**Can you / How to Upgrade RDBMS and Convert From 32-bit to 64-bit Binaries Directly on Linux or Windows based Intel Platforms Using the Database Upgrade Assistant (DBUA) (Doc ID 757245.1)**

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## Applies to:

Oracle Database - Enterprise Edition - Version 8.1.7.4 to 12.1.0.2 [Release 8.1.7 to 12.1]  
 Microsoft Windows x64 (64-bit)  
 UnitedLinux Itanium  
 Linux Itanium  
 Linux x86  
 Generic Linux  
 Microsoft Windows Itanium (64-bit)  
 Red Hat Enterprise Linux Advanced Server x86-64 (AMD Opteron Architecture)  
 Oracle Enterprise Linux 4.0  
 Red Hat Enterprise Linux Advanced Server Itanium  
 x86 64 bit  
 x86 32 bit  
 SUSE \ UnitedLinux x86-64  
 Linux x86-64

\*\*\*Checked for relevance on 20-Sep-2013\*\*\*

**Goal**

Question:  
 Can you upgrade the RDBMS and convert from 32-bit to 64-bit binaries directly on Linux or Windows based Intel platforms using the Database Upgrade Assistant (DBUA)

Answer:  
 No, It is not supported to upgrade the Oracle version and change platform from 32-bit to 64-bit (or 64-bit to 32-bit) directly using the DBUA on Linux or Windows Intel platforms.  
  
 The reason for this is:  
 To upgrade using the DBUA both the 32-bit and 64-bit binaries must be properly installed on the destination system.  
 While the upgrade process it self can perform the wordsize conversion, the DBUA upgrade process requires the instance be started on the older set of binaries and is moved to the newer one.  
  
 Since the installation and operation of 32-bit binaries on a 64-bit Linux or Windows operating systems is not supported, neither is using the DBUA to perform the upgrade process.  
  
 There are methods to work around this situation.

## Solution

Workarounds:  
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 Option 1:  
 Perform the upgrade on the original server without the word-size change using the DBUA, then move the instance to the new server and change the word-size with the utlirp.sql script.  
 Please refer to the following notes for the process:  
  
[Note.341880.1](https://support.oracle.com/epmos/faces/DocumentDisplay?parent=DOCUMENT&amp;sourceId=757245.1&amp;id=341880.1) How to convert a 32-bit database to 64-bit database on Linux?  
[Note.548978.1](https://support.oracle.com/epmos/faces/DocumentDisplay?parent=DOCUMENT&amp;sourceId=757245.1&amp;id=548978.1) How To Change Oracle 11g Word-size from 32-bit to 64-bit.  
[Note.62290.1](https://support.oracle.com/epmos/faces/DocumentDisplay?parent=DOCUMENT&amp;sourceId=757245.1&amp;id=62290.1) Changing between 32-bit and 64-bit Word Sizes  
  
 Option 2:  
 Use the manual upgrade process perform the pre-upgrade steps on the existing server / home then copying / move the instance to the new server / new binaries before attempting to start the instance with the new binaries and completing the upgrade.  
 Please refer to the following notes for the manual upgrade process:  
  
[Note 159657.1](https://support.oracle.com/epmos/faces/DocumentDisplay?parent=DOCUMENT&amp;sourceId=757245.1&amp;id=159657.1) Complete Upgrade Checklist for Manual Upgrades from 8.X / 9.0.1 to Oracle9iR2 (9.2.0)  
 For 9.2 upgrades the step in the note for the move would be after step 21 and before step 22.

[Note 263809.1](https://support.oracle.com/epmos/faces/DocumentDisplay?parent=DOCUMENT&amp;sourceId=757245.1&amp;id=263809.1) Complete checklist for manual upgrades to 10gR1 (10.1.0.x)  
 For 10.1 upgrades the step in the note for the move would be after step 20 and before step 21.

[Note 316889.1](https://support.oracle.com/epmos/faces/DocumentDisplay?parent=DOCUMENT&amp;sourceId=757245.1&amp;id=316889.1) Complete Checklist for Manual Upgrades to 10gR2  
 For 10.2 upgrades the step in the note for the move would be after step 20 and before step 21.

[Note 429825.1](https://support.oracle.com/epmos/faces/DocumentDisplay?parent=DOCUMENT&amp;sourceId=757245.1&amp;id=429825.1) Complete Checklist for Manual Upgrades to 11gR1  
 For 11.1 upgrades the step in the note for the move would be after step 21 and before step 22.

[Note 837570.1](https://support.oracle.com/epmos/faces/DocumentDisplay?parent=DOCUMENT&amp;sourceId=757245.1&amp;id=837570.1) Complete Checklist for Manual Upgrades to 11gR2

For 11.2 upgrades the step in the note for the move would be after step 24 and before step 25.