according to VMware support life cycle policy. See http://www.vmware.com/support/policies/eos_vi.html for more information.

VMware Consolidated Backup Compatibility with ESX Server and VirtualCenter

Table 3 lists the VMware Consolidated Backup (VCB) versions compatible with ESX Server and VirtualCenter combinations. Note the following:

- In cases where there is no compatibility between VirtualCenter and ESX Server, the VCB support is listed as “N/A”.
- VCB 1.0.2 implies the latest update of version 1.0.2, VCB 1.0.3 implies the latest update of version 1.0.3, VCB 1.1 implies the latest update of version 1.1.

Table 3. VMware VCB Compatibility with ESX Server and VirtualCenter

ESX Server	VirtualCenter							
	2.0 ²	2.0.1 ²	2.0.1 P2 ²	2.0.2 ²	2.0.2 U1	2.0.2 U4	2.0.2 U5	2.5 ¹
3.0 ²	VCB	VCB	VCB	VCB	VCB	N/A	N/A	VCB
	1.0.1	1.0.1	1.0.1	1.0.1	1.0.1			1.0.2
	1.0.2	1.0.2	1.0.2	1.0.2	1.0.2			
3.0.1 ²	VCB	VCB	VCB	VCB	VCB	N/A	N/A	VCB
	1.0.1	1.0.1	1.0.1	1.0.1	1.0.1			1.0.2
	1.0.2	1.0.2	1.0.2	1.0.2	1.0.2			
3.0.2 ²	N/A	N/A	VCB	VCB	VCB	N/A	VCB	VCB
			1.0.1	1.0.1	1.0.2		1.1	1.0.2
			1.0.2	1.0.2	1.0.3			1.0.3
			1.1	1.0.3	1.1			1.1
			1.5	1.1	1.5			1.5
3.0.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	VCB	VCB	VCB	VCB	VCB
				1.0.3	1.0.3	1.0.3	1.0.3	1.0.3
				1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
3.5 ¹	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	VCB
								1.1
								1.5

1. Including all updates unless otherwise noted.

2. This product release has reached a limited support or non-supported status according to VMware support life cycle policy. See http://www.vmware.com/support/policies/eos_vi.html for more information.

VirtualCenter and VI Client Compatibility

Table 4 lists the version compatibility for VirtualCenter and VI Client.

Table 4. VirtualCenter and VI Client Version Compatibility

VirtualCenter	VI Client															
	1.4 ³	2.0 ³	2.0.1 ³	2.0.1 P2 ³	2.0.2 ³	2.0.2 U1	2.0.2 U2	2.0.2 U3	2.0.2 U4	2.0.2 U5	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4	
1.4 ³	YES	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
2.0 ³	No	YES	YES	YES	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
2.0.1 ³	No	No	YES	YES	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES ²	YES ²	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	
2.0.1 P2 ³	No	No	No	YES	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES ²	YES ²	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	
2.0.2 ³	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ²	YES ²	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	
2.0.2 U1	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ²	YES ²	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	
2.0.2 U2	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ²	YES ²	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	
2.0.2 U3	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES ²	YES ²	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	
2.0.2 U4	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES ²	YES ²	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	
2.0.2 U5	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES ²	YES ²	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	
2.5	No	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
2.5 U1	No	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	
2.5 U2	No	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	No	No	YES	YES	YES	
2.5 U3	No	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	No	No	No	YES	YES	
2.5 U4	No	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	No	No	No	No	YES	

1. The first time you try to connect from VI Client 2.5 to an VC Server 2.0.x, a 2.0.x VI client is downloaded and installed on the VI host. For all subsequent connections, VMware determines which version of VI Client must be used and opens the correct one.

2. The first time you try to connect from VI Client 2.0.x/2.5 to an VC Server 2.5/2.0.x, a 2.5/2.0.x VI client is downloaded and installed on the VI host. For all the subsequent connections use the appropriate one to connect to VC Server.

3. This product release has reached a limited support or non-supported status according to VMware support life cycle policy. See http://www.vmware.com/support/policies/eos_vi.html for more information.

VMware Converter Enterprise Client and Server Plug-in Compatibility with VI Client and VirtualCenter Server

Table 5 lists the version compatibility for VirtualCenter Server and Converter Enterprise Server.

Table 5. Converter Enterprise Server Compatibility with VirtualCenter Server

VirtualCenter server	Converter Enterprise server				
	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
2.5	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.5 U1	No	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.5 U2	No	No	YES	YES	YES
2.5 U3	No	No	No	YES	YES
2.5 U4	No	No	No	No	YES

Table 6 lists the version compatibility for Converter Enterprise server and Converter Enterprise client plug-in.

Table 6. Converter Enterprise Client Compatibility with Converter Enterprise Server

Converter Enterprise Client plug-in	Converter Enterprise server				
	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
2.5	YES	No	No	No	No
2.5 U1	No	YES	No	No	No
2.5 U2	No	No	YES	No	No
2.5 U3	No	No	No	YES	No
2.5 U4	No	No	No	No	YES

Table 7 lists the Converter Enterprise client plug-in versions compatible with the VI Client.

Table 7. Converter Enterprise Client Plug-in Compatibility with VI Client

Converter Enterprise Client plug-in	VI Client				
	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
2.5	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.5 U1	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Table 7. Converter Enterprise Client Plug-in Compatibility with VI Client

Converter Enterprise Client plug-in	VI Client				
	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
2.5 U2	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.5 U3	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.5 U4	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

VMware Update Manager Client and Server Plug-in Compatibility with VI Client and VirtualCenter Server

[Table 8](#) lists the version compatibility for VirtualCenter Server and Update Manager Server.

Table 8. Update Manager Server Compatibility with VirtualCenter Server

VirtualCenter server	Update Manager server				
	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
2.5	YES	No	No	No	No
2.5 U1	No	YES	No	No	No
2.5 U2	No	No	YES	No	No
2.5 U3	No	No	No	YES	No
2.5 U4	No	No	No	No	YES

[Table 9](#) lists the version compatibility for Update Manager server and Update Manager client plug-in.

Table 9. Update Manager Client Compatibility with Update Manager Server

Update Manager Client plug-in	Update Manager server				
	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
2.5	YES	No	No	No	No
2.5 U1	No	YES	No	No	No
2.5 U2	No	No	YES	No	No
2.5 U3	No	No	No	YES	No
2.5 U4	No	No	No	No	YES

Table 10 lists the Update Manager client plug-in versions compatible with the VI Client.

Table 10. Update Manager Client Plug-in Compatibility with VI Client

Update Manager Client plug-in	VI Client				
	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
2.5	YES	No	No	No	No
2.5 U1	No	YES	No	No	YES ¹
2.5 U2	No	No	YES	No	YES ¹
2.5 U3	No	No	No	YES	YES ¹
2.5 U4	No	No	No	No	YES

1. Passed preliminary tests for compatibility. This compatibility is experimental and not fully supported.

VirtualCenter Upgrade Path

Table 11 lists the supported VirtualCenter upgrade paths.

Table 11. VirtualCenter Upgrade Path

From VirtualCenter Version	To VirtualCenter Version												
	1.0 ¹	1.1 ¹	1.2 ¹	1.3 ¹	1.4 ¹	2.0 ¹	2.0.1 ¹	2.0.2 ¹	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4
1.0 ¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
1.1 ¹	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
1.2 ¹	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	No	No	No	No	No
1.3 ¹	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	No	No	No	No	No
1.4 ¹	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.0 ¹	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.0.1 ¹	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.0.2 ¹	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.5	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.5 U1	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES
2.5 U2	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES	YES
2.5 U3	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES
2.5 U4	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

1. This product release has reached a limited support or non-supported status according to VMware support life cycle policy. See http://www.vmware.com/support/policies/eos_vi.html for more information.

Database Compatibility for VirtualCenter and VMware Update Manager

Table 12 provides a list of supported databases for VirtualCenter and VMware Update Manager.

Table 12. Database Compatibility for VirtualCenter and VMware Update Manager

Vendor	Database Server	VirtualCenter								VMware Update Manager
		2.0 ⁵	2.0.1 ⁵	2.0.2 ⁵	2.5	2.5 U1	2.5 U2	2.5 U3	2.5 U4	
Microsoft ³	SQL Server 2000 Standard Edition (SP4)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	SQL Server 2000 Enterprise Edition (SP4)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition (SP1)	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition (SP2)	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	SQL Server 2005 Enterprise Edition (SP1)	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	SQL Server 2005 Enterprise Edition (SP2)	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	SQL Server 2005 Enterprise Edition 64-bit (SP2)	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition 64-bit (SP2)	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	SQL Server 2005 Express	No	No	No	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES ¹	YES
Microsoft SQL Server Desktop Engine (MSDE)	YES ²	YES ²	YES ²	No	No	No	No	No	No	
Oracle ³	Oracle 9i Standard Edition, Release 2 [9.2.0.8]	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Oracle 9i Enterprise Edition, Release 2 [9.2.0.8]	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Oracle 10g Standard Edition, Release 1 [10.1.0.3.0]	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Oracle 10g Enterprise Edition, Release 1 [10.1.0.3.0]	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Oracle 10g Standard Edition, Release 2 [10.2.0.3.0] ⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Oracle 10g Enterprise Edition, Release 2 [10.2.0.3.0] ⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Oracle 10g Enterprise Edition, Release 2 [10.2.0.3.0] 64-bit ⁴	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Oracle 11g Standard Edition	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Oracle 11g Enterprise Edition	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	

1. Maximum of 5 hosts and 50 virtual machines. For more information, see the *ESX Server 3i Setup Guide* or the *ESX Server 3 Installation Guide*.

2. Evaluation Mode

3. Database versions are 32-bit unless stated otherwise.

4. Supported with version 10.2.0.3.0 or higher.

5. This product release has reached a limited support or non-supported status according to VMware support life cycle policy.

See http://www.vmware.com/support/policies/eos_vi.html for more information.

Browser Compatibility for VirtualCenter Web Access

Table 13 lists the browsers supported for VirtualCenter and Web Access.

Table 13. Browser Compatibility for VirtualCenter and Web Access

Operating System	Browser	Web Access	
		2.0.x	2.5
Linux	Mozilla 1.x	YES	No
Windows	Internet Explorer 6.0	YES	YES
	Netscape Navigator 7.0.x	YES	No
Linux/Windows	Firefox 1.0.7+	YES	YES
	Firefox 1.5+	YES	YES
	Firefox 2.0.x	YES	YES

Operating System Compatibility for VI Client, VirtualCenter, and VMware Update Manager

Table 14 lists the operating systems supported for VI Client, VirtualCenter, VirtualCenter Image Customization (Image Cust.), and VMware Update Manager. In addition, it shows the patching type supported for the VMware Update Manager Download Service: Scan (S) and Remediate (R).

Table 14. Operating System Compatibility for VI Client, VirtualCenter, and VMware Update Manager

Vendor	Operating System	VI Client		VirtualCenter			VMware Update Manager	
		2.0.x ³	2.5	2.0.x ³	2.5	Image Cust.	Server	OS Patching
Microsoft	Windows XP Pro, SP2	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	SR
	Windows XP Pro 64-bit, SP2	No	No	No	No	YES	No	SR
	Windows XP Pro, SP3	No	YES ¹	No	YES ¹	No	YES ¹	No
	Windows XP Pro 64-bit, SP3	No	YES ¹	No	No	No	No	No
	Windows 2000 Server, SP4 with Update Rollup 1	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	No	SR
	Windows 2000 Professional, SP4	YES	YES	No	No	YES	No	SR
	Windows 2000 Advanced Server with Update Rollup 1	No	No	YES	YES ¹	YES	No	No
	Windows Server 2003, SP1	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	SR
	Windows Server 2003, SP2	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	SR
	Windows Server 2003, R2 ²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	SR
	Windows Server 2003 64-bit	No	No	No	No	YES	No	SR
	Windows Server 2003	YES	No	YES	No	YES	No	SR
	Windows Vista Business	No	YES	No	No	YES	No	SR
	Windows Vista Enterprise	No	YES	No	No	YES	No	SR
	Windows Vista Business 64-bit	No	YES ¹	No	No	YES	No	SR
	Windows Vista Enterprise 64-bit	No	YES ¹	No	No	YES	No	SR
	Windows Server 2008 Enterprise	No	No	No	No	YES ¹	No	No
	Windows Server 2008 Standard	No	No	No	No	YES ¹	No	No
	Windows Server 2008 Datacenter	No	No	No	No	YES ¹	No	No
	Windows Server 2008 Enterprise 64-bit	No	No	No	No	YES ¹	No	No
Windows Server 2008 Standard 64-bit	No	No	No	No	YES ¹	No	No	
Windows Server 2008 Datacenter 64-bit	No	No	No	No	YES ¹	No	No	

Table 14. Operating System Compatibility for VI Client, VirtualCenter, and VMware Update Manager (Continued)

Vendor	Operating System	VI Client		VirtualCenter			VMware Update Manager	
		2.0.x ³	2.5	2.0.x ³	2.5	Image Cust.	Server	OS Patching
Red Hat Linux	AS 2.1	No	No	No	No	YES	No	No
	ES 2.1	No	No	No	No	YES	No	No
	Red Hat Desktop 3	No	No	No	No	YES	No	No
	Red Hat Desktop 4	No	No	No	No	YES	No	No
	AS 3.0, Update 5	No	No	No	No	YES	No	S
	ES 3.0, Update 5	No	No	No	No	YES	No	S
	AS 4.0, Update 2	No	No	No	No	YES	No	S
	ES 4.0, Update 2	No	No	No	No	YES	No	S
	AS 4.5	No	No	No	No	YES	No	No
	RHEL 5 Server Platform	No	No	No	No	YES	No	No
	RHEL 5 Desktop Platform	No	No	No	No	YES	No	No
SUSE Linux	SLES 10, SP1 and SP2	No	No	No	No	YES	No	No
	SLES 8, SP1 and SP2	No	No	No	No	YES	No	No

1. Supported with VirtualCenter 2.5 Update 4.

2. Windows Server 2003, R2 is supported with SP2.

3. This product release has reached a limited support or non-supported status according to VMware support life cycle policy. See http://www.vmware.com/support/policies/eos_vi.html for more information.

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