

## **Termux vs Google Play**

During development of this app we encountered curious “problem”. Termux app was available on Google Play, but developers encouraged users to install it on F-Droid. We did a little research about it and put results here.

### **Why version on Google Play was abandoned?**

Android apps can specify a [targetSdkVersion](#), to indicate which version of Android they are compatible with, then Android systems will act as the version specified by targetSdkVersion.

Android 10 imposed restrictions on apps that essentially made Termux unusable. The team avoided this problem by declaring targetSdkVersion of app Android 9, so system didn't imposed new restrictions on app. But because of this in 2020 Termux didn't meet [Google Play's API level requirements](#) and it couldn't be updated. That's why it was recommended to install supported and developed version from F-Droid.

### **Then the story gets interesting...**

But why outdated version was left on Google Play? Because the person who owned Play Store account abandoned the project and team didn't have access to it. But then, in June 2024, Termux was again updated on Google Play, finally meeting requirements. But then, four days later, the team released a [statement](#) that they don't recommend installing it, because it should be considered “unofficial/forked release source”, and “The only official release sources to install Termux from are still F-Droid and GitHub”. Google Play version is still being developed, so, future readers, I recommend to check situation.

#### **For interested:**

[https://www.reddit.com/r/termux/comments/zu8ets/do\\_not\\_install\\_termux\\_from\\_play\\_store/](https://www.reddit.com/r/termux/comments/zu8ets/do_not_install_termux_from_play_store/)

<https://github.com/termux-play-store>