WSUS clean-up task, Office 365 Updates option and synchronization, Multiple ADR deployment in SCCM

WSUS is needed for software updates synchronization and for the software updates applicability scan on clients.

The WSUS server must be installed before you created the software update point role

The following version of WSUS are supported for a software update point:

WSUS 10.0.1439 (role in Windows server 2016) (2023-02 Cumulative Update, or a later cumulative update)

WSUS 10.0.17763 (role in Windows Server 2019) (Requires Configuration Manager 1810 or later) (2023-02 Cumulative Update, or a later cumulative update)

WSUS 10.0.20348 (role in Windows Server 2022) (2023-02 Cumulative Update, or a later cumulative update)

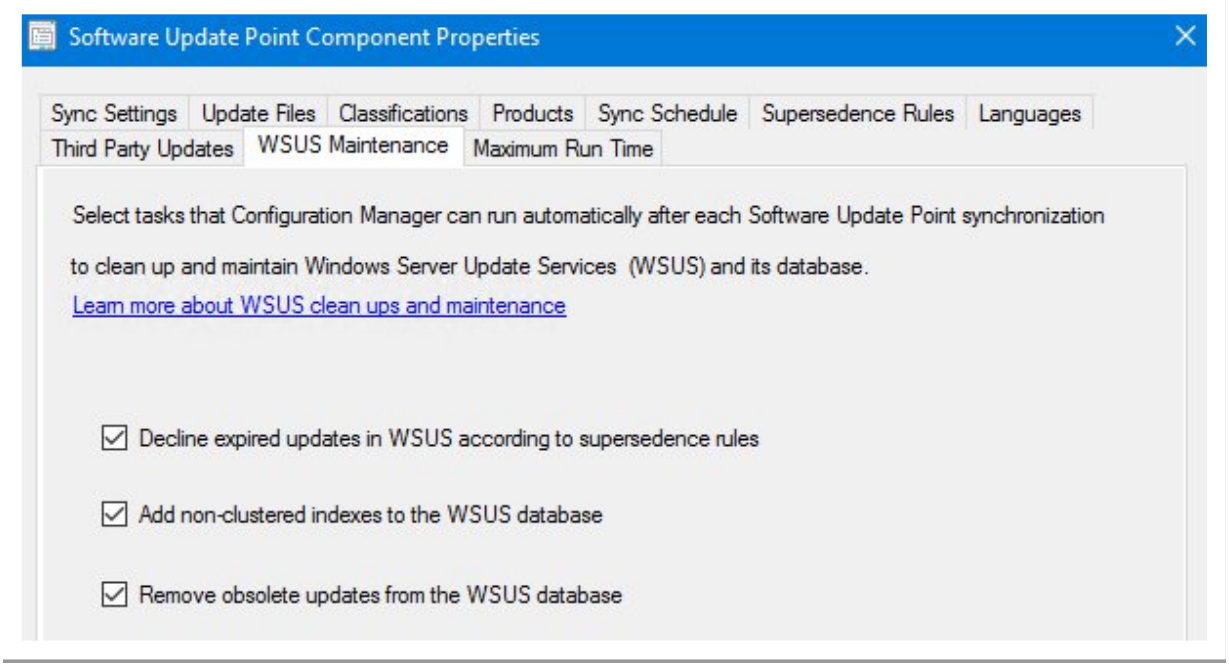
Maintain WSUS while supporting Configuration Manager current branch version 1906 and later versions

1.WSUS Maintenance

In Configuration Manager version 1906 or later, enabling WSUS Maintenance options in the Software Update Point configuration automates key cleanup tasks after each sync. These include:

Declining expired and superseded updates

Removing obsolete updates from the WSUS database



Before performing **WSUS maintenance**, follow these key guidelines:

Read all instructions carefully before starting.

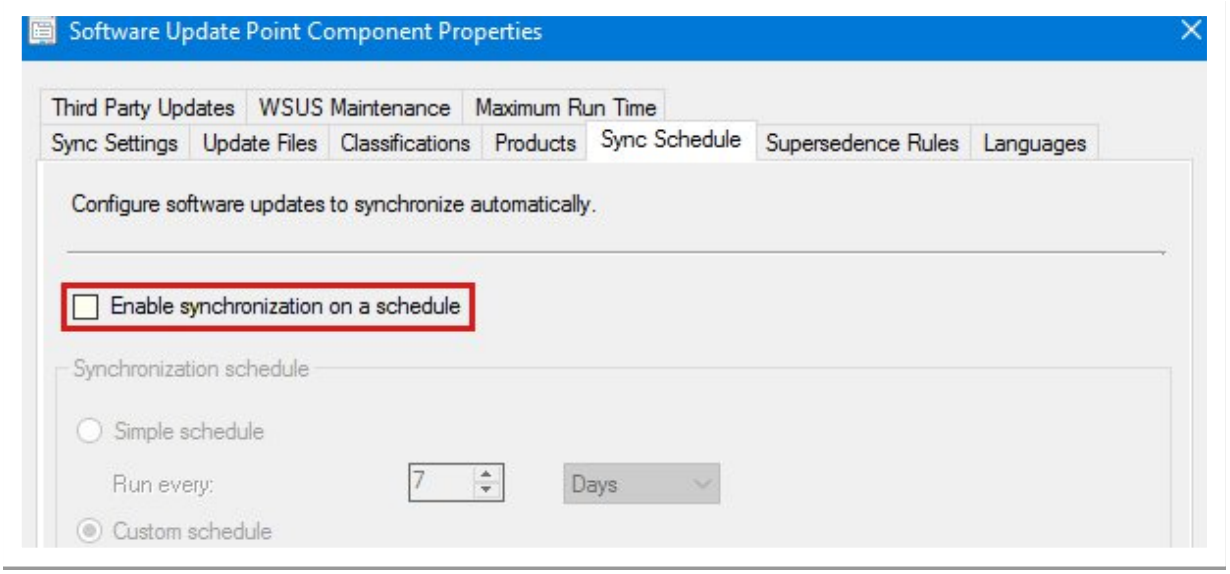
When using **downstream WSUS servers**, cleanup must start **from the bottom up** in the server hierarchy.

Add or sync updates top-down, but **remove or clean bottom-up**.

You can clean multiple servers **within the same tier simultaneously**, but complete one tier before moving to the next.+

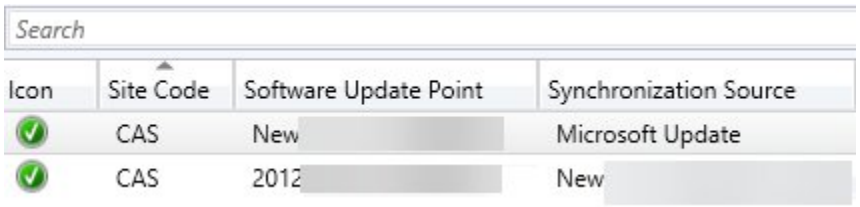
Perform **cleanup and reindexing on all WSUS servers**, including **replica servers**.

Pause SUP synchronization during maintenance to avoid data loss—set sync to **manual temporarily**.



If your **primary site or CAS** has **multiple Software Update Points (SUPs)** that use **separate WSUS databases (SUSDBs)**, treat the **WSUS server that syncs with the first SUP** as being **one tier below the site** in the WSUS hierarchy.

- The one named *New* syncs with Microsoft Update, it would be my top tier (Tier1).
- The server named *2012* syncs with *New*, and it would be considered in the second tier. It can be cleaned up at the same time I would do all my other Tier2 servers, such as my primary site's single SUP.



Perform WSUS Maintenance

The basic steps necessary for proper WSUS maintenance include:

1.Back up the WSUS database

To protect your WSUS (Windows Server Update Services) environment, it's essential to regularly back up the WSUS database (SUSDB). This ensures you can recover in case of failure, corruption, or accidental data loss.

2. Create Custom indexes

The WSUS database (SUSDB) can slow down due to the large number of updates and client records. Creating custom indexes improves performance, especially for cleanup operations and synchronization.

3. Reindex the WSUS database

Reindexing the WSUS database helps maintain performance by reorganizing fragmented indexes, which improves query speed, reduces timeouts, and enhances WSUS and SUP synchronization.

4. Deline superseded updates

Superseded updates are older updates that have been replaced by newer ones. **Declining them** helps improve WSUS and Configuration Manager performance by reducing clutter and speeding up synchronization and reporting.

5. Run the WSUS server cleanup Wizard

Run the WSUS Server Cleanup Wizard

WSUS Server Cleanup Wizard provides options to clean up the following items:

- Unused updates and update revisions (also known as Obsolete updates)
- Computers not contacting the server
- Unneeded update file
- Expired updates
- Superseded updates

In configuration manager environment, Computers are not contacting the server and unneeded update files options are not relevant because configuration manager manages software updates content and devices, unless either the create all WSUS reporting events or create only WSUS status reporting events options are selected under the software update sync settings.

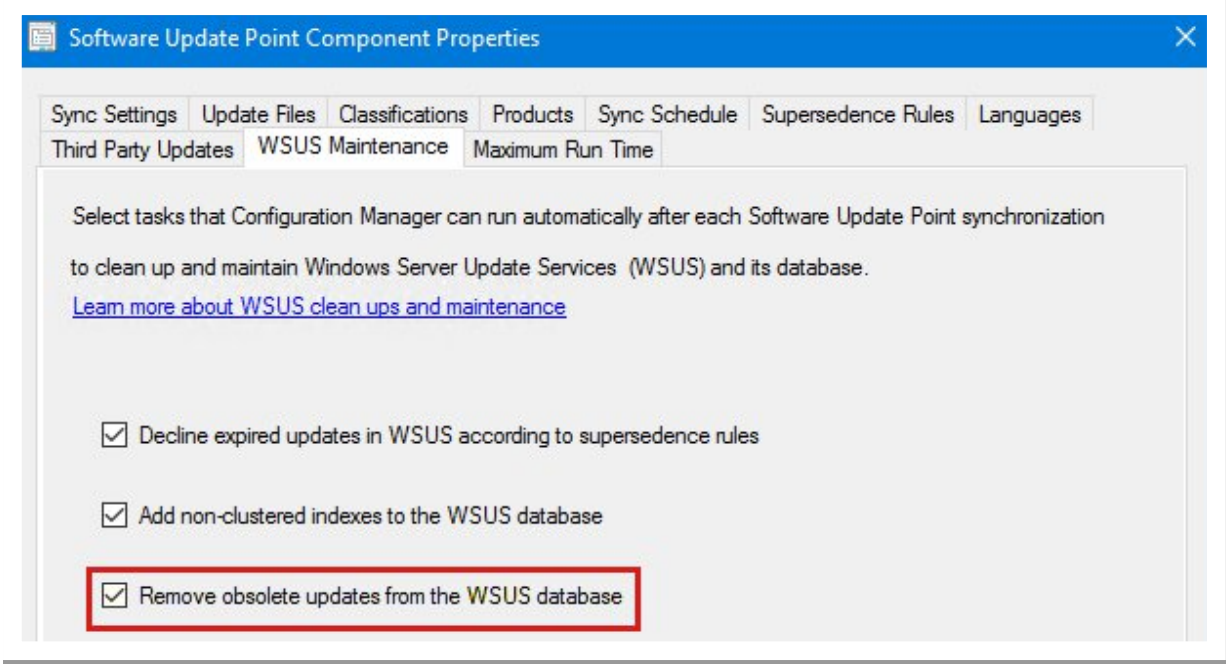
1.WSUS Maintenance in SCCM

Cleaner WSUS, improved sync performance, and reduced admin overhead.

These settings automate WSUS cleanup tasks after each sync, ensuring efficient update management in SCCM.

- **Decline expired updates in WSUS according to supersedence rules** – Automatically removes updates that are outdated based on defined rules.

- **Remove obsolete updates from the WSUS database** – Cleans up unused or outdated update metadata, helping to reduce WSUS database size and improve performance



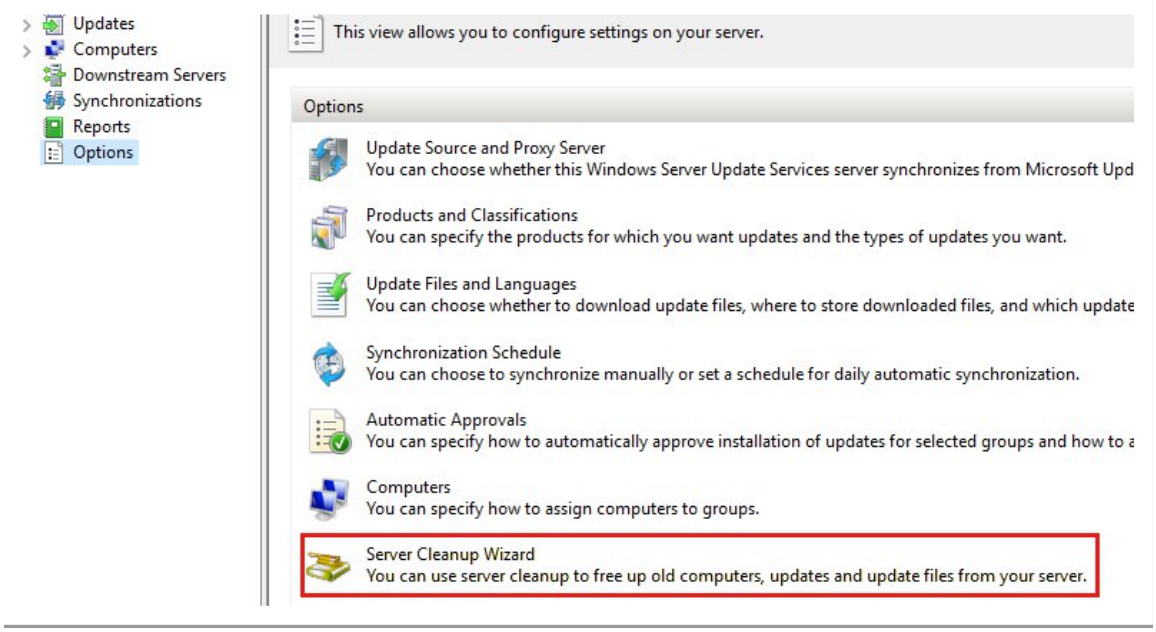
2. Server Cleanup Wizard

The Server Cleanup Wizard in WSUS (Windows Server Update Services) helps maintain your WSUS server by:

- Removing old or unused updates, update files, and computers
- Freeing up disk space
- Improving server performance and synchronization speed

It's an essential maintenance tool to keep WSUS efficient and prevent database bloat over time.

The WSUS Server Cleanup Wizard runs from the WSUS console. It is located under Options, as shown here:

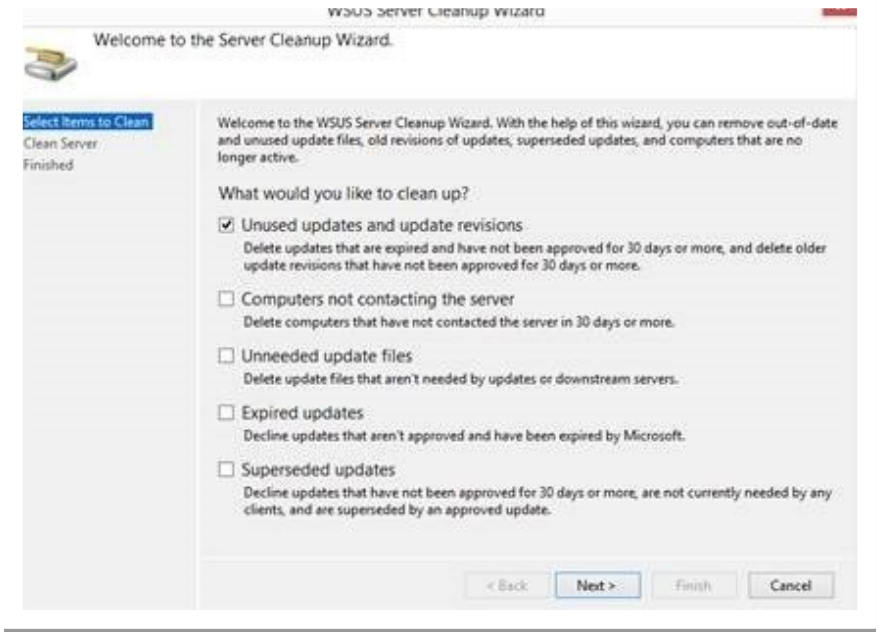


3. WSUS Server Cleanup Wizard – Select Items to Clean

This screen allows you to choose what data to clean up in WSUS to improve performance and free up space:

- **Unused updates and update revisions** *(Checked by default)*: Deletes outdated updates not approved in 30+ days.
- **Computers not contacting the server**: Removes devices inactive for over 30 days.
- **Unneeded update files**: Deletes update files no longer needed.
- **Expired updates**: Deletes updates marked expired by Microsoft.
- **Superseded updates**: Deletes updates replaced by newer versions.

Use this wizard regularly to maintain a healthy WSUS environment.



4. WSUS Server Cleanup Wizard – Cleanup Complete

This confirms the WSUS cleanup successfully removed outdated and unused components, helping maintain server performance and efficiency.

After it reports the number of items it has removed, the cleanup finishes. If you do not see this information returned on your WSUS server, it is safe to assume that the cleanup timed out.

Software Update Groups: Create groups to manage and deploy multiple updates

together. You can define rules for automatically adding updates to groups or manually add them.

Deployment Packages: Create packages to distribute the necessary update content to distribution points, which are then used to deploy updates to client computers.

Creating Software Update Groups:

1. Navigate to the Software Library workspace in the Configuration Manager console.

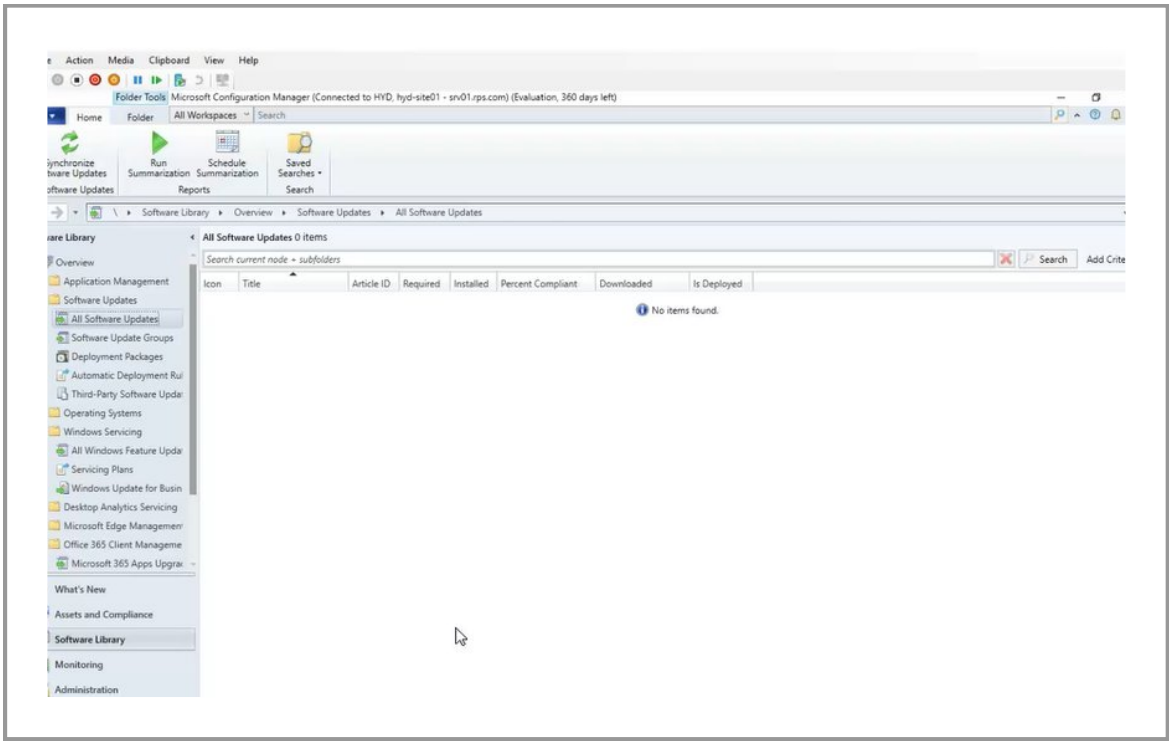
2 Select "All Software Updates"

3. Choose the updates you want to add to the group

4. Click "Create Software Update Group" in the ribbon.

5. Provide a name and description for the group.

6. click “create”



Creating Deployment Packages

1. Navigate to the Software Distribution area in the Configuration Manager console

2. Right-click "Packages" and select "Distribute Software".

3. Follow the wizard to create a new package and specify the source location for the updates.

4. Associate the package with one or more distribution points.