

Steps to Apply Service Pack in SQL 2005 Cluster Setup – UpSkill 2020.

- Patching a cluster is slightly more complicated and the process is different from SQL 2005 than it is for versions later than SQL 2005.
- With SQL Server 2005, the patch is applied to the active node of the cluster and it is the patch that will go off to all passive nodes and will apply the patch files remotely.
- This can be the most problematic part of the process and fortunately this was removed in SQL 2008.

Here is the process for patching a SQL 2005 cluster instance.

1. Copy the required patch file (SQL Service Pack) to the Active Node of the cluster.
 2. Ensure that no-one is using the SQL Server 2005 Instance, and then run the patch installer.
 3. The initial screens for the patch will be very similar to that of the standalone installer, so just follow the on-screen instructions
- Once we start physically copying file patch files, this is where it gets different as the installer will start doing remote installations.
 - What we will find is that once we start patching a SQL 2005 cluster, the instance is unavailable to users for the duration of the patching process.
 - Since the patch does the remote installations on all nodes in the cluster this may take quite a bit of time (we have seen a 2-node cluster take 40 minutes to patch), and we need to be aware that the instance will effectively be down during that time.
 - With SQL 2005 the patch does everything so once it's finished either all nodes are patched, or none are patched.
 - If there is an issue during the patching phase, then the entire patch needs to be rolled back on all nodes.
 - Therefore, if we have 3 node cluster and the last node fails to patch, the patch will be rolled back on all nodes - which will take quite a bit of time to do.
 - Bottom line for patch a SQL 2005 cluster is to do it out of hours or during some other down time and allow yourself plenty of time to do it.

Upskill 2020
(IT Freshers & Experienced)

Dear Connections,

This is Praveen here (Sr SQL Server DBA) with 10 plus years' experience in Core SQL Server Administration.

I'm from Hyderabad (India) & have planned an Online program named "**UPSKILL 2020**" for both IT Freshers & Experienced.

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Whatsapp @ 91-98661-30093 || GooglePay: 91-8197293434 || Paypal: Praveen.Madupu@gmail.com