

What's New for WSL in the Windows 10 October 2018 Update



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November 5th, 2018

On October 2, 2018, Microsoft announced that the availability of the** [Windows 10 October 2018 Update](#)**. After the update was paused, [the rollout resumed](#) on November 13, 2018. You can read more about the Windows 10 quality approach [here](#). This post, however, will cover what you can expect to see in **WSL for the October 2018 Update**, Windows 10 version 1809, and from recent Windows Insiders builds. You can find additional information on features and fixes in our [detailed release notes](#).

Additional Linux Distributions now available in the Microsoft Store

We're excited to share two additional distros in the Microsoft Store for WSL.

Ubuntu 18.04

[Ubuntu 18.04](#) is now available in the Microsoft Store. You might be wondering about the Ubuntu apps in the Store and how to update your distro. Read this [Guide to Updating your Ubuntu's App Release](#) for more details.

WLinux

You can now install [WLinux](#) from the Microsoft Store. WLinux is the first paid-for distro app available for WSL. It includes features as [outlined on their GitHub repo](#) such as wlinux-setup, which allows users to easily setup common developer toolchains, and removes unsupported features like systemd.

OpenSUSE 15 and SLES 15

[OpenSUSE 15](#) and [SLES 15](#) are now available in the Microsoft Store. We are happy to have these new versions of SUSE ready for you to install and use!

Run Ubuntu 18.04 on WSL on ARM Devices

You can now run WSL and Ubuntu 18.04 on ARM devices! If you're interested in learning more about ARM devices. When you grab Ubuntu 18.04 from the Store we can detect if you're running an ARM device and automatically grab you the ARM version of the app. Check out our //Build 2018 session on [Windows 10 for ARM Developers](#) (WSL at 13:58) for more information.

Notepad Supports Linux Line Endings

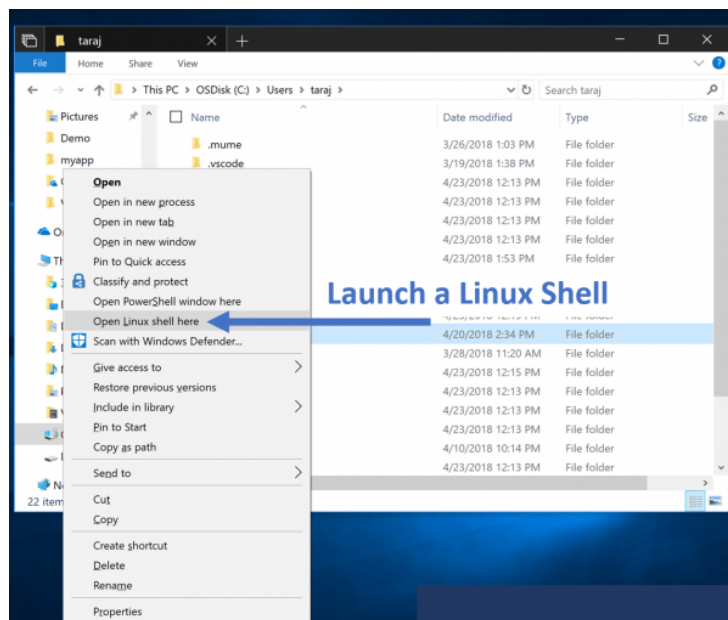
You heard that right – Kevin Gallo announced in the //Build 2018 keynote that Notepad now supports Linux line endings! More details on how this works can be found in the blog post on [Extended Line Endings Support in Notepad](#). If you'd like to watch the keynote you can find the announcement at about 55:04 in the [//Build Day 2 Keynote](#).

Launch a Linux Shell from the File Explorer

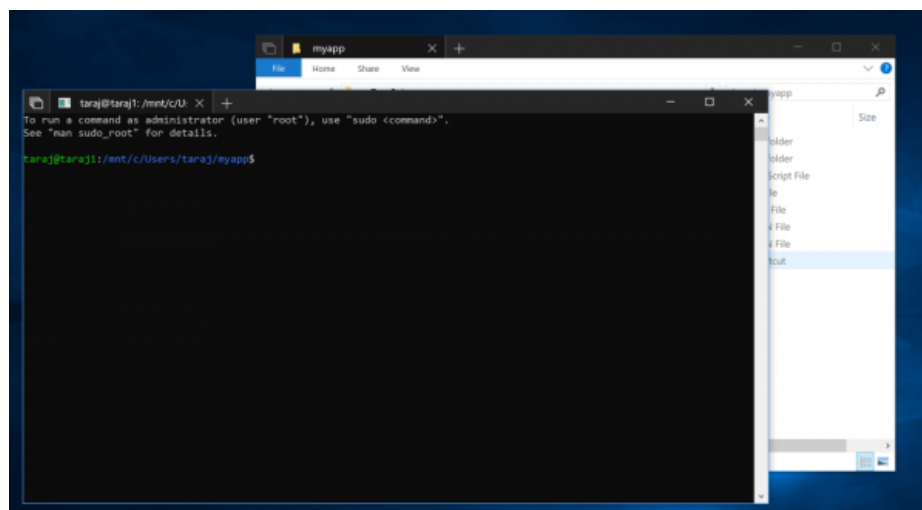
You can launch a Linux shell from the file explorer. We have added an “Open Linux shell here” context menu entry to the shell. This has been one of our top [User Voice feature asks](#), so we are happy to finally add this functionality!



You can do this in the file explorer by selecting a folder and then Shift+Right Click to see the menu:



Select the “Open Linux shell here” option to launch your default WSL distribution directly in that path:



Directions on how you can change your default distro can be found in our [distro management documentation](#). Essentially you can use wslconfig.exe to set a distro as the default.

Install WSL Distro from the Command Line

There are a variety of reasons you may want to write a script to install WSL distros from the command line – Maybe you just got a new machine you want to setup. Or perhaps you want to programmatically define your dev machine without disrupting your command line workflow.

You can use the [Windows Developer Setup Scripts](#) to enable WSL (And many other features & tools) and install a distro in one-click. Here's a sample of how you can do this. The below script should be run in a **PowerShell Administrator terminal**.

Note – you can find the manual installation links for the other WSL distros on our [manual distro installation](#) page

Enable WSL

```
PS C:\> Invoke-WebRequest -Uri https://aka.ms/wsl-ubuntu-1804 -OutFile ~/Ubuntu.appx -UseBasicParsing
PS C:\> Add-AppxPackage -Path ~/Ubuntu.appx
```

Install Ubuntu 18.04

```
PS C:\> RefreshEnv
PS C:\> Ubuntu1804 install --root
PS C:\> Ubuntu1804 run apt update
PS C:\> Ubuntu1804 run apt upgrade -y
```

Dev Box Setup Scripts with Chocolatey and Boxstarter

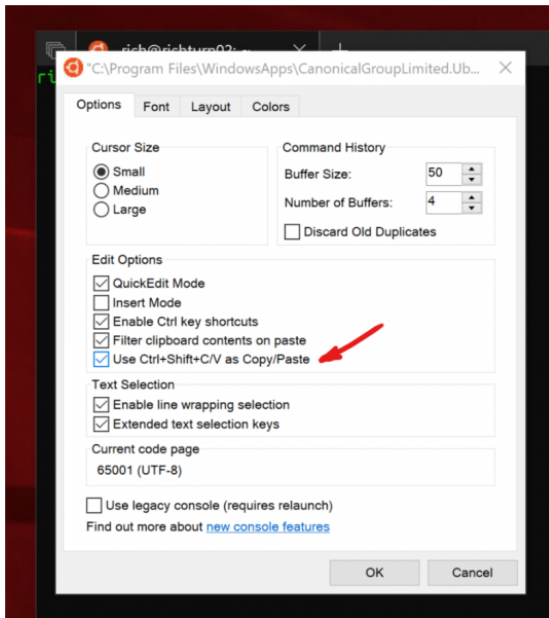
At the //Build 2018 Day 2 Keynote, we announced an open source project in partnership with Chocolatey and Boxstarter that allows you to set up your dev box in just one click. You can read about this effort in our blog post on [Joining us for a hot cup o Chocolatey!](#). If you'd like to get started using this project to set up your dev box you can also head over to the [Dev Setup GitHub repo](#).

Improved Per-Directory Case Sensitivity Support

In this release of Windows, we've made some improvements to case sensitivity support based on customer feedback. Case sensitivity is off by default on new directories created in WSL. It's also now possible to inspect and modify the case sensitivity flag for a directory from inside WSL. Additionally, case sensitivity is inherited when creating a new directory. You can read more in this blog about [case sensitivity support](#).

Copy/Paste Arrives for Linux/WSL Consoles

You can now use Ctrl+Shift+C/V for copy/paste in your console! All you need to do is set this option in your console:



You can read more about this feature in our [copy/paste blog post](#).

Console Improvements

In addition to direct improvements to WSL, we released a series of improvements to the Windows Console. There've been some improvements to interop – you can now host windows applications inside tmux and screen without them destroying the rest of the window! We've improved our range of supported VT sequences. And, we also [added a ConPTY API & infrastructure](#) enabling 3rd parties to build terminals and servers more easily.

If you'd like to learn more about the console in general, check out [the Windows Command-Line blog series](#) by Rich Turner ([@richturn_ms](#)).

Thanks and Feedback

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this happen! As usual, please do send us feedback and feel free to reach out on Twitter or file issues on the [WSL GitHub repo](#). Here are our WSL team members who are on Twitter:

Taylor Brown [@Taylorb_msft](#)
Sarah Cooley [@VirtualScooley](#)
Yosef Durr [@yosefdurr](#)
Sven Groot [@svengroot_ms](#)
Ben Hillis [@benhillis](#)
Craig Loewen [@craigaloewen](#)
Sunil Muthuswamy [@SunilMut](#)
Brian Perkins
Tara Raj [@tara_msft](#)
Palkesh Soni [@sonipalkesh](#)
John Starks [@gigastarks](#)
Craig Wilhite [@CraigWilhite](#)

We look forward to building cool stuff with you!

Sincerely,

The WSL Team



Tara Raj
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