

SAP Support Package Stacks

Whereas error corrections using SAP Notes are only available for ABAP-based software components and only affect individual programs or development objects, *Support Packages* always contain a large quantity of error corrections for a specific software component (at a specific release level). SAP Support Packages are available for ABAP- and Java-based software components.

The increasing variety of components in a product version makes it necessary to improve the transparency of Support Packages and patches that are implemented and to set clear guidelines regarding recommended or allowed combinations. For this purpose, a new SAP Support Package stack is usually put together for most product versions every three to six months. These stacks contain the current best combination of SAP Support Package versions for the individual software components. This reduces the theoretical range of SAP Support Package combinations to those combinations that are useful in practice. SAP Support Package stacks represent combinations of SAP Support Packages stipulated by SAP for the respective product version, and we recommend that you regularly import these.



Hint:

Special Support Package stacks for the latest product versions are sometimes distributed as Feature Packages, which can also contain new features in addition to error corrections and legal changes. This makes it possible to deploy innovations quickly.

The tools used to import the SAP Support Packages depend on the type of SAP Support Package involved. SAP Support Packages for AS ABAP-based software components, for example, can be imported using the Support Package Manager (transaction `SPAM`). SAP Support Packages for AS Java-based software components are imported using the Software Update Manager (SUM).



Note:

SAP offers a large number of add-ons to supplement a standard SAP system. They can involve industry solutions, plug-ins, or even customer-specific development projects. To enable the installation and maintenance of these add-ons directly from the SAP system, the SAP Add-on Installation Tool (transaction code `SAINT`) was developed.