

Bitcoin Core version 0.10.3 is now available from:

<https://bitcoin.org/bin/bitcoin-core-0.10.3/>

This is a new minor version release, bringing security fixes and translation updates. It is recommended to upgrade to this version as soon as possible.

Please report bugs using the issue tracker at github:

<https://github.com/bitcoin/bitcoin/issues>

## Upgrading and downgrading

### How to Upgrade

If you are running an older version, shut it down. Wait until it has completely shut down (which might take a few minutes for older versions), then run the installer (on Windows) or just copy over /Applications/Bitcoin-Qt (on Mac) or bitcoind/bitcoin-qt (on Linux).

### Downgrade warning

Because release 0.10.0 and later makes use of headers-first synchronization and parallel block download (see further), the block files and databases are not backwards-compatible with pre-0.10 versions of Bitcoin Core or other software:

- Blocks will be stored on disk out of order (in the order they are received, really), which makes it incompatible with some tools or other programs. Reindexing using earlier versions will also not work anymore as a result of this.
- The block index database will now hold headers for which no block is stored on disk, which earlier versions won't support.

If you want to be able to downgrade smoothly, make a backup of your entire data directory. Without this your node will need start syncing (or importing from bootstrap.dat) anew afterwards. It is possible that the data from a completely synchronised 0.10 node may be usable in older versions as-is, but this is not supported and may break as soon as the older version attempts to reindex.

This does not affect wallet forward or backward compatibility.

## Notable changes

### Fix buffer overflow in bundled upnp

Bundled miniupnpc was updated to 1.9.20151008. This fixes a buffer overflow in the XML parser during initial network discovery.

Details can be found here: <http://talosintel.com/reports/TALOS-2015-0035/>

This applies to the distributed executables only, not when building from source or using distribution provided packages.

Additionally, upnp has been disabled by default. This may result in a lower number of reachable nodes on IPv4, however this prevents future libupnpc vulnerabilities from being a structural risk to the network (see

<https://github.com/bitcoin/bitcoin/pull/6795>).

## Test for LowS signatures before relaying

Make the node require the canonical 'low-s' encoding for ECDSA signatures when relaying or mining. This removes a nuisance malleability vector.

Consensus behavior is unchanged.

If widely deployed this change would eliminate the last remaining known vector for nuisance malleability on SIGHASH\_ALL P2PKH transactions. On the down-side it will block most transactions made by sufficiently out of date software.

Unlike the other avenues to change txids on transactions this one was randomly violated by all deployed bitcoin software prior to its discovery. So, while other malleability vectors were made non-standard as soon as they were discovered, this one has remained permitted. Even BIP62 did not propose applying this rule to old version transactions, but conforming implementations have become much more common since BIP62 was initially written.

Bitcoin Core has produced compatible signatures since a28fb70e in September 2013, but this didn't make it into a release until 0.9 in March 2014; Bitcoinj has done so for a similar span of time. Bitcoinjs and electrum have been more recently updated.

This does not replace the need for BIP62 or similar, as miners can still cooperate to break transactions. Nor does it replace the need for wallet software to handle malleability sanely[1]. This only eliminates the cheap and irritating DOS attack.

[1] On the Malleability of Bitcoin Transactions Marcin Andrychowicz, Stefan Dziembowski, Daniel Malinowski, Łukasz Mazurek [http://fc15.ifca.ai/preproceedings/bitcoin/paper\\_9.pdf](http://fc15.ifca.ai/preproceedings/bitcoin/paper_9.pdf)

## Minimum relay fee default increase

The default for the `-minrelaytxfee` setting has been increased from `0.00001` to `0.00005`.

This is necessitated by the current transaction flooding, causing outrageous memory usage on nodes due to the mempool ballooning. This is a temporary measure, bridging the time until a dynamic method for determining this fee is merged (which will be in 0.12).

(see <https://github.com/bitcoin/bitcoin/pull/6793>, as well as the 0.11.0 release notes, in which this value was suggested)

## 0.10.3 Change log

Detailed release notes follow. This overview includes changes that affect external behavior, not code moves, refactors or string updates.

- #6186 e4a7d51 Fix two problems in CSubnet parsing
- #6153 ebd7d8d Parameter interaction: disable upnp if -proxy set
- #6203 ecc96f5 Remove P2SH coinbase flag, no longer interesting
- #6226 181771b json: fail read\_string if string contains trailing garbage
- #6244 09334e0 configure: Detect (and reject) LibreSSL
- #6276 0fd8464 Fix getbalance \* 0
- #6274 be64204 Add option `-alerts` to opt out of alert system

- #6319 3f55638 doc: update mailing list address
- #6438 7e66e9c openssl: avoid config file load/race
- #6439 255eced Updated URL location of netinstall for Debian
- #6412 0739e6e Test whether created sockets are select()able
- #6694 f696ea1 [QT] fix thin space word wrap line brake issue
- #6704 743cc9e Backport bugfixes to 0.10
- #6769 1cea6b0 Test LowS in standardness, removes nuisance malleability vector.
- #6789 093d7b5 Update miniupnpc to 1.9.20151008
- #6795 f2778e0 net: Disable upnp by default
- #6797 91ef4d9 Do not store more than 200 timedata samples
- #6793 842c48d Bump minrelaytxfee default

## Credits

Thanks to everyone who directly contributed to this release:

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- Wladimir J. van der Laan

And all those who contributed additional code review and/or security research:

- timothy on IRC for reporting the issue
- Vulnerability in miniupnp discovered by Aleksandar Nikolic of Cisco Talos

As well as everyone that helped translating on [Transifex](#).