

**Step 2: Upgrade the cluster's meta data.** Start a single 2.6 `mongos` instance with the `configDB` pointing to the cluster's config servers and with the `--upgrade` option.

To run a `mongos` with the `--upgrade` option, you can upgrade an existing `mongos` instance to 2.6, or if you need to avoid reconfiguring a production `mongos` instance, you can use a new 2.6 `mongos` that can reach all the config servers.

To upgrade the meta data, run:

```
mongos --configdb <configDB string> --upgrade
```

You can include the `--logpath` option to output the log messages to a file instead of the standard output. Also include any other options required to start `mongos` instances in your cluster, such as `--sslOnNormalPorts` or `--sslPEMKeyFile`.

The `mongos` will exit upon completion of the `--upgrade` process.

The upgrade will prevent any chunk moves or splits from occurring during the upgrade process. If the data files have many sharded collections or if failed processes hold stale locks, acquiring the locks for all collections can take seconds or minutes. Watch the log for progress updates.

**Step 3: Ensure `mongos --upgrade` process completes successfully.** The `mongos` will exit upon completion of the meta data upgrade process. If successful, the process will log the following messages:

```
upgrade of config server to v5 successful
Config database is at version v5
```

After a successful upgrade, restart the `mongos` instance. If `mongos` fails to start, check the log for more information.

If the `mongos` instance loses its connection to the config servers during the upgrade or if the upgrade is otherwise unsuccessful, you may always safely retry the upgrade.

**Step 4: Upgrade the remaining `mongos` instances to v2.6.** Upgrade and restart **without** the `--upgrade` option the other `mongos` instances in the sharded cluster. After upgrading all the `mongos`, see [Complete Sharded Cluster Upgrade](#) (page 869) for information on upgrading the other cluster components.

**Complete Sharded Cluster Upgrade** After you have successfully upgraded *all* `mongos` instances, you can upgrade the other instances in your MongoDB deployment.

**Warning:** Do not upgrade `mongod` instances until after you have upgraded *all* `mongos` instances.

While the balancer is still disabled, upgrade the components of your sharded cluster in the following order:

- Upgrade all 3 `mongod` config server instances, leaving the *first* system in the `mongos --configdb` argument to upgrade *last*.
- Upgrade each shard, one at a time, upgrading the `mongod` secondaries before running `replSetStepDown` and upgrading the primary of each shard.

When this process is complete, [re-enable the balancer](#) (page 718).

**Upgrade Procedure** Once upgraded to MongoDB 2.6, you **cannot** downgrade to **any** version earlier than MongoDB 2.4. If you have `text` or `2dsphere` indexes, you can only downgrade to MongoDB 2.4.10 or later.

**Except** as described on this page, moving between 2.4 and 2.6 is a drop-in replacement: