2 Ways to Upgrade Ubuntu 18.04/18.10 To Ubuntu 19.04 (GUI & Terminal)

linuxbabe.com/ubuntu/upgrade-ubuntu-18-04-18-10-to-ubuntu-19-04

Xiao Guo An (Admin)

April 15, 2019

Ubuntu 19.04, codenamed Disco Dingo, will be released on April 18, 2019. This tutorial is going to you 2 ways to upgrade Ubuntu 18.04 and Ubuntu 18.10 to 19.04. The first method uses the graphical update manger and the second method uses command line. Usually you use the graphical update manager to upgrade Ubuntu desktop and use command line to upgrade Ubuntu server, but the command-line method works for desktops too.

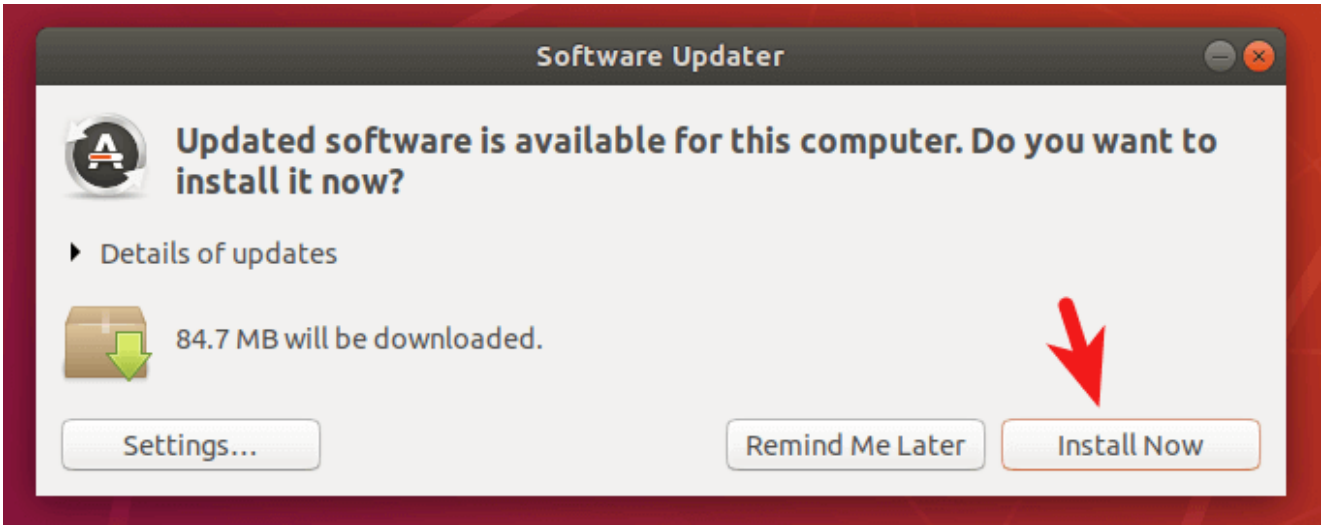
Ubuntu 18.04 is a long term support (LTS) release, which will be supported for 5 years. Ubuntu 19.04 is a non-LTS release, which means it will be supported for 9 months only, until January 2020. If you prefer stability over bleeding edge, then stick with Ubuntu 18.04. But if you are the other way around, you can follow this tutorial to upgrade from Ubuntu 18.04 to 19.04.

Ubuntu 18.10 will reach end of life this July, so I recommend 18.10 users upgrade to Ubuntu 19.04 ASAP.

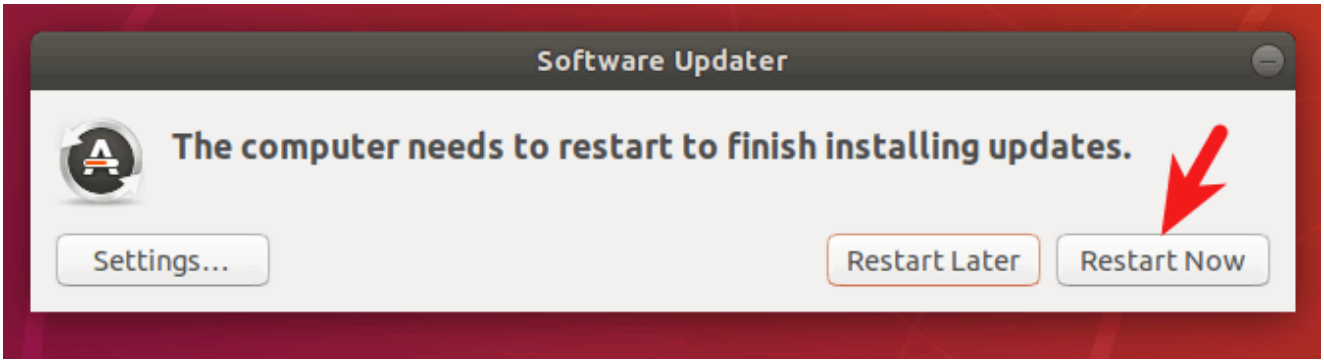
Note: Before doing the upgrade, you can use the systemback program to create a bootable ISO image from your current OS. If the upgrade fails, you can easily restore your OS with the bootable ISO. Everything on your OS including software and files will be intact. If you are using a laptop, please connect your power source.

Upgrade Ubuntu 18.04, Ubuntu 18.10 to Ubuntu 19.04 with the Graphical Update Manager

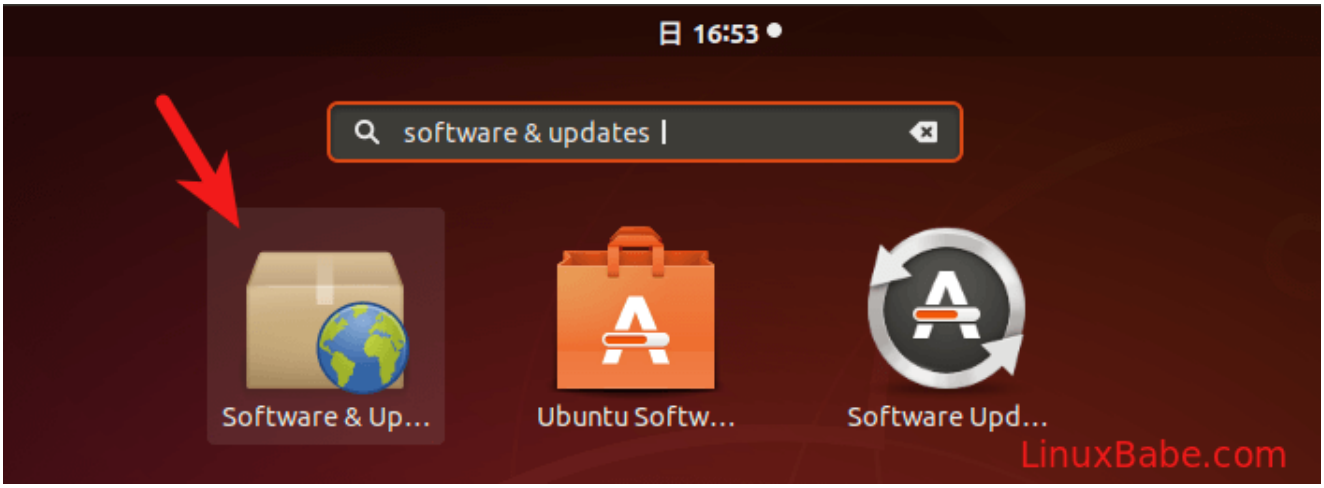
First of all, open `software updater` (aka update manager) from your application menu. It will update software package information. If there's updates available, click the `Install Now` button and enter your password to install updates.



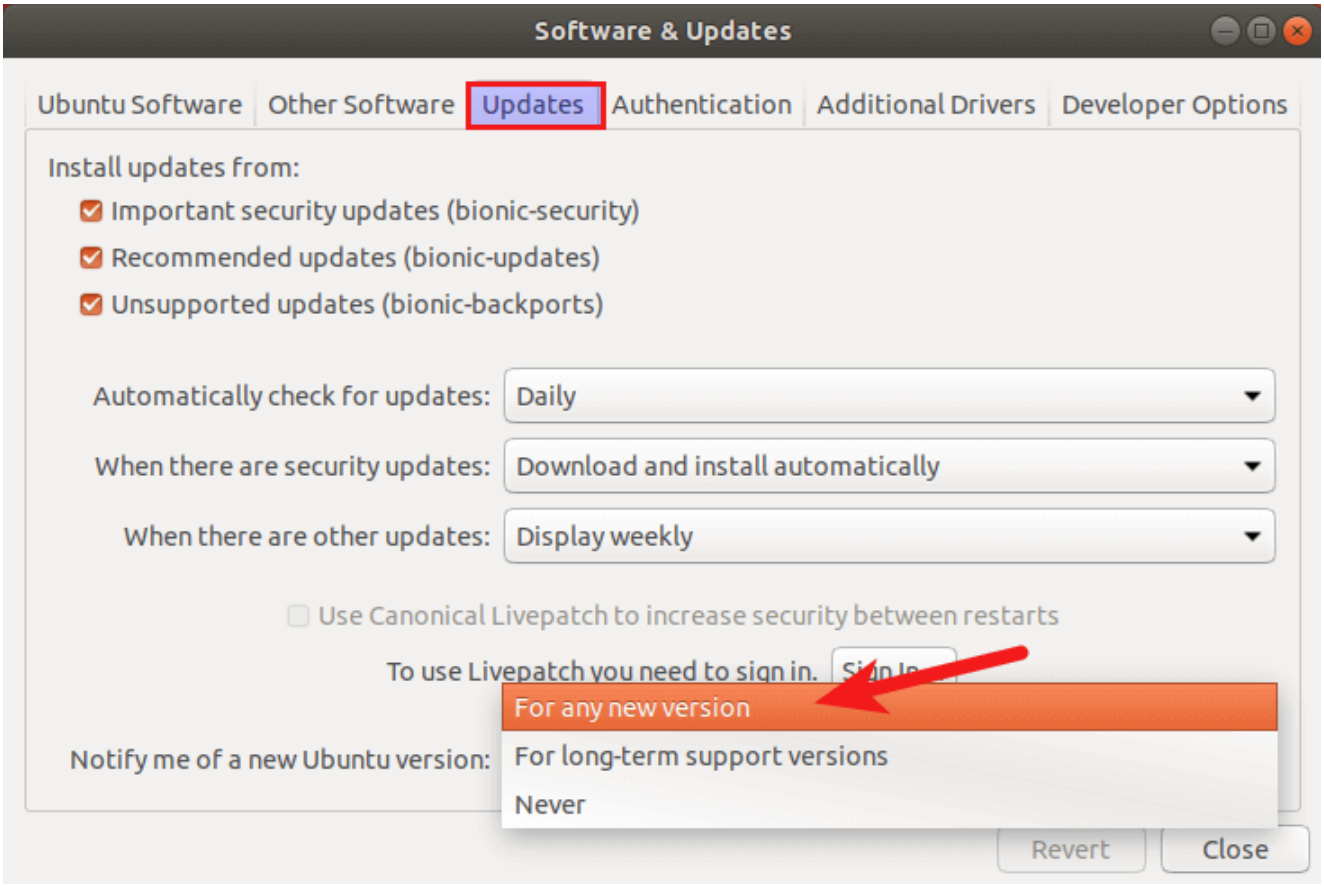
If a new version of Linux kernel is installed, then the update manager will tell you to restart your computer. Click `Restart Now`.



Then open `Software & Updates` from your application menu.



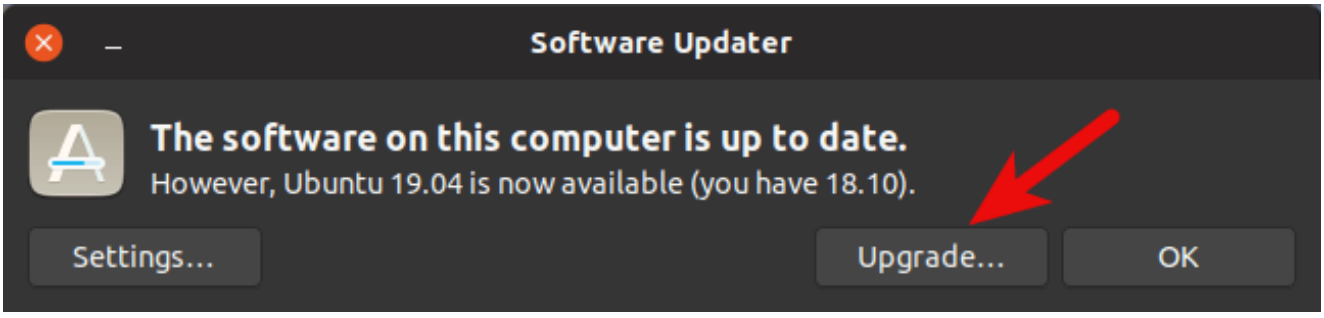
Select the `Updates` tab. At the bottom of window, change notification settings from `For long-term support version` to `For any new version`. You will be asked to enter your password for the change to take effect.



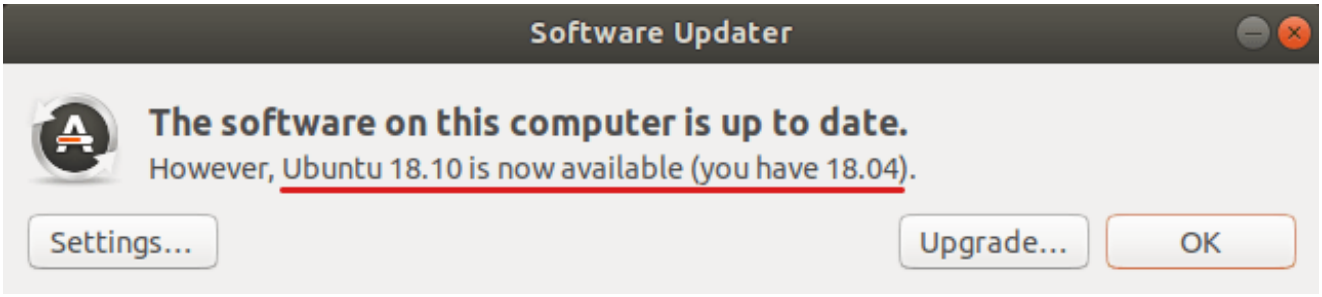
Close the `Software & Updates` window. Next, open up a terminal window and issue the following command in terminal.

```
update-manager
```

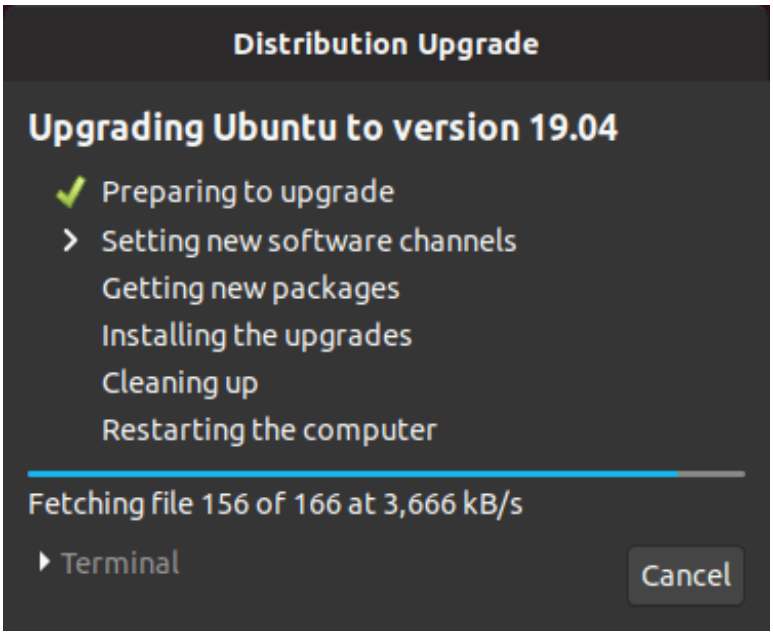
If you are using Ubuntu 18.10, you will be notified that software is up-to-date and **Ubuntu 19.04** is now available. Click the Upgrade button.



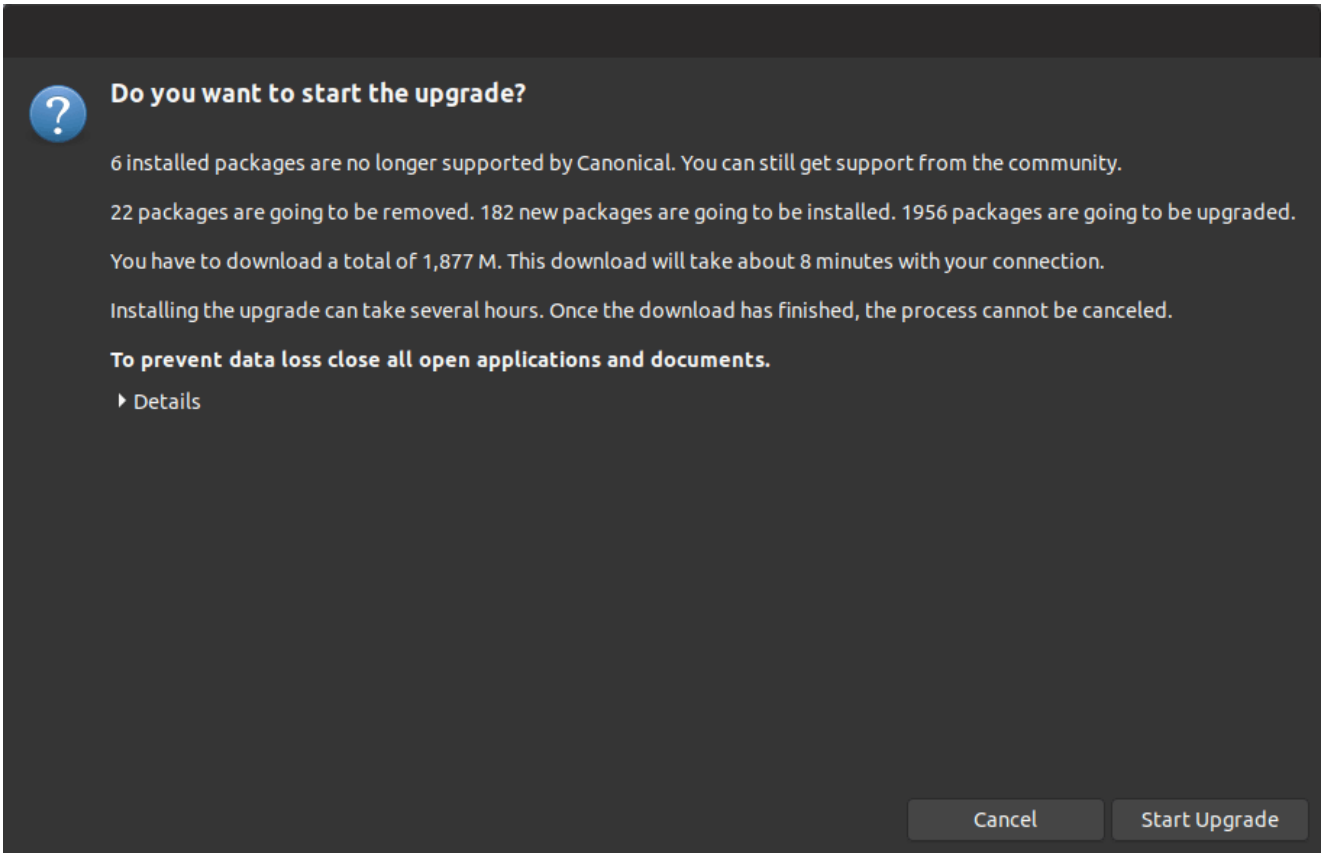
If you are using Ubuntu 18.04, you will be notified that software is up-to-update and **Ubuntu 18.10** is now available. Click the upgrade button. You need to upgrade to Ubuntu 18.10 first and then follow the same steps to upgrade to Ubuntu 19.04. This is due to the fact that Ubuntu 18.10 is still being supported by Canonical and hasn't reached end-of-life yet. (Actually there's a way to upgrade Ubuntu 18.04 directly to Ubuntu 19.04.)



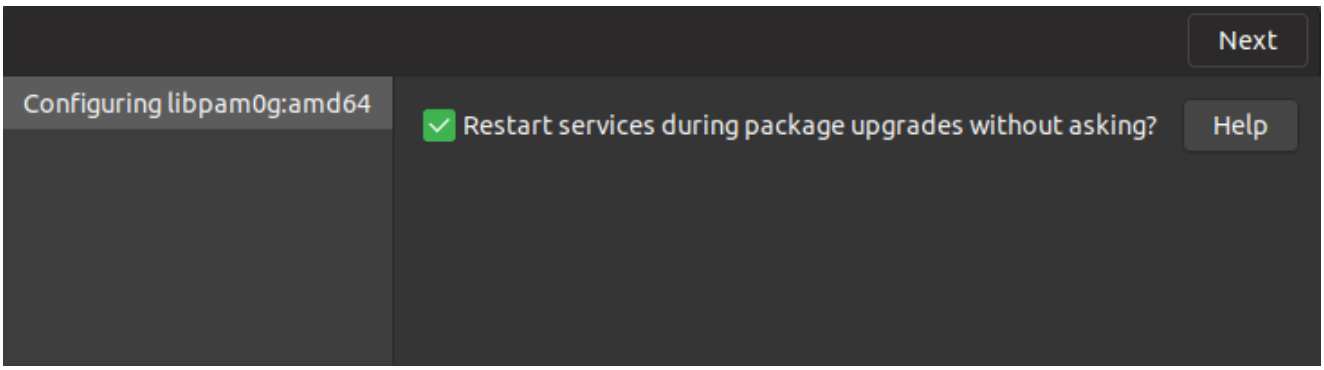
Then enter your password. The release notes window appears. Click Upgrade. The distribution upgrade window will open up. If you are notified that some third-party sources are disabled, accept it. You can re-enable them after the upgrade is finished.



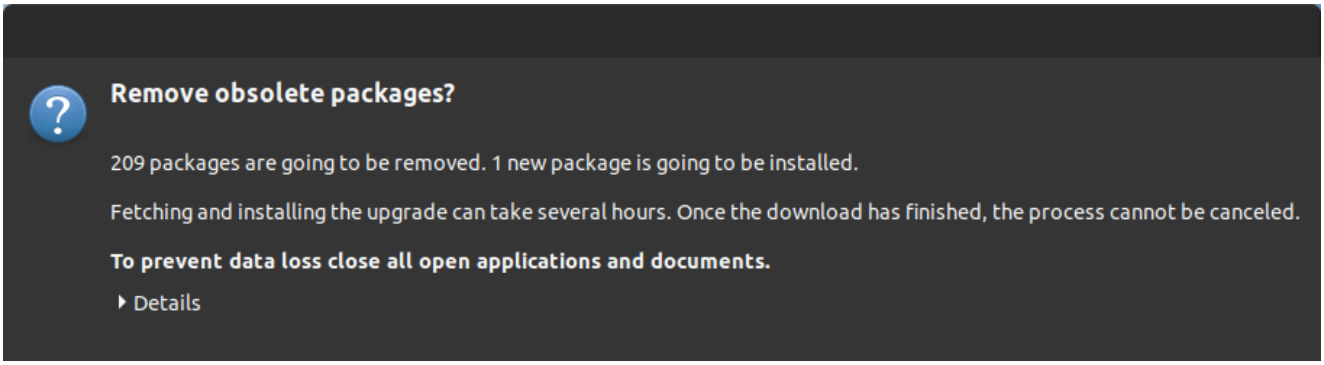
In a few moments, you will be asked if you want to start the upgrade. Click the `Start Upgrade` button.



Wait for the upgrade process to finish. The update manager may ask you if you want to restart services during packages upgrade without asking. Tick it on and click `Next` button.



After new versions of packages are installed, the update manager may ask you if you want to remove obsolete packages. I always select `Remove`.



Obsolete packages are software packages whose name can't be found in the software repository of the new Ubuntu release. The cause of obsolete packages are the following:

- The upstream developer stop maintaining this package and there are no other person willing to take over. So the Ubuntu package maintainer decides to drop this package from the Ubuntu repository.
- The package become a orphan package, which means there's no other package that depends on it and there is very few users of this package. So the Ubuntu package maintainer decides to drop this package from the Ubuntu repository.
- The package has a new name in the software repository of the new Ubuntu release.

After obsolete packages is removed from your system. Restart your computer and check your Ubuntu version with the following command.

```
lsb_release -a
```

Output:

```
No LSB modules are available.
Distributor ID: Ubuntu
Description: Ubuntu 19.04
Release: 19.04
Codename: Disco
```

Upgrade Ubuntu 18.04/18.10 to Ubuntu 19.04 Using Command Line

You can use command line to upgrade Ubuntu desktop or a headless server. If you use SSH to log into your Ubuntu server, it's a good idea to keep your OpenSSH session alive by adding the following line in `/etc/ssh/sshd_config` file on your server.

```
ClientAliveInterval 60
```

Save and close the file. Then restart SSH daemon.

```
sudo systemctl restart ssh
```

To upgrade to Ubuntu 19.04, run the following command to upgrade existing software. (Please note that if a new kernel is installed while running the following command, you need to reboot system in order to continue the upgrade process.)

```
sudo apt update && sudo apt dist-upgrade
```

Then make sure you have `update-manager-core` package installed.

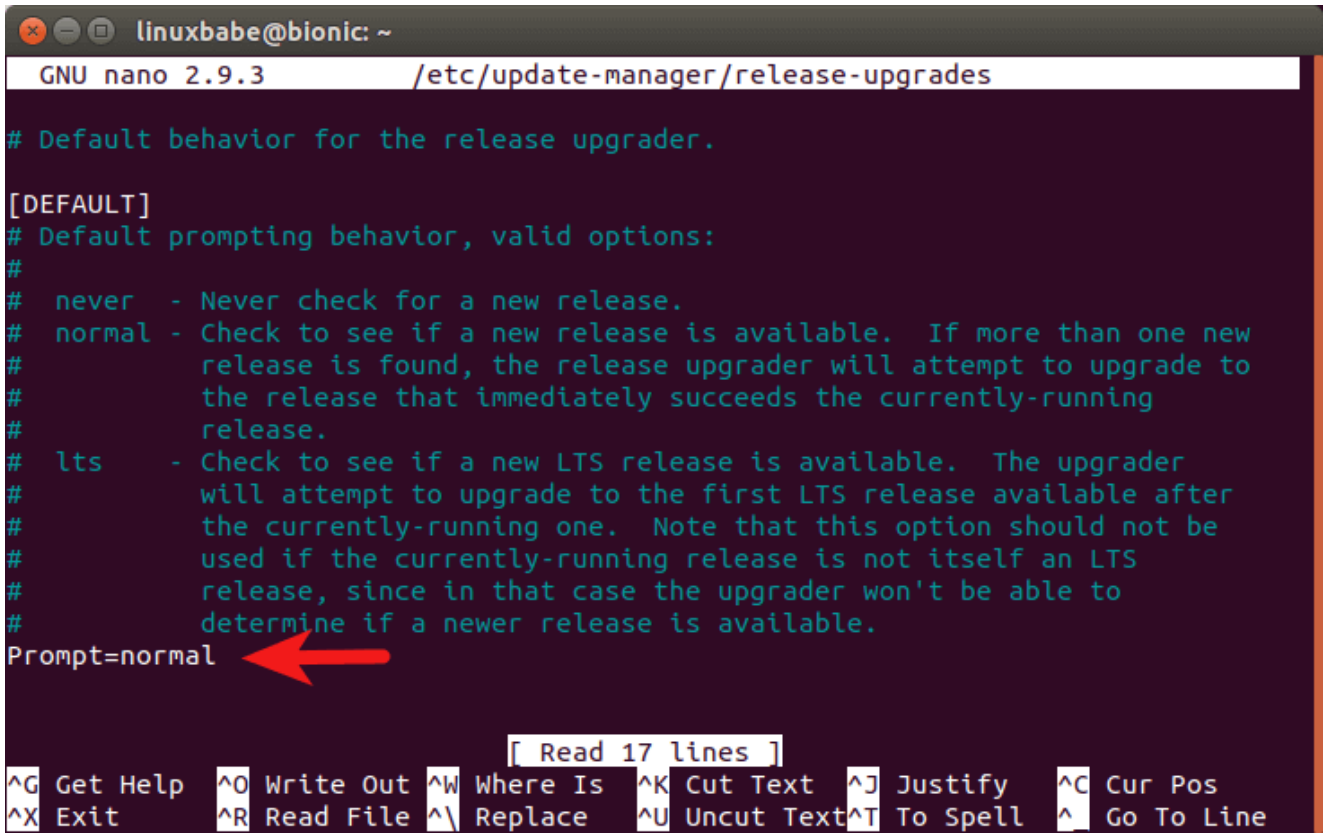
```
sudo apt install update-manager-core
```

Next, edit a configuration file using nano or your preferred command line text editor.

```
sudo nano /etc/update-manager/release-upgrades
```

At the bottom of this file, change the value of Prompt from `lts` to `normal`.

```
Prompt=normal
```



To save a file in Nano text editor, press `Ctrl+O`, then press Enter to confirm. To exit, press `Ctrl+X`. After that, run the following command to begin the upgrade process.

```
do-release-upgrade
```

If you are running Ubuntu 18.10, then follow the on-screen instruction to upgrade to Ubuntu 19.04. If you are running Ubuntu 18.04, then follow the on-screen instruction to upgrade to Ubuntu 18.10 first and then follow the same steps to upgrade to Ubuntu 19.04

Once the upgrade is finished, reboot your Ubuntu desktop or server. To check your Ubuntu version, run:

```
lsb_release -a
```

Output:

```
No LSB modules are available.
Distributor ID: Ubuntu
Description: Ubuntu 19.04
Release: 19.04
Codename: disco
```

Should You Use the -d Option?

The `update-manager` and `do-release-upgrade` command come with a `-d` option, which will cause the system to upgrade to a development release.

Currently, Ubuntu 19.04 is still considered a development release in Ubuntu release cadence, because development of Ubuntu 19.10 isn't started yet. It will happen one week after the release of Ubuntu 19.04 and we can use the `-d` option before that happens. When Ubuntu 19.10 enters development, you should not use the `-d` option.

Conclusion

I hope this tutorial helped you upgrade Ubuntu 18.04 or Ubuntu 18.10 to Ubuntu 19.04 As always, if you found this post useful, then subscribe to our free newsletter to get new tips and tricks ☺

Rate this tutorial

[Total: 7 Average: 5]