

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10-beta

Automatically installing RHEL

Deploying RHEL on one or more systems from a predefined configuration

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Abstract

You can automate the RHEL installation by using Kickstart. Use this method to deploy the same RHEL configuration on many systems. Kickstart installs RHEL based on the parameters that you specify in a configuration file. The installation source can be an installation media, an ISO file, the Red Hat content delivery network (CDN), or a server in your local network.

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RHEL BETA RELEASE

Red Hat provides Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta access to all subscribed Red Hat accounts. The purpose of Beta access is to:

- Provide an opportunity to customers to test major features and capabilities prior to the general availability release and provide feedback or report issues.
- Provide Beta product documentation as a preview. Beta product documentation is under development and is subject to substantial change.

Note that Red Hat does not support the usage of RHEL Beta releases in production use cases. For more information, see the Red Hat Knowledgebase solution What does Beta mean in Red Hat Enterprise Linux and can I upgrade a RHEL Beta installation to a General Availability (GA) release?.

PART I. PREPARING THE RHEL INSTALLATION

Essential steps for preparing a RHEL installation environment addresses system requirements, supported architectures, and offers customization options for installation media. Additionally, it covers methods for creating bootable installation media, setting up network-based repositories, and configuring UEFI HTTP or PXE installation sources. Guidance is also included for systems using UEFI Secure Boot and for installing RHEL on 64-bit IBM Z architecture.

CHAPTER 1. SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORTED ARCHITECTURES

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 delivers a stable, secure, consistent foundation across hybrid cloud deployments with the tools needed to deliver workloads faster with less effort. You can deploy RHEL as a guest on supported hypervisors and Cloud provider environments as well as on physical infrastructure, so your applications can take advantage of innovations in the leading hardware architecture platforms.

Review the guidelines provided for system, hardware, security, memory, and RAID before installing.

If you want to use your system as a virtualization host, review the necessary hardware requirements for virtualization.

RHEL supports the following architectures:

- AMD and Intel 64-bit architectures
- The 64-bit ARM architecture
- IBM Power Systems, Little Endian
- 64-bit IBM Z architectures

1.1. SUPPORTED INSTALLATION TARGETS

An installation target is a storage device that stores Red Hat Enterprise Linux and boots the system. Red Hat Enterprise Linux supports the following installation targets for IBM Z, IBM Power, AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM systems:

- Storage connected by a standard internal interface, such as DASD, SCSI, SATA, or SAS
- BIOS/firmware RAID devices on the Intel64, AMD64 and arm64 architectures
- Fibre Channel Host Bus Adapters and multipath devices. Some can require vendor-provided drivers.
- Xen block devices on Intel processors in Xen virtual machines.
- VirtlO block devices on Intel processors in KVM virtual machines.

Red Hat does not support installation to USB drives or SD memory cards. For information about support for third-party virtualization technologies, see the Red Hat Hardware Compatibility List.

1.2. DISK AND MEMORY REQUIREMENTS

If several operating systems are installed, it is important that you verify that the allocated disk space is separate from the disk space required by Red Hat Enterprise Linux. In some cases, it is important to dedicate specific partitions to Red Hat Enterprise Linux, for example, for AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM, at least two partitions (/ and **swap**) must be dedicated to RHEL and for IBM Power Systems servers, at least three partitions (/, **swap**, and a **PReP** boot partition) must be dedicated to RHEL.

Additionally, you must have a minimum of 10 GiB of available disk space. To install Red Hat Enterprise Linux, you must have a minimum of 10 GiB of space in either unpartitioned disk space or in partitions that can be deleted.

Table 1.1. Minimum RAM requirements

Installation type	Minimum RAM
Local media installation (USB, DVD)	 1.5 GiB for aarch64, IBM Z and x86_64 architectures 3 GiB for ppc64le architecture
NFS network installation	 1.5 GiB for aarch64, IBM Z and x86_64 architectures 3 GiB for ppc64le architecture
HTTP, HTTPS or FTP network installation	 3 GiB for IBM Z and x86_64 architectures 4 GiB for aarch64 and ppc64le architectures

It is possible to complete the installation with less memory than the minimum requirements. The exact requirements depend on your environment and installation path. Test various configurations to determine the minimum required RAM for your environment. Installing Red Hat Enterprise Linux using a Kickstart file has the same minimum RAM requirements as a standard installation. However, additional RAM may be required if your Kickstart file includes commands that require additional memory, or write data to the RAM disk.

1.3. GRAPHICS DISPLAY RESOLUTION REQUIREMENTS

Your system must have the following minimum resolution to ensure a smooth and error-free installation of Red Hat Enterprise Linux.

Table 1.2. Display resolution

Product version	Resolution
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10	Minimum : 800 x 600
	Recommended: 1026 x 768

1.4. UEFI SECURE BOOT AND BETA RELEASE REQUIREMENTS

If you plan to install a Beta release of Red Hat Enterprise Linux, on systems having UEFI Secure Boot enabled, then first disable the UEFI Secure Boot option and then begin the installation.

UEFI Secure Boot requires that the operating system kernel is signed with a recognized private key, which the system's firmware verifies using the corresponding public key.

For Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta releases, the kernel is signed with a Red Hat Beta-specific public key, which the system fails to recognize by default. As a result, the system fails to even boot the installation media.

Additional resources

- For information about installing RHEL on IBM, see IBM installation documentation
- Security hardening
- Composing a customized RHEL system image
- Red Hat ecosystem catalog
- RHEL technology capabilities and limits

CHAPTER 2. THE VALUE OF REGISTERING YOUR RHEL SYSTEM TO RED HAT

Registration establishes an authorized connection between your system and Red Hat. Red Hat issues the registered system, whether a physical or virtual machine, a certificate that identifies and authenticates the system so that it can receive protected content, software updates, security patches, support, and managed services from Red Hat.

With a valid subscription, you can register a Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) system in the following ways:

- During the installation process, using an installer graphical user interface (GUI) or text user interface (TUI)
- After installation, using the command line interface (CLI)
- Automatically, during or after installation, using a kickstart script or an activation key

The specific steps to register your system depend on the version of RHEL that you are using and the registration method that you choose.

Registering your system to Red Hat enables features and capabilities that you can use to manage your system and report data. For example, a registered system is authorized to access protected content repositories for subscribed products through the Red Hat Content Delivery Network (CDN) or a Red Hat Satellite Server. These content repositories contain Red Hat software packages and updates that are available only to customers with an active subscription. These packages and updates include security patches, bug fixes, and new features for RHEL and other Red Hat products.

CHAPTER 3. CUSTOMIZING THE INSTALLATION MEDIA

For details, see Composing a customized RHEL system image .

CHAPTER 4. CREATING A BOOTABLE INSTALLATION MEDIUM FOR RHEL

You can download the ISO file from the *Customer Portal* to prepare the bootable physical installation medium, such as a USB or DVD. Starting with RHEL 8, Red Hat no longer provides separate variants for **Server** and **Workstation**. **Red Hat Enterprise Linux for x86_64**includes both **Server** and **Workstation** capabilities. The distinction between **Server** and **Workstation** is managed through the System Purpose Role during the installation or configuration process.

After downloading an ISO file from the Customer Portal, create a bootable physical installation medium, such as a USB or DVD to continue the installation process.

For secure environment cases where USB drives are prohibited, consider using the Image Builder to create and deploy reference images. This method ensures compliance with security policies while maintaining system integrity. For more details, refer to the Image builder documentation.

4.1. INSTALLATION BOOT MEDIA OPTIONS

There are several options available to boot the Red Hat Enterprise Linux installation program.

Full installation DVD or USB flash drive

Create a full installation DVD or USB flash drive by using the **DVD ISO** image. The DVD or USB flash drive can be used as a boot device and as an installation source for installing software packages.

Minimal installation DVD, CD, or USB flash drive

Create a minimal installation CD, DVD, or USB flash drive by using the **Boot ISO** image, which contains only the minimum files necessary to boot the system and start the installation program. If you are not using the Content Delivery Network (CDN) to download the required software packages, the **Boot ISO** image requires an installation source that contains the required software packages.

4.2. CREATING A BOOTABLE DVD

You can create a bootable installation DVD by using a burning software and a DVD burner. The exact steps to produce a DVD from an ISO image file vary greatly, depending on the operating system and disc burning software installed. Consult your system's burning software documentation for the exact steps to burn a DVD from an ISO image file.



WARNING

You can create a bootable DVD by using either the DVD ISO image (full install) or the Boot ISO image (minimal install). However, the DVD ISO image is larger than 4.7 GB, and as a result, it might not fit on a single or dual-layer DVD. Check the size of the DVD ISO image file before you proceed. Use a USB flash drive when using the DVD ISO image to create bootable installation media. For the environment cases where USB drives are prohibited, see Image builder documentation.

4.3. CREATING A BOOTABLE USB DEVICE ON LINUX

You can create a bootable USB device which you can then use to install Red Hat Enterprise Linux on other machines. This procedure overwrites the existing data on the USB drive without any warning. Back up any data or use an empty flash drive. A bootable USB drive cannot be used for storing data.

Prerequisites

- You have downloaded the full installation DVD ISO or minimal installation Boot ISO image from the Product Downloads page.
- You have a USB flash drive with enough capacity for the ISO image. The required size varies, but the recommended USB size is 8 GB.

Procedure

- 1. Connect the USB flash drive to the system.
- 2. Open a terminal window and display a log of recent events.
 - \$ dmesg|tail

Messages resulting from the attached USB flash drive are displayed at the bottom of the log. Record the name of the connected device.

3. Log in as a root user:

\$ su -

Enter your root password when prompted.

4. Find the device node assigned to the drive. In this example, the drive name is sdd.

```
# dmesg|tail
[288954.686557] usb 2-1.8: New USB device strings: Mfr=0, Product=1, SerialNumber=2
[288954.686559] usb 2-1.8: Product: USB Storage
[288954.686562] usb 2-1.8: SerialNumber: 000000009225
[288954.712590] usb-storage 2-1.8:1.0: USB Mass Storage device detected
[288954.712687] scsi host6: usb-storage 2-1.8:1.0
[288954.712809] usbcore: registered new interface driver usb-storage
[288954.716682] usbcore: registered new interface driver uas
[288955.717140] scsi 6:0:0:0: Direct-Access Generic STORAGE DEVICE 9228 PQ: 0
ANSI: 0
[288955.717745] sd 6:0:0:0: Attached scsi generic sg4 type 0
[288961.876382] sd 6:0:0:0: sdd Attached SCSI removable disk
```

- 5. If the inserted USB device mounts automatically, unmount it before continuing with the next steps. For unmounting, use the **umount** command. For more information, see Unmounting a file system with umount.
- 6. Write the ISO image directly to the USB device:
 - # dd if=/image_directory/image.iso of=/dev/device
 - Replace /image_directory/image.iso with the full path to the ISO image file that you downloaded,

Replace device with the device name that you retrieved with the dmesg command.
 In this example, the full path to the ISO image is /home/testuser/Downloads/rhel-10-x86 64-boot.iso, and the device name is sdd:

dd if=/home/testuser/Downloads/rhel-10-x86_64-boot.iso of=/dev/sdd

Partition names are usually device names with a numerical suffix. For example, **sdd** is a device name, and **sdd1** is the name of a partition on the device **sdd**.

7. Wait for the **dd** command to finish writing the image to the device. Run the **sync** command to synchronize cached writes to the device. The data transfer is complete when the **#** prompt appears. When you see the prompt, log out of the root account and unplug the USB drive. The USB drive is now ready to use as a boot device.

4.4. CREATING A BOOTABLE USB DEVICE ON WINDOWS

You can create a bootable USB device on a Windows system with various tools. You can use Fedora Media Writer, available for download at https://github.com/FedoraQt/MediaWriter/releases. Fedora Media Writer is a community product and is not supported by Red Hat. You can report any issues with the tool at https://github.com/FedoraQt/MediaWriter/issues.

Creating a bootable drive overwrites existing data on the USB drive without any warning. Back up any data or use an empty flash drive. A bootable USB drive cannot be used for storing data.

Prerequisites

- You have downloaded the full installation DVD ISO or minimal installation Boot ISO image from the Product Downloads page.
- You have a USB flash drive with enough capacity for the ISO image. The required size varies.

Procedure

- 1. Download and install Fedora Media Writer from https://github.com/FedoraQt/MediaWriter/releases.
- 2. Connect the USB flash drive to the system.
- 3. Open Fedora Media Writer.
- 4. From the main window, click **Custom Image** and select the previously downloaded Red Hat Enterprise Linux ISO image.
- 5. From the Write Custom Image window, select the drive that you want to use.
- 6. Click **Write to disk**. The boot media creation process starts. Do not unplug the drive until the operation completes. The operation may take several minutes, depending on the size of the ISO image, and the write speed of the USB drive.
- 7. When the operation completes, unmount the USB drive. The USB drive is now ready to be used as a boot device.

4.5. CREATING A BOOTABLE USB DEVICE ON MACOS

You can create a bootable USB device which you can then use to install Red Hat Enterprise Linux on

other machines. Creating a bootable USB drive overwrites any data previously stored on the USB drive without any warning. Back up any data or use an empty flash drive. A bootable USB drive cannot be used for storing data.

Prerequisites

- You have downloaded the full installation DVD ISO or minimal installation Boot ISO image from the Product Downloads page.
- You have a USB flash drive with enough capacity for the ISO image. The required size varies.

Procedure

- 1. Connect the USB flash drive to the system.
- Identify the device path with the diskutil list command. The device path has the format of /dev/disknumber, where number is the number of the disk. The disks are numbered starting at zero (0). Typically, disk0 is the OS X recovery disk, and disk1 is the main OS X installation. In the following example, the USB device is disk2:

```
$ diskutil list
/dev/disk0
              TYPE NAME
                                    SIZE
                                            IDENTIFIER
0:
     GUID_partition_scheme
                                       *500.3 GB disk0
1:
              EFI EFI
                                 209.7 MB disk0s1
2:
       Apple CoreStorage
                                      400.0 GB disk0s2
          Apple_Boot Recovery HD
                                        650.0 MB disk0s3
3:
4:
       Apple_CoreStorage
                                      98.8 GB disk0s4
5:
           Apple_Boot Recovery HD
                                        650.0 MB disk0s5
/dev/disk1
              TYPE NAME
#:
                                    SIZE
                                             IDENTIFIER
           Apple HFS YosemiteHD
                                        *399.6 GB disk1
Logical Volume on disk0s1
8A142795-8036-48DF-9FC5-84506DFBB7B2
Unlocked Encrypted
/dev/disk2
              TYPE NAME
                                    SIZE
                                            IDENTIFIER
#:
0:
    FDisk_partition_scheme
                                       *8.1 GB
                                               disk2
1:
          Windows NTFS SanDisk USB
                                           8.1 GB
                                                   disk2s1
```

- 3. Identify your USB flash drive by comparing the NAME, TYPE and SIZE columns to your flash drive. For example, the NAME should be the title of the flash drive icon in the **Finder** tool. You can also compare these values to those in the information panel of the flash drive.
- 4. Unmount the flash drive's file system volumes:

\$ diskutil unmountDisk /dev/disknumber Unmount of all volumes on disknumber was successful

When the command completes, the icon for the flash drive disappears from your desktop. If the icon does not disappear, you may have selected the wrong disk. Attempting to unmount the system disk accidentally returns a **failed to unmount** error.

5. Write the ISO image to the flash drive. macOS provides both a block (/dev/disk*) and character device (/dev/rdisk*) file for each storage device. Writing an image to the /dev/rdisknumber

character device is faster than writing to the /dev/disknumber block device. For example, to write the /Users/user_name/Downloads/rhel-{ProductNumber}-x86_64-boot.iso file to the /dev/rdisk2 device, enter the following command:

sudo dd if=/Users/user_name/Downloads/rhel-{ProductNumber}-x86_64-boot.iso of=/dev/rdisk2 bs=512K status=progress

- if= Path to the installation image.
- **of=** The raw disk device (/dev/rdisknumber) representing the target disk.
- **bs=512K** Sets the block size to 512 KB for faster data transfer.
- **status=progress** Displays a progress indicator during the operation.
- 6. Wait for the **dd** command to finish writing the image to the device. The data transfer is complete when the **#** prompt appears. When the prompt is displayed, log out of the root account and unplug the USB drive. The USB drive is now ready to be used as a boot device.

Additional resources

- Configuring System Purpose
- ISO for RHEL 8/9 Server or Workstation

CHAPTER 5. PREPARING NETWORK-BASED REPOSITORIES

You must prepare repositories to install RHEL from your network system.

5.1. PORTS FOR NETWORK-BASED INSTALLATION

The following table lists the ports that must be open on the server for providing the files for each type of network-based installation.

Table 5.1. Ports for network-based installation

Protocol used	Ports to open
НТТР	80
HTTPS	443
FTP	21
NFS	2049, 111, 20048
TFTP	69

Additional resources

Securing networks

5.2. CREATING AN INSTALLATION SOURCE ON AN NFS SERVER

You can use this installation method to install multiple systems from a single source, without having to connect to physical media.

Prerequisites

- You have administrator-level access to a server with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10, and this server is on the same network as the system to be installed.
- You have downloaded the full installation DVD ISO from the Product Downloads page.
- You have created a bootable CD, DVD, or USB device from the image file.
- You have verified that your firewall allows the system you are installing to access the remote installation source. For more information, see Ports for network-based installation.



IMPORTANT

Ensure that you use different paths in **inst.ks** and **inst.repo**. When using NFS to host the installation source, you cannot use the same nfs share to host the Kickstart.

Procedure

- 1. Install the **nfs-utils** package:
 - # dnf install nfs-utils
- 2. Copy the DVD ISO image to a directory on the NFS server.
- 3. Open the /etc/exports file using a text editor and add a line with the following syntax:

/exported_directory/ clients

- Replace /exported_directory/ with the full path to the directory with the ISO image.
- Replace clients with one of the following:
 - The host name or IP address of the target system
 - The subnetwork that all target systems can use to access the ISO image
 - To allow any system with network access to the NFS server to use the ISO image, the asterisk sign (*)

See the **exports(5)** man page for detailed information about the format of this field.

For example, a basic configuration that makes the /rhel10-install/ directory available as read-only to all clients is:

/rhel10-install *

- 4. Save the /etc/exports file and exit the text editor.
- 5. Start the nfs service:

systemctl start nfs-server.service

If the service was running before you changed the /etc/exports file, reload the NFS server configuration:

systemctl reload nfs-server.service

The ISO image is now accessible over NFS and ready to be used as an installation source.

When configuring the installation source, use **nfs:** as the protocol, the server host name or IP address, the colon sign (:), and the directory holding the ISO image. For example, if the server host name is **myserver.example.com** and you have saved the ISO image in /**rhel10-install**/, specify **nfs:myserver.example.com:**/**rhel-10-install**/ as the installation source.

5.3. CREATING AN INSTALLATION SOURCE BY USING HTTP OR HTTPS

You can create an installation source for a network-based installation by using an installation tree, which is a directory containing extracted contents of the DVD ISO image and a valid .treeinfo file. The installation source is accessed over HTTP or HTTPS.

Prerequisites

- You have administrator-level access to a server with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10, and this server is on the same network as the system to be installed.
- You have downloaded the full installation DVD ISO from the Product Downloads page.
- You have created a bootable CD, DVD, or USB device from the image file.
- You have verified that your firewall allows the system you are installing to access the remote installation source. For more information, see Ports for network-based installation.
- The **httpd** package is installed.
- The **mod_ssl** package is installed, if you use the **https** installation source.



WARNING

If your Apache web server configuration enables SSL security, prefer to enable the TLSv1.3 protocol. By default, TLSv1.2 (LEGACY) is enabled.



IMPORTANT

If you use an HTTPS server with a self-signed certificate, you must boot the installation program with the **noverifyssl** option.

Procedure

- 1. Copy the DVD ISO image to the HTTP(S) server.
- 2. Create a suitable directory for mounting the DVD ISO image, for example:
 - # mkdir /mnt/rhel10-install/
- 3. Mount the DVD ISO image to the directory:
 - # mount -o loop,ro -t iso9660 /image_directory/image.iso /mnt/rhel10-install/

Replace /image_directory/image.iso with the path to the DVD ISO image.

4. Copy the files from the mounted image to the HTTP(S) server root.

cp -r /mnt/rhel10-install/ /var/www/html/

This command creates the /var/www/html/rhel10-install/ directory with the content of the image. Note that some other copying methods might skip the .treeinfo file which is required for a valid installation source. Entering the cp command for entire directories as shown in this procedure copies .treeinfo correctly.

5. Start the **httpd** service:

systemctl start httpd.service

The installation tree is now accessible and ready to be used as the installation source.



NOTE

When configuring the installation source, use http:// as the protocol, the server host name or IP address, and the directory that contains the files from the ISO image, relative to the HTTP server root. For example, if you use HTTP, the server host name is myserver.example.com, and you have copied the files from the image to var/www/html/rhel10-install/, specify http://myserver.example.com/rhel-10-install/ as the installation source.

Additional resources

Deploying different types of servers

5.4. CREATING AN INSTALLATION SOURCE BY USING FTP

You can create an installation source for a network-based installation by using an installation tree, which is a directory containing extracted contents of the DVD ISO image and a valid **.treeinfo** file. The installation source is accessed over FTP.

Prerequisites

- You have administrator-level access to a server with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10, and this server is on the same network as the system to be installed.
- You have downloaded the full installation DVD ISO from the Product Downloads page.
- You have created a bootable CD, DVD, or USB device from the image file.
- You have verified that your firewall allows the system you are installing to access the remote installation source. For more information, see Ports for network-based installation.
- The **vsftpd** package is installed.

Procedure

- 1. Open and edit the /etc/vsftpd/vsftpd.conf configuration file in a text editor.
 - a. Change the line anonymous enable=NO to anonymous enable=YES
 - b. Change the line write_enable=YES to write_enable=NO.
 - c. Add lines pasv_min_port=<min_port> and pasv_max_port=<max_port>. Replace <min_port> and <max_port> with the port number range used by the FTP server in passive mode, for example, 10021 and 10031.
 - This step might be necessary in network environments featuring various firewall/NAT setups.
 - d. Optional: Add custom changes to your configuration. For available options, see the **vsftpd.conf(5)** man page. This procedure assumes that default options are used.



WARNING

If you configured SSL/TLS security in your **vsftpd.conf** file, ensure that you enable only the TLSv1 protocol, and disable SSLv2 and SSLv3. This is due to the POODLE SSL vulnerability (CVE-2014-3566). For more information, see the Red Hat Knowledgebase solution Resolution for POODLE SSLv3.0 vulnerability.

- 2. Configure the server firewall.
 - a. Enable the firewall:
 - # systemctl enable firewalld
 - b. Start the firewall:
 - # systemctl start firewalld
 - c. Configure the firewall to allow the FTP port and port range from the previous step:

```
# firewall-cmd --add-port min_port-max_port/tcp --permanent
# firewall-cmd --add-service ftp --permanent
```

Replace <min_port> and <max_port> with the port numbers you entered into the /etc/vsftpd/vsftpd.conf configuration file.

- d. Reload the firewall to apply the new rules:
 - # firewall-cmd --reload
- 3. Copy the DVD ISO image to the FTP server.
- 4. Create a suitable directory for mounting the DVD ISO image, for example:
 - # mkdir /mnt/rhel10-install
- 5. Mount the DVD ISO image to the directory:
 - # mount -o loop,ro -t iso9660 /image-directory/image.iso /mnt/rhel10-install

Replace /image-directory/image.iso with the path to the DVD ISO image.

6. Copy the files from the mounted image to the FTP server root:

```
# mkdir /var/ftp/rhel10-install
# cp -r /mnt/rhel10-install/ /var/ftp/
```

This command creates the /var/ftp/rhel10-install/ directory with the content of the image. Some copying methods can skip the .treeinfo file which is required for a valid installation source.

Entering the **cp** command for whole directories as shown in this procedure will copy **.treeinfo** correctly.

7. Make sure that the correct SELinux context and access mode is set on the copied content:

```
# restorecon -r /var/ftp/rhel10-install
# find /var/ftp/rhel10-install -type f -exec chmod 444 {} \;
# find /var/ftp/rhel10-install -type d -exec chmod 755 {} \;
```

8. Start the **vsftpd** service:

systemctl start vsftpd.service

If the service was running before you changed the /etc/vsftpd/vsftpd.conf file, restart the service to load the edited file:

systemctl restart vsftpd.service

Enable the **vsftpd** service to start during the boot process:

systemctl enable vsftpd

The installation tree is now accessible and ready to be used as the installation source.

When configuring the installation source, use **ftp:**// as the protocol, the server host name or IP address, and the directory in which you have stored the files from the ISO image, relative to the FTP server root. For example, if the server host name is **myserver.example.com** and you have copied the files from the image to /var/ftp/rhel10-install/, specify

ftp://myserver.example.com/rhel-10-install/ as the installation source.

CHAPTER 6. PREPARING A UEFI HTTP INSTALLATION SOURCE

As an administrator of a server on a local network, you can configure an HTTP server to enable HTTP boot and network installation for other systems on your network.

6.1. NETWORK INSTALL OVERVIEW

A network installation allows you to install Red Hat Enterprise Linux to a system that has access to an installation server. At a minimum, two systems are required for a network installation:

Server

A system running a DHCP server, an HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, or NFS server, and in the PXE boot case, a TFTP server. Although each server can run on a different physical system, the procedures in this section assume a single system is running all servers.

Client

The system to which you are installing Red Hat Enterprise Linux. Once installation starts, the client queries the DHCP server, receives the boot files from the HTTP or TFTP server, and downloads the installation image from the HTTP, HTTPS, FTP or NFS server. Unlike other installation methods, the client does not require any physical boot media for the installation to start.

To boot a client from the network, enable network boot in the firmware or in a quick boot menu on the client. On some hardware, the option to boot from a network might be disabled, or not available.

The workflow steps to prepare to install Red Hat Enterprise Linux from a network by using HTTP or PXE are as follows:

Procedure

- 1. Export the installation ISO image or the installation tree to an NFS, HTTPS, HTTP, or FTP server
- 2. Configure the HTTP or TFTP server and DHCP server, and start the HTTP or TFTP service on the server.
- 3. Boot the client and start the installation.

You can choose between the following network boot protocols:

HTTP

Use the HTTP boot if your client UEFI supports it. HTTP boot is usually more reliable.

PXE (TFTP)

PXE boot is more widely supported by client systems, but sending the boot files over this protocol might be slow and result in timeout failures.

Additional resources

- Preparing network based repositories
- Red Hat Satellite product documentation

6.2. CONFIGURING THE HTTP SERVER FOR HTTP BOOT

You must install and enable the **httpd** service on your server so that the server can provide HTTP boot resources on your network.

Prerequisites

• Find the network addresses of the server.
In the following examples, the server has a network card with the **192.168.124.2** IPv4 address.

Procedure

- 1. Install the HTTP server:
 - # dnf install httpd
- 2. Create the /var/www/html/redhat/ directory:
 - # mkdir -p /var/www/html/redhat/
- 3. Download the RHEL DVD ISO file. See All Red Hat Enterprise Linux Downloads.
- 4. Create a mount point for the ISO file:
 - # mkdir -p /var/www/html/redhat/iso/
- 5. Mount the ISO file:
 - # mount -o loop,ro -t iso9660 path-to-RHEL-DVD.iso /var/www/html/redhat/iso
- 6. Copy the boot loader, kernel, and **initramfs** from the mounted ISO file into your HTML directory:

```
# cp -r /var/www/html/redhat/iso/images /var/www/html/redhat/
# cp -r /var/www/html/redhat/iso/EFI /var/www/html/redhat/
```

- 7. Make the boot loader configuration editable:
 - # chmod 644 /var/www/html/redhat/EFI/BOOT/grub.cfg
- 8. Edit the /var/www/html/redhat/EFI/BOOT/grub.cfg file and replace its content with the following:

```
set default="1"

function load_video {
  insmod efi_gop
  insmod efi_uga
  insmod video_bochs
  insmod video_cirrus
  insmod all_video
}

load_video
  set gfxpayload=keep
```

```
insmod gzio
insmod part_gpt
insmod ext2
set timeout=60
# END /etc/grub.d/00_header #
search --no-floppy --set=root -l 'RHEL-9-3-0-BaseOS-x86 64'
# BEGIN /etc/grub.d/10 linux #
menuentry 'Install Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.3' -- class fedora -- class gnu-linux -- class gnu --
class os {
  linuxefi ../../images/pxeboot/vmlinuz inst.repo=http://192.168.124.2/redhat/iso quiet
  initrdefi ../../images/pxeboot/initrd.img
menuentry 'Test this media & install Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.3' -- class fedora -- class gnu-
linux --class gnu --class os {
  linuxefi ../../images/pxeboot/vmlinuz inst.repo=http:// 192.168.124.2/redhat/iso quiet
  initrdefi ../../images/pxeboot/initrd.img
submenu 'Troubleshooting -->' {
  menuentry 'Install Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.3 in text mode' -- class fedora -- class gnu-
linux --class gnu --class os {
   linuxefi ../../images/pxeboot/vmlinuz inst.repo=http://192.168.124.2/redhat/iso inst.text
quiet
   initrdefi ../../images/pxeboot/initrd.img
  menuentry 'Rescue a Red Hat Enterprise Linux system' -- class fedora -- class gnu-linux --
class gnu --class os {
   linuxefi ../../images/pxeboot/vmlinuz inst.repo=http://192.168.124.2/redhat/iso inst.rescue
quiet
   initrdefi ../../images/pxeboot/initrd.img
```

In this file, replace the following strings:

RHEL-9-3-0-BaseOS-x86_64 and Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.3

Edit the version number to match the version of RHEL that you downloaded.

192.168.124.2

Replace with the IP address to your server.

9. Make the EFI boot file executable:

chmod 755 /var/www/html/redhat/EFI/BOOT/BOOTX64.EFI

10. Open ports in the firewall to allow HTTP (80), DHCP (67, 68) and DHCPv6 (546, 547) traffic:

```
# firewall-cmd --zone public \
--add-port={80/tcp,67/udp,68/udp,546/udp,547/udp}
```

This command enables temporary access until the next server reboot.

11. Optional: To enable permanent access, add the **--permanent** option to the command.

12. Reload firewall rules:

firewall-cmd --reload

13. Start the HTTP server:

systemctl enable --now httpd

14. Make the **html** directory and its content readable and executable:

chmod -cR u=rwX,g=rX,o=rX /var/www/html

15. Restore the SELinux context of the **html** directory:

restorecon -FvvR /var/www/html

CHAPTER 7. PREPARING A PXE INSTALLATION SOURCE

You must configure TFTP and DHCP on a PXE server to enable PXE boot and network installation.

7.1. NETWORK INSTALL OVERVIEW

A network installation allows you to install Red Hat Enterprise Linux to a system that has access to an installation server. At a minimum, two systems are required for a network installation:

Server

A system running a DHCP server, an HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, or NFS server, and in the PXE boot case, a TFTP server. Although each server can run on a different physical system, the procedures in this section assume a single system is running all servers.

Client

The system to which you are installing Red Hat Enterprise Linux. Once installation starts, the client queries the DHCP server, receives the boot files from the HTTP or TFTP server, and downloads the installation image from the HTTP, HTTPS, FTP or NFS server. Unlike other installation methods, the client does not require any physical boot media for the installation to start.

To boot a client from the network, enable network boot in the firmware or in a quick boot menu on the client. On some hardware, the option to boot from a network might be disabled, or not available.

The workflow steps to prepare to install Red Hat Enterprise Linux from a network by using HTTP or PXE are as follows:

Procedure

- 1. Export the installation ISO image or the installation tree to an NFS, HTTPS, HTTP, or FTP server.
- 2. Configure the HTTP or TFTP server and DHCP server, and start the HTTP or TFTP service on the server.
- 3. Boot the client and start the installation.

You can choose between the following network boot protocols:

HTTP

Use the HTTP boot if your client UEFI supports it. HTTP boot is usually more reliable.

PXE (TFTP)

PXE boot is more widely supported by client systems, but sending the boot files over this protocol might be slow and result in timeout failures.

Additional resources

- Preparing network based repositories
- Red Hat Satellite product documentation

7.2. CONFIGURING A TFTP SERVER FOR BIOS-BASED CLIENTS

You must configure a TFTP server and DHCP server and start the TFTP service on the PXE server for BIOS-based AMD and Intel 64-bit systems.

Procedure

- 1. As root, install the following package.
 - # dnf install tftp-server
- 2. Allow incoming connections to the **tftp service** in the firewall:
 - # firewall-cmd --add-service=tftp

This command enables temporary access until the next server reboot.

- 3. optional: To enable permanent access, add the **--permanent** option to the command. Depending on the location of the installation ISO file, you might have to allow incoming connections for HTTP or other services.
- 4. Access the **pxelinux.0** file from the **SYSLINUX** package in the DVD ISO image file, where *my_local_directory* is the name of the directory that you create:
 - # mount -t iso9660 /path_to_image/name_of_image.iso /mount_point -o loop,ro
 - # cp -pr /mount_point/AppStream/Packages/syslinux-tftpboot-version-architecture.rpm /my_local_directory
 - # umount /mount_point
- 5. Extract the package:
 - # rpm2cpio syslinux-tftpboot-version-architecture.rpm | cpio -dimv
- 6. Create a **pxelinux**/ directory in **tftpboot**/ and copy all the files from the directory into the **pxelinux**/ directory:
 - # mkdir /var/lib/tftpboot/pxelinux
 - # cp /my_local_directory/tftpboot/* /var/lib/tftpboot/pxelinux
- 7. Create the directory **pxelinux.cfg**/ in the **pxelinux**/ directory:
 - # mkdir /var/lib/tftpboot/pxelinux/pxelinux.cfg
- 8. Create a configuration file named **default** and add it to the **pxelinux.cfg**/ directory as shown in the following example:

default vesamenu.c32 prompt 1 timeout 600

display boot.msg

label linux menu label ^Install system

menu default kernel images/RHEL-10/vmlinuz append initrd=images/RHEL-10/initrd.img ip=dhcp inst.repo=http://192.168.124.2/RHEL-10/x86 64/iso-contents-root/ label vesa menu label Install system with ^basic video driver kernel images/RHEL-10/vmlinuz append initrd=images/RHEL-10/initrd.img ip=dhcp nomodeset inst.repo=http://192.168.124.2/RHEL-10/x86_64/iso-contents-root/ label rescue menu label ^Rescue installed system kernel images/RHEL-10/vmlinuz append initrd=images/RHEL-10/initrd.img inst.rescue inst.repo=http:///192.168.124.2/RHEL-8/x86_64/iso-contents-root/ label local menu label Boot from ^local drive localboot 0xffff

- The installation program cannot boot without its runtime image. Use the inst.stage2 boot option to specify location of the image. Alternatively, you can use the inst.repo= option to specify the image as well as the installation source.
- The installation source location used with inst.repo must contain a valid .treeinfo file.
- When you select the RHEL10 installation DVD as the installation source, the .treeinfo file points to the BaseOS and the AppStream repositories. You can use a single inst.repo option to load both repositories.
- 9. Create a subdirectory to store the boot image files in the /var/lib/tftpboot/ directory, and copy the boot image files to the directory. In this example, the directory is /var/lib/tftpboot/pxelinux/images/RHEL-10/:

mkdir -p /var/lib/tftpboot/pxelinux/images/RHEL-10/ # cp /path_to_x86_64_images/pxeboot/{vmlinuz,initrd.img} /var/lib/tftpboot/pxelinux/images/RHEL-10/

10. Start and enable the **tftp.socket** service:

systemctl enable --now tftp.socket

The PXE boot server is now ready to serve PXE clients. You can start the client, which is the system to which you are installing Red Hat Enterprise Linux, select **PXE Boot** when prompted to specify a boot source, and start the network installation.

7.3. CONFIGURING A TFTP SERVER FOR UEFI-BASED CLIENTS

You must configure a TFTP server and DHCP server and start the TFTP service on the PXE server for UEFI-based AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM systems.



IMPORTANT

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 UEFI PXE boot supports a lowercase file format for a MAC-based grub menu file. For example, the MAC address file format for grub2 is **grub.cfg-01-aa-bb-cc-dd-ee-ff**

Procedure

- 1. As root, install the following package.
 - # dnf install tftp-server
- 2. Allow incoming connections to the **tftp service** in the firewall:

```
# firewall-cmd --add-service=tftp
```

This command enables temporary access until the next server reboot.

- 3. Optional: To enable permanent access, add the **--permanent** option to the command. Depending on the location of the installation ISO file, you might have to allow incoming connections for HTTP or other services.
- 4. Access the EFI boot image files from the DVD ISO image:

```
# mount -t iso9660 /path_to_image/name_of_image.iso /mount_point -o loop,ro
```

5. Copy the EFI boot images from the DVD ISO image:

```
# mkdir /var/lib/tftpboot/redhat
# cp -r /mount_point/EFI /var/lib/tftpboot/redhat/
# umount /mount_point
```

- 6. Fix the permissions of the copied files:
 - # chmod -R 755 /var/lib/tftpboot/redhat/
- 7. Replace the content of /var/lib/tftpboot/redhat/EFI/BOOT/grub.cfg with the following example:

```
set timeout=60
menuentry 'RHEL 10' {
    linux images/RHEL-10/vmlinuz ip=dhcp inst.repo=http://192.168.124.2/RHEL-
10/x86_64/iso-contents-root/
    initrd images/RHEL-10/initrd.img
}
```

- The installation program cannot boot without its runtime image. Use the inst.stage2 boot option to specify location of the image. Alternatively, you can use the inst.repo= option to specify the image as well as the installation source.
- The installation source location used with inst.repo must contain a valid .treeinfo file.
- When you select the RHEL10 installation DVD as the installation source, the .treeinfo file points to the BaseOS and the AppStream repositories. You can use a single inst.repo option to load both repositories.
- 8. Create a subdirectory to store the boot image files in the /var/lib/tftpboot/ directory, and copy the boot image files to the directory. In this example, the directory is /var/lib/tftpboot/images/RHEL-10/:

mkdir -p /var/lib/tftpboot/images/RHEL-10/ # cp /path_to_x86_64_images/pxeboot/{vmlinuz,initrd.img}/var/lib/tftpboot/images/RHEL-10/

9. Start and enable the **tftp.socket** service:

systemctl enable --now tftp.socket

The PXE boot server is now ready to serve PXE clients. You can start the client, which is the system to which you are installing Red Hat Enterprise Linux, select **PXE Boot** when prompted to specify a boot source, and start the network installation.

Additional resources

• Using the Shim Program

CHAPTER 8. PREPARING A SYSTEM WITH UEFI SECURE BOOT ENABLED TO INSTALL AND BOOT RHEL BETA RELEASES

To enhance the security of your operating system, use the UEFI Secure Boot feature for signature verification when booting a Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta release on systems having UEFI Secure Boot enabled.

8.1. UEFI SECURE BOOT AND RHEL BETA RELEASES

UEFI Secure Boot requires that the operating system kernel is signed with a recognized private key. UEFI Secure Boot then verifies the signature by using the corresponding public key.

For Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta releases, the kernel is signed with a Red Hat Beta-specific private key. UEFI Secure Boot attempts to verify the signature using the corresponding public key, but because the hardware does not recognize the Beta private key, Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta release system fails to boot. Therefore, to use UEFI Secure Boot with a Beta release, add the Red Hat Beta public key to your system using the Machine Owner Key (MOK) facility.

8.2. ADDING A BETA PUBLIC KEY FOR UEFI SECURE BOOT

You must add a Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta public key for UEFI Secure Boot.

Prerequisites

- The UEFI Secure Boot is disabled on the system.
- The Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta release is installed, and Secure Boot is disabled even after system reboot.
- You are logged in to the system, and the tasks in the **Initial Setup** window are complete.

Procedure

- 1. Begin to enroll the Red Hat Beta public key in the system's Machine Owner Key (MOK) list:
 - # mokutil --import /usr/share/doc/kernel-keys/\$(uname -r)/kernel-signing-ca.cer

\$(uname -r) is replaced by the kernel version - for example, 4.18.0-80.el8.x86_64.

- 2. Enter a password when prompted.
- 3. Reboot the system and press any key to continue the startup. The Shim UEFI key management utility starts during the system startup.
- 4. Select Enroll MOK.
- 5. Select Continue.
- 6. Select **Yes** and enter the password. The key is imported into the system's firmware.
- 7. Select **Reboot**.

8. Enable Secure Boot on the system.

8.3. REMOVING A BETA PUBLIC KEY

If you plan to remove the Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta release, and install a Red Hat Enterprise Linux General Availability (GA) release, or a different operating system, then remove the Beta public key.

The procedure describes how to remove a Beta public key.

Procedure

- 1. Begin to remove the Red Hat Beta public key from the system's Machine Owner Key (MOK) list:
 - # mokutil --reset
- 2. Enter a password when prompted.
- 3. Reboot the system and press any key to continue the startup. The Shim UEFI key management utility starts during the system startup.
- 4. Select Reset MOK.
- 5. Select Continue.
- 6. Select **Yes** and enter the password that you had specified in step 2. The key is removed from the system's firmware.
- 7. Select **Reboot**.

PART II. INSTALLING RHEL FULLY AND SEMI-AUTOMATED

Automating the RHEL installation process is the key purpose of kickstart installations. It covers how to create and configure Kickstart files, integrate them with UEFI HTTP or PXE sources, and make them accessible for semi-automated installations. Additionally, it provides guidance on initiating Kickstart installations to streamline system deployment.

CHAPTER 9. AUTOMATED INSTALLATION WORKFLOW

Kickstart installations can be performed by using a local DVD, a local disk, or a NFS, FTP, HTTP, or HTTPS server. This section provides a high level overview of Kickstart usage.

- 1. Create a Kickstart file. You can write it by hand, copy a Kickstart file saved after a manual installation, or use an online generator tool to create the file, and edit it afterward. See Creating Kickstart files.
- 2. Make the Kickstart file available to the installation program on removable media, a disk or a network location by using an HTTP(S), FTP, or NFS server. See Adding the Kickstart file to a UEFI HTTP or PXE installation source or Making Kickstart files available to the RHEL installer.
- 3. Create the boot medium which will be used to begin the installation.
- 4. Make the installation source available to the installation program. See Creating installation sources for Kickstart installations.
- 5. Start the installation by using the boot medium and the Kickstart file. See Starting Kickstart installations.

If the Kickstart file contains all mandatory commands and sections, the installation finishes automatically. If one or more of these mandatory parts are missing, or if an error occurs, the installation requires manual intervention to finish.

CHAPTER 10. CREATING KICKSTART FILES

You can create a Kickstart file by using the following different methods:

- Use the online Kickstart configuration tool.
- Copy the Kickstart file created as a result of a manual installation.
- Write the entire Kickstart file manually.
- Convert the Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 Kickstart file for Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 installation.
 - For more information about the conversion tool, see Kickstart generator lab.
- In case of virtual and cloud environments, create a custom system image by using Image Builder.

Some highly specific installation options can be configured only by manual editing of the Kickstart file.

10.1. CREATING A KICKSTART FILE WITH THE KICKSTART CONFIGURATION TOOL

Red Hat Customer Portal account holders can use the Kickstart Generator tool in the Customer Portal Labs to generate Kickstart files online. This tool will walk you through the basic configuration and enable you to download the resulting Kickstart file.

Prerequisites

• You have a Red Hat Customer Portal account and an active Red Hat subscription.

Procedure

- 1. Open the Kickstart generator lab.
- 2. Click the **Go to Application** button to the left of the heading and wait for the next page to load.
- 3. Select **Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10** in the drop-down menu and wait for the page to update.
- 4. Describe the system to be installed by using the fields in the form.

 You can use the links on the left side of the form to quickly navigate between sections of the form.
- 5. To download the generated Kickstart file, click the red **Download** button at the top of the page. Your web browser saves the file.
- 6. Install the pykickstart package.
 - # dnf install pykickstart
- 7. Run ksvalidator on your Kickstart file.
 - \$ ksvalidator -v RHEL10 /path/to/kickstart.ks

Replace /path/to/kickstart.ks with the path to the Kickstart file you want to verify.

The validation tool cannot guarantee the installation will be successful. It ensures only that the syntax is correct and that the file does not include deprecated options. It does not attempt to validate the **%pre**, **%post** and **%packages** sections of the Kickstart file.

10.2. CREATING A KICKSTART FILE BY PERFORMING A MANUAL INSTALLATION

You can use the Kickstart file created by a manual installation of Red Hat Enterprise Linux. After a graphical installation completes, all choices made during the installation are saved into a Kickstart file named **anaconda-ks.cfg**, located in the /**root**/ directory on the installed system. Use this file to reproduce the installation in the same way as before. Alternatively, copy this file, make any changes you need, and use the resulting configuration file for further installations.

Procedure

- 1. Install RHEL. For more details, see Interactively installing RHEL from installation media. During the installation, create a user with administrator privileges.
- 2. Finish the installation and reboot into the installed system.
- 3. Log into the system with the administrator account.
- 4. Copy the file /**root/anaconda-ks.cfg** to a location of your choice. The file contains information about users and passwords.
 - To display the file contents in terminal:
 - # cat /root/anaconda-ks.cfg

You can copy the output and save to another file of your choice.

- To copy the file to another location, use the file manager. Remember to change permissions on the copy, so that the file can be read by non-root users.
- 5. Install the pykickstart package.
 - # dnf install pykickstart
- 6. Run ksvalidator on your Kickstart file.
 - \$ ksvalidator -v RHEL10 /path/to/kickstart.ks

Replace / path/to/kickstart.ks with the path to the Kickstart file you want to verify.



IMPORTANT

The validation tool cannot guarantee the installation will be successful. It ensures only that the syntax is correct and that the file does not include deprecated options. It does not attempt to validate the **%pre**, **%post** and **%packages** sections of the Kickstart file.

10.3. CONVERTING A KICKSTART FILE FROM PREVIOUS RHEL INSTALLATION

You can use the Kickstart Converter tool to convert a RHEL 8 Kickstart file for use in a RHEL 9 installation or convert a RHEL 9 Kickstart file for use in RHEL 10. For more information about the tool and how to use it to convert a RHEL Kickstart file, see Kickstart converter.

Procedure

- After you prepare your kickstart file, install the **pykickstart** package.
 - # dnf install pykickstart
- Run **ksvalidator** on your Kickstart file.
 - \$ ksvalidator -v RHEL10 /path/to/kickstart.ks

Replace /path/to/kickstart.ks with the path to the Kickstart file you want to verify.



IMPORTANT

The validation tool cannot guarantee the installation will be successful. It ensures only that the syntax is correct and that the file does not include deprecated options. It does not attempt to validate the **%pre**, **%post** and **%packages** sections of the Kickstart file.

10.4. CREATING A CUSTOM IMAGE BY USING IMAGE BUILDER

You can use Red Hat Image Builder to create a customized system image for virtual and cloud deployments.

For more information about creating customized images, using Image Builder, see the Composing a customized RHEL system image document.

CHAPTER 11. ADDING THE KICKSTART FILE TO A UEFI HTTP OR PXE INSTALLATION SOURCE

After your Kickstart file is ready, you can make it available for the installation on the destination system.

11.1. PORTS FOR NETWORK-BASED INSTALLATION

The following table lists the ports that must be open on the server for providing the files for each type of network-based installation.

Table 11.1. Ports for network-based installation

Protocol used	Ports to open
HTTP	80
HTTPS	443
FTP	21
NFS	2049, 111, 20048
TFTP	69

Additional resources

Securing networks

11.2. SHARING THE INSTALLATION FILES ON AN NFS SERVER

You can store the Kickstart script file on an NFS server. Storing it on an NFS server enables you to install multiple systems from a single source without having to use physical media for the Kickstart file.

Prerequisites

- You have administrator-level access to a server with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 on the local network
- The system to be installed can connect to the server.
- The firewall on the server allows connections from the system you are installing to. See Ports for Network based Installation for more information.



IMPORTANT

Ensure that you use different paths in **inst.ks** and **inst.repo**. When using NFS to host the Kickstart, you cannot use the same nfs share to host the installation source.

Procedure

1. Install the **nfs-utils** package by running the following command as root:

dnf install nfs-utils

- 2. Copy the Kickstart file to a directory on the NFS server.
- 3. Open the /etc/exports file by using a text editor and add a line with the following syntax:

/exported_directory/ clients

Replace /exported_directory/ with the full path to the directory holding the Kickstart file. Instead of clients, use the host name or IP address of the computer that is to be installed from this NFS server, the subnetwork from which all computers are to have access the ISO image, or the asterisk sign (*) if you want to allow any computer with network access to the NFS server to use the ISO image. See the exports(5) man page for detailed information about the format of this field. A basic configuration that makes the /rhel10-install/ directory available as read-only to all clients is:

/rhel10-install *

- 4. Save the /etc/exports file and exit the text editor.
- 5. Start the nfs service:

systemctl start nfs-server.service

If the service was running before you changed the /etc/exports file, enter the following command, in order for the running NFS server to reload its configuration:

systemctl reload nfs-server.service

The Kickstart file is now accessible over NFS and ready to be used for installation.



NOTE

When specifying the Kickstart source, use **nfs:** as the protocol, the server's host name or IP address, the colon sign (:), and the path inside directory holding the file. For example, if the server's host name is **myserver.example.com** and you have saved the file in /**rhel10-install/my-ks.cfg**, specify **inst.ks=nfs:myserver.example.com:**/**rhel10-install/my-ks.cfg** as the installation source boot option.

11.3. SHARING THE INSTALLATION FILES ON AN HTTP OR HTTPS SERVER

Additional resources

You can store the Kickstart script file on an HTTP or HTTPS server. Storing the Kickstart file on an HTTP or HTTPS server enables you to install multiple systems from a single source without having to use physical media for the Kickstart file.

Prerequisites

 You have administrator-level access to a server with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 on the local network.

- The system to be installed can connect to the server.
- The firewall on the server allows connections from the system you are installing to. See Ports for Network based Installation for more information.

Procedure

- 1. To store the Kickstart file on an HTTP, install the **httpd** package:
 - # dnf install httpd

To store the Kickstart file on an HTTPS, install **httpd** and **mod_ssl** packages:

dnf install httpd mod_ssl



WARNING

If your Apache web server configuration enables SSL security, verify that you only enable the TLSv1 protocol, and disable SSLv2 and SSLv3. This is due to the POODLE SSL vulnerability (CVE-2014-3566). For more information, see the Red Hat Knowledgebase solution Resolution for POODLE SSLv3.0 vulnerability.



IMPORTANT

If you use an HTTPS server with a self-signed certificate, you must boot the installation program with the **inst.noverifyssl** option.

- 2. Copy the Kickstart file to the HTTP(S) server into a subdirectory of the /var/www/html/ directory.
- 3. Start the httpd service:
 - # systemctl start httpd.service

The Kickstart file is now accessible and ready to be used for installation.

When specifying the location of the Kickstart file, use http:// or https:// as the protocol, the server's host name or IP address, and the path of the Kickstart file, relative to the HTTP server root. For example, if you are using HTTP, the server's host name is mayserver.example.com, and you have copied the Kickstart file as /war/www/html/rhel10-install/my-ks.cfg, specify http://myserver.example.com/rhel10-install/my-ks.cfg as the file location.

Additional resources

- Deploying Web Servers and Proxies
- Configuring and using Database Servers

11.4. SHARING THE INSTALLATION FILES ON AN FTP SERVER

You can store the Kickstart script file on an FTP server. Storing the script on an FTP server enables you to install multiple systems from a single source without having to use physical media for the Kickstart file

Prerequisites

- You have administrator-level access to a server with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 on the local network.
- The system to be installed can connect to the server.
- The firewall on the server allows connections from the system you are installing to. For more information, see Ports for Network based Installation.

Procedure

- 1. Install the **vsftpd** package by running the following command as root:
 - # dnf install vsftpd
- 2. Open and edit the /etc/vsftpd/vsftpd.conf configuration file in a text editor.
 - a. Change the line anonymous_enable=NO to anonymous_enable=YES
 - b. Change the line write_enable=YES to write_enable=NO.
 - c. Add lines pasv_min_port=min_port and pasv_max_port=max_port. Replace min_port and max_port with the port number range used by the FTP server in passive mode, for example, 10021 and 10031.
 - This step can be necessary in network environments featuring various firewall/NAT setups.
 - d. Optional: add custom changes to your configuration. For available options, see the **vsftpd.conf(5)** man page. This procedure assumes that default options are used.



WARNING

If you configured SSL/TLS security in your **vsftpd.conf** file, ensure that you enable only the TLSv1 protocol, and disable SSLv2 and SSLv3. This is due to the POODLE SSL vulnerability (CVE-2014-3566). For more information, see the Red Hat Knowledgebase solution Resolution for POODLE SSLv3.0 vulnerability.

- 3. Configure the server firewall.
 - a. Enable the firewall:

systemctl enable firewalld # systemctl start firewalld b. Enable in your firewall the FTP port and port range from previous step:

```
# firewall-cmd --add-port min_port-max_port/tcp --permanent
# firewall-cmd --add-service ftp --permanent
# firewall-cmd --reload
```

Replace *min_port-max_port* with the port numbers you entered into the /etc/vsftpd/vsftpd.conf configuration file.

- 4. Copy the Kickstart file to the FTP server into the /var/ftp/ directory or its subdirectory.
- 5. Make sure that the correct SELinux context and access mode is set on the file:

restorecon -r /var/ftp/your-kickstart-file.ks # chmod 444 /var/ftp/your-kickstart-file.ks

6. Start the vsftpd service:

systemctl start vsftpd.service

If the service was running before you changed the /etc/vsftpd/vsftpd.conf file, restart the service to load the edited file:

systemctl restart vsftpd.service

Enable the **vsftpd** service to start during the boot process:

systemctl enable vsftpd

The Kickstart file is now accessible and ready to be used for installations by systems on the same network.



NOTE

When configuring the installation source, use **ftp:**// as the protocol, the server's host name or IP address, and the path of the Kickstart file, relative to the FTP server root. For example, if the server's host name is **myserver.example.com** and you have copied the file to /var/ftp/my-ks.cfg, specify ftp://myserver.example.com/my-ks.cfg as the installation source.

CHAPTER 12. SEMI-AUTOMATED INSTALLATIONS: MAKING KICKSTART FILES AVAILABLE TO THE RHEL INSTALLER

After your Kickstart file is ready, you can make it available for installation on the destination system.

12.1. SHARING THE INSTALLATION FILES ON A LOCAL VOLUME

This procedure describes how to store the Kickstart script file on a volume on the system to be installed. This method enables you to bypass the need for another system.

Prerequisites

- You have a drive that can be moved to the machine to be installed, such as a USB stick.
- The drive contains a partition that can be read by the installation program. The supported types are **ext2**, **ext4**, **xfs**, and **fat**.
- The drive is connected to the system and its volumes are mounted.

Procedure

- List volume information and note the UUID of the volume to which you want to copy the Kickstart file.
 - # lsblk -l -p -o name,rm,ro,hotplug,size,type,mountpoint,uuid
- 2. Navigate to the file system on the volume.
- 3. Copy the Kickstart file to this file system.
- 4. Make a note of the string to use later with the **inst.ks=** option. This string is in the form **hd:UUID=***volume-UUID*: *path/to/kickstart-file.cfg*. Note that the path is relative to the file system root, not to the / root of file system hierarchy. Replace *volume-UUID* with the UUID you noted earlier.
- 5. Unmount all drive volumes:
 - # umount /dev/xyz ...

Add all the volumes to the command, separated by spaces.

12.2. SHARING THE INSTALLATION FILES ON A LOCAL VOLUME FOR AUTOMATIC LOADING

A specially named Kickstart file can be present in the root of a specially named volume on the system to be installed. This lets you bypass the need for another system, and makes the installation program load the file automatically.

Prerequisites

You have a drive that can be moved to the machine to be installed, such as a USB stick.

- The drive contains a partition that can be read by the installation program. The supported types are **ext2**, **ext3**, **ext4**, **xfs**, and **fat**.
- The drive is connected to the system and its volumes are mounted.

Procedure

1. List volume information to which you want to copy the Kickstart file.

```
# Isblk -I -p
```

- 2. Navigate to the file system on the volume.
- 3. Copy the Kickstart file into the root of this file system.
- 4. Rename the Kickstart file to ks.cfg.
- 5. Rename the volume as **OEMDRV**:
 - For ext2, ext3, and ext4 file systems:
 - # e2label /dev/xyz OEMDRV
 - For the XFS file system:
 - # xfs_admin -L OEMDRV /dev/xyz

Replace / dev/xyz with the path to the volume's block device.

6. Unmount all drive volumes:

umount /dev/xyz ...

Add all the volumes to the command, separated by spaces.

CHAPTER 13. STARTING KICKSTART INSTALLATIONS

You can start Kickstart installations in multiple ways:

- Automatically by editing the boot options in PXE boot.
- Automatically by providing the file on a volume with a specific name.

You can register RHEL using the Red Hat Content Delivery Network (CDN). CDN is a geographically distributed series of web servers. These servers provide, for example, packages and updates to RHEL hosts with a valid subscription.

During the installation, registering and installing RHEL from the CDN offers following benefits:

- Utilizing the latest packages for an up-to-date system immediately after installation and
- Integrated support for connecting to Red Hat Insights and enabling System Purpose.

13.1. STARTING A KICKSTART INSTALLATION AUTOMATICALLY BY USING PXE

AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM systems and IBM Power Systems servers have the ability to boot by using a PXE server. When you configure the PXE server, you can add the boot option into the boot loader configuration file, which in turn lets you start the installation automatically. By using this approach, it is possible to automate the installation completely, including the boot process.

This procedure is intended as a general reference; detailed steps differ based on your system's architecture, and not all options are available on all architectures (for example, you cannot use PXE boot on 64-bit IBM Z).

Prerequisites

- You have a Kickstart file ready in a location accessible from the system to be installed.
- You have a PXE server that can be used to boot the system and begin the installation.

Procedure

- 1. Open the boot loader configuration file on your PXE server, and add the **inst.ks=** boot option to the appropriate line. The name of the file and its syntax depends on your system's architecture and hardware:
 - On AMD64 and Intel 64 systems with BIOS, the file name can be either default or based on your system's IP address. In this case, add the inst.ks= option to the append line in the installation entry. A sample append line in the configuration file looks similar to the following:
 - append initrd=initrd.img inst.ks=http://10.32.5.1/mnt/archive/RHEL-10/x.x/x86 64/kickstarts/ks.cfg
 - On systems using the GRUB2 boot loader (AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM systems with UEFI firmware and IBM Power Systems servers), the file name will be **grub.cfg**. In this file, append the **inst.ks=** option to the kernel line in the installation entry. A sample kernel line in the configuration file will look similar to the following:

kernel vmlinuz inst.ks=http://10.32.5.1/mnt/archive/RHEL-10/x.x/x86_64/kickstarts/ks.cfg

Boot the installation from the network server.
 The installation begins now by using the installation options specified in the Kickstart file. If the Kickstart file is valid and contains all required commands, the installation is completely



NOTE

automated.

If you have installed a Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta release, on systems having UEFI Secure Boot enabled, then add the Beta public key to the system's Machine Owner Key (MOK) list.

Additional resources

• For information about setting up a PXE server, see Preparing a PXE installation source

13.2. STARTING A KICKSTART INSTALLATION AUTOMATICALLY BY USING A LOCAL VOLUME

You can start a Kickstart installation by putting a Kickstart file with a specific name on a specifically labeled storage volume.

Prerequisites

- You have a volume prepared with label OEMDRV and the Kickstart file present in its root as ks.cfg.
- A drive containing this volume is available on the system as the installation program boots.

Procedure

- 1. Boot the system by using a local media (a CD, DVD, or a USB flash drive).
- 2. At the boot prompt, specify the required boot options.
 - a. If a required repository is in a network location, you may need to configure the network by using the ip= option. The installer tries to configure all network devices by using the DHCP protocol by default without this option.
 - b. In order to access a software source from which necessary packages will be installed, you may need to add the **inst.repo=** option. If you do not specify this option, you must specify the installation source in the Kickstart file.
 - For more information about installation sources, see Kickstart commands for installation program configuration and flow control.
- 3. Start the installation by confirming your added boot options.

 The installation begins now, and the Kickstart file is automatically detected and used to start an automated Kickstart installation.



NOTE

If you have installed a Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta release, on systems having UEFI Secure Boot enabled, then add the Beta public key to the system's Machine Owner Key (MOK) list. For more information about UEFI Secure Boot and Red Hat Enterprise Linux Beta releases, see the UEFI Secure Boot and Beta release requirements.

13.3. CONSOLES AND LOGGING DURING INSTALLATION

The RHEL installer uses the **tmux** terminal multiplexer to display and control several windows in addition to the main interface. Each of these windows serve a different purpose; they display several different logs, which can be used to troubleshoot issues during the installation process. One of the windows provides an interactive shell prompt with **root** privileges, unless this prompt was specifically disabled by using a boot option or a Kickstart command.

The terminal multiplexer is running in virtual console 1. To switch from the actual installation environment to **tmux**, press **Ctrl+Alt+F1**. To go back to the main installation interface which runs in virtual console 6, press **Ctrl+Alt+F6**. During the text mode installation, start in virtual console 1 (**tmux**), and switching to console 6 will open a shell prompt instead of a graphical interface.

The console running **tmux** has five available windows; their contents are described in the following table, along with keyboard shortcuts. Note that the keyboard shortcuts are two-part: first press **Ctrl+b**, then release both keys, and press the number key for the window you want to use.

You can also use **Ctrl+b n**, **Alt+ Tab**, and **Ctrl+b p** to switch to the next or previous **tmux** window, respectively.

Table 13.1. Available tmux windows

Shortcut	Contents
Ctrl+b 1	Main installation program window. Contains text- based prompts (used for text mode and also for interactive entry of RDP credentials), and also some debugging information.
Ctrl+b 2	Interactive shell prompt with root privileges.
Ctrl+b 3	Installation log; displays messages stored in /tmp/anaconda.log.
Ctrl+b 4	Storage log; displays messages related to storage devices and configuration, stored in /tmp/storage.log.
Ctrl+b 5	Program log; displays messages from utilities executed during the installation process, stored in /tmp/program.log.

PART III. POST-INSTALLATION TASKS

It is essential to manage and secure RHEL systems across different platforms. It includes instructions for registering systems, configuring the system purpose. It also provides details on installing a 64k kernel on ARM and modifying subscription services to maintain system configuration and security.

CHAPTER 14. INSTALLING KERNEL-64K ON ARM BY USING THE COMMAND LINE

By default, RHEL 10 is distributed with a kernel supporting a 4k page size. This 4k kernel is sufficient for efficient memory usage in smaller environments or small cloud instances where the usage of a 64k page kernel is not practical due to space, power, and cost constraints.

If you have already installed RHEL with the default kernel (supporting 4k page size), you can install **kernel-64k** post installation using the command line.



IMPORTANT

It is not recommended to move between 4k and 64k page size kernels after the initial boot without reinstallation of the OS.

Procedure

1. Open the terminal as the root user, and enter:

dnf -y install kernel-64k

2. To set the **kernel-64k** as default, enter:

```
# k=$(echo /boot/vmlinuz*64k)
# grubby --set-default=$k \
--update-kernel=$k \
--args="crashkernel=2G-:640M"
```

- 3. Set the system boot order to use RHEL as the default option.
 - a. Obtain the current boot order. For example:

efibootmgr BootCurrent: 0000 Timeout: 5 seconds

BootOrder: 0003,0004,0001,0000,0002,0005

Boot0000* Red Hat Enterprise Linux

b. Set the boot order to prioritize RHEL. For example, for the output in the previous step, use the following command:

 $\# \ efibootmgr \ \hbox{--o} \ 0000,0001,0002,0003,0004,0005$

4. Reboot the system:

reboot

5. Optional: After reboot, remove the 4k kernel:

dnf erase kernel

Keeping both versions accidentally can make the 4k kernel default when you update the kernel in future using the **yum update** command.

Verification

• To verify the page size, open the terminal and run the following command as any user:

\$ getconf PAGESIZE 65536

The output **65536** indicates that the 64k kernel is in use.

• To verify swap is enabled, enter:

\$ free total used free shared buff/cache available

Mem: 35756352 3677184 34774848 25792 237120 32079168

Swap: 6504384 0 6504384

The total and free columns are non-zero, which indicates the swap is enabled successfully.

CHAPTER 15. REGISTERING RHEL BY USING SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER

Post-installation, you must register your system to get continuous updates.

15.1. REGISTERING RHEL 10 USING THE INSTALLER GUI

You can register a Red Hat Enterprise Linux by using the RHEL installer GUI.

Prerequisites

- You have a valid user account on the Red Hat Customer Portal. See the Create a Red Hat Login page.
- You have a valid Activation Key and Organization id.

Procedure

- 1. From the Installation Summary screen, under Software, click Connect to Red Hat
- 2. Authenticate your Red Hat account using the Account or Activation Key option.
- Optional: In the Set System Purpose field select the Role, SLA, and Usage attribute that you
 want to set from the drop-down menu.
 At this point, your Red Hat Enterprise Linux system has been successfully registered.

15.2. REGISTRATION ASSISTANT

Registration Assistant is designed to help you choose the most suitable registration option for your Red Hat Enterprise Linux environment.

Additional resources

- For assistance with using a username and password to register RHEL with the Subscription Manager client, see the RHEL registration assistant on the Customer Portal.
- For assistance with registering your RHEL system to Red Hat Insights, see the Insights registration assistant on the Hybrid Cloud Console.

15.3. REGISTERING YOUR SYSTEM USING THE COMMAND LINE

You can register your Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscription by using the command line.

For an improved and simplified experience registering your hosts to Red Hat, use remote host configuration (RHC). The RHC client registers your system to Red Hat making your system ready for Insights data collection and enabling direct issue remediation from Insights for Red Hat Enterprise Linux. For more information, see RHC registration.

Prerequisites

- You have an active, non-evaluation Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscription.
- Your Red Hat subscription status is verified.

- You have not previously received a Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscription.
- You have successfully installed Red Hat Enterprise Linux and logged into the system as root.

Procedure

- 1. Open a terminal window as a root user.
- 2. Register your Red Hat Enterprise Linux system by using the activation key:

subscription-manager register --activationkey=<activation_key_name> -- org=<organization_ID>

When the system is successfully registered, an output similar to the following is displayed:

The system has been registered with id: 62edc0f8-855b-4184-b1b8-72a9dc793b96

Additional resources

- Using an activation key to register a system with Red Hat Subscription Manager
- Getting Started with RHEL System Registration

CHAPTER 16. CONFIGURING SYSTEM PURPOSE USING THE SUBSCRIPTION-MANAGER COMMAND-LINE TOOL

System purpose is a feature of the Red Hat Enterprise Linux installation to help RHEL customers get the benefit of our subscription experience and services offered in the Red Hat Hybrid Cloud Console, a dashboard-based, Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) application that enables you to view subscription usage in your Red Hat account.

You can configure system purpose attributes either on the activation keys or by using the subscription manager tool.

Prerequisites

- You have installed and registered your Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 system, but system purpose is not configured.
- You are logged in as a root user.

Procedure

- 1. From a terminal window, run the following command to set the intended role of the system:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose role --set "VALUE"

Replace **VALUE** with the role that you want to assign:

- Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux Workstation
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux Compute Node

For example:

- # subscription-manager syspurpose role --set "Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server"
- a. Optional: Before setting a value, see the available roles supported by the subscriptions for your organization:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose role --list
- b. Optional: Run the following command to unset the role:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose role --unset
- 2. Run the following command to set the intended Service Level Agreement (SLA) of the system:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose service-level --set "VALUE"

Replace **VALUE** with the SLA that you want to assign:

Premium

- Standard
- Self-Support

For example:

subscription-manager syspurpose service-level --set "Standard"

- a. Optional: Before setting a value, see the available service-levels supported by the subscriptions for your organization:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose service-level --list
- b. Optional: Run the following command to unset the SLA:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose service-level --unset
- 3. Run the following command to set the intended usage of the system:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose usage --set "VALUE"

Replace **VALUE** with the usage that you want to assign:

- Production
- Disaster Recovery
- Development/Test

For example:

- # subscription-manager syspurpose usage --set "Production"
- a. Optional: Before setting a value, see the available usages supported by the subscriptions for your organization:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose usage --list
- b. Optional: Run the following command to unset the usage:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose usage --unset
- 4. Run the following command to show the current system purpose properties:
 - # subscription-manager syspurpose --show
 - a. Optional: For more detailed syntax information run the following command to access the **subscription-manager** man page and browse to the SYSPURPOSE OPTIONS:
 - # man subscription-manager

Verification

• To verify the system's subscription status:

subscription-manager status
+-----+
System Status Details
+-----+
Overall Status: Disabled

Content Access Mode is set to Simple Content Access. This host has access to content,

regardless of subscription status. System Purpose Status: Disabled

Both the overall status and system purpose status are displayed as Disabled, which
indicates that the system is correctly registered. In any case, the technical, business, and
operational use cases supplied by system purpose attributes are important to the
subscriptions service, without these attributes, the subscriptions service data is less
accurate.

Additional resources

• To learn more about the subscriptions service, see the Getting Started with the Subscriptions Service guide.

CHAPTER 17. POST-INSTALLATION SECURITY HARDENING

RHEL is designed with robust security features enabled by default. However, you can enhance its security further through additional hardening measures.

For more information about:

- Installing security updates and displaying additional details about the updates to keep your RHEL systems secured against newly discovered threats and vulnerabilities, see Managing and monitoring security updates.
- Processes and practices for securing RHEL servers and workstations against local and remote intrusion, exploitation, and malicious activity, see Security hardening.
- Control how users and processes interact with the files on the system or control which users can perform which actions by mapping them to specific SELinux confined users, see Using SELinux.
- Tools and techniques to improve the security of your networks and lower the risks of data breaches and intrusions, see Securing networks.
- Packet filters, such as firewalls, that use rules to control incoming, outgoing, and forwarded network traffic, see Configuring firewalls and packet filters.

CHAPTER 18. CHANGING A SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

To manage the subscriptions, you can register a RHEL system with either Red Hat Subscription Management Server or Red Hat Satellite Server. If required, you can change the subscription service at a later point. To change the subscription service under which you are registered, unregister the system from the current service and then register it with a new service.

To receive the system updates, register your system with either of the management servers.

This section contains information about how to unregister your RHEL system from the Red Hat Subscription Management Server and Red Hat Satellite Server.

Prerequisites

You have registered your system with any one of the following:

- Red Hat Subscription Management Server
- Red Hat Satellite Server version 6.11

To receive the system updates, register your system with either of the management servers.

18.1. UNREGISTERING FROM SUBSCRIPTION MANAGEMENT SERVER

You can unregister a RHEL system from Red Hat Subscription Management Server by using a command line and the Subscription Manager user interface.

18.1.1. Unregistering using command line

Use the **unregister** command to unregister a RHEL system from Red Hat Subscription Management Server.

Procedure

- 1. Run the unregister command as a root user, without any additional parameters.
 - # subscription-manager unregister
- 2. When prompted, provide a root password.

The system is unregistered from the Subscription Management Server, and the status 'The system is currently not registered' is displayed with the **Register** button enabled.

To continue uninterrupted services, re-register the system with either of the management services. If you do not register the system with a management service, you may fail to receive the system updates. For more information about registering a system, see Registering your system using the command line.

Additional resources

Using and Configuring Red Hat Subscription Manager

18.1.2. Unregistering by using Subscription Manager user interface

You can unregister a RHEL system from Red Hat Subscription Management Server by using the Subscription Manager user interface.

Procedure

- 1. Log in to your system.
- 2. From the top left-hand side of the window, click Activities.
- 3. From the menu options, click the **Show Applications** icon.
- 4. Click the **Red Hat Subscription Manager** icon, or enter **Red Hat Subscription Manager** in the search.
- 5. Enter your administrator password in the Authentication Required dialog box. The Subscriptions window appears and displays the current status of Subscriptions, System Purpose, and installed products. Unregistered products display a red X. Authentication is required to perform privileged tasks on the system.
- 6. Click the **Unregister** button.

The system is unregistered from the Subscription Management Server, and the status 'The system is currently not registered' is displayed with the **Register** button enabled.

To continue uninterrupted services, re-register the system with either of the management services. If you do not register the system with a management service, you may fail to receive the system updates. For more information, see Registering your system using the Subscription Manager User Interface.

Additional resources

Using and Configuring Red Hat Subscription Manager

18.2. UNREGISTERING FROM SATELLITE SERVER

To unregister a Red Hat Enterprise Linux system from Satellite Server, remove the system from Satellite Server.

For more information, see Removing a Host from Red Hat Satellite .

PART IV. APPENDICES

A comprehensive reference for the Kickstart script file format and its commands. It covers various Kickstart options related to installation program configuration, system and network setup, storage handling, and specific addons included with the RHEL installation program. Additionally, it details commands relevant for system recovery, offering an essential guide for automating and customizing RHEL installations. Changes to Kickstart commands are also documented to keep users informed of updates.

APPENDIX A. KICKSTART SCRIPT FILE FORMAT REFERENCE

This reference describes in detail the kickstart file format.

A.1. KICKSTART FILE FORMAT

Kickstart scripts are plain text files that contain keywords recognized by the installation program, which serve as directions for the installation. Any text editor able to save files as ASCII text, such as **Gedit** or **vim** on Linux systems or **Notepad** on Windows systems, can be used to create and edit Kickstart files. The file name of your Kickstart configuration does not matter; however, it is recommended to use a simple name as you will need to specify this name later in other configuration files or dialogs.

Commands

Commands are keywords that serve as directions for installation. Each command must be on a single line. Commands can take options. Specifying commands and options is similar to using Linux commands in a shell.

Sections

Certain special commands that begin with the percent % character start a section. Interpretation of commands in sections is different from commands placed outside sections. Every section must be finished with the **%end** command.

Section types

The available sections are:

- Add-on sections. These sections use the %addon addon_name command.
- Package selection sections. Start with **%packages**. Use it to list packages for installation, including indirect means such as package groups or modules.
- Script sections. These start with %pre, %pre-install, %post, and %onerror. These sections are not required.

Command section

The command section is a term used for the commands in the Kickstart file that are not part of any script section or **%packages** section.

Script section count and ordering

All sections except the command section are optional and can be present multiple times. When a particular type of script section is to be evaluated, all sections of that type present in the Kickstart are evaluated in order of appearance: two **%post** sections are evaluated one after another, in the order as they appear. However, you do not have to specify the various types of script sections in any order: it does not matter if there are **%post** sections before **%pre** sections.

Comments

Kickstart comments are lines starting with the hash # character. These lines are ignored by the installation program.

Items that are not required can be omitted. Omitting any required item results in the installation program changing to the interactive mode so that the user can provide an answer to the related item, just as during a regular interactive installation. It is also possible to declare the kickstart script as non-interactive with the **cmdline** command. In non-interactive mode, any missing answer aborts the installation process.



NOTE

If user interaction is needed during kickstart installation in text or graphical mode, enter only the windows where updates are mandatory to complete the installation. Entering spokes might lead to resetting the kickstart configuration. Resetting of the configuration applies specifically to the kickstart commands related to storage after entering the Installation Destination window.

A.2. PACKAGE SELECTION IN KICKSTART

Kickstart uses sections started by the **%packages** command for selecting packages to install. You can install packages, groups, environments, module streams, and module profiles this way.

A.2.1. Package selection section

Use the **%packages** command to begin a Kickstart section which describes the software packages to be installed. The **%packages** section must end with the **%end** command.

You can specify packages by environment, group, module stream, module profile, or by their package names. Several environments and groups that contain related packages are defined. See the *repository/repodata/*-comps-repository.architecture.xml* file on the Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 Installation DVD for a list of environments and groups.

The *-comps-repository.architecture.xml file contains a structure describing available environments (marked by the <environment> tag) and groups (the <group> tag). Each entry has an ID, user visibility value, name, description, and package list. If the group is selected for installation, the packages marked mandatory in the package list are always installed, the packages marked default are installed if they are not specifically excluded elsewhere, and the packages marked optional must be specifically included elsewhere even when the group is selected.

You can specify a package group or environment by using either its ID (the **<id>** tag) or name (the **<name>** tag).

If you are not sure what package should be installed, Red Hat recommends you to select the Minimal Install environment. Minimal Install provides only the packages which are essential for running Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10. This will substantially reduce the chance of the system being affected by a vulnerability. If necessary, additional packages can be added later after the installation. For more details on Minimal Install, see the Installing the Minimum Amount of Packages Required section of the Security Hardening document. The Initial Setup can not run after a system is installed from a Kickstart file unless a desktop environment and the X Window System were included in the installation and graphical login was enabled.



IMPORTANT

To install a 32-bit package on a 64-bit system:

- specify the --multilib option for the %packages section
- append the package name with the 32-bit architecture for which the package was built; for example, glibc.i686

A.2.2. Package selection commands

You can use the following commands within the %packages section of a Kickstart file.

Specifying an environment

Specify an entire environment to be installed as a line starting with the @^ symbols:

```
%packages
@^Infrastructure Server
%end
```

This installs all packages which are part of the **Infrastructure Server** environment. All available environments are described in the **repository**/**repodata**/***-comps-repository**.**architecture.xml** file on the Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 Installation DVD.

Only a single environment should be specified in the Kickstart file. If more environments are specified, only the last specified environment is used.

Specifying groups

Specify groups, one entry to a line, starting with an @ symbol, and then the full group name or group id as given in the *-comps-repository.architecture.xml file. For example:

```
%packages
@X Window System
@Desktop
@Sound and Video
%end
```

The **Core** group is always selected - it is not necessary to specify it in the **%packages** section.

Specifying individual packages

Specify individual packages by name, one entry to a line. You can use the asterisk character (*) as a wildcard in package names. For example:

```
%packages
sqlite
curl
aspell
docbook*
%end
```

The **docbook*** entry includes the packages **docbook-dtds** and **docbook-style** that match the pattern represented with the wildcard.

Specifying profiles of module streams

Specify profiles for module streams, one entry to a line, using the syntax for profiles:

```
%packages
@module:stream/profile
%end
```

This installs all packages listed in the specified profile of the module stream.

• When a module has a default stream specified, you can leave it out. When the default stream is not specified, you must specify it.

- When a module stream has a default profile specified, you can leave it out. When the default profile is not specified, you must specify it.
- Installing a module multiple times with different streams is not possible.
- Installing multiple profiles of the same module and stream is possible.

Modules and groups use the same syntax starting with the @ symbol. When a module and a package group exist with the same name, the module takes precedence.

In Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10, modules are present only in the AppStream repository. To list available modules, use the **dnf module list** command on an installed Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 system.

It is also possible to enable module streams using the **module** Kickstart command and then install packages contained in the module stream by naming them directly.

Excluding environments, groups, or packages

Use a leading dash (-) to specify packages or groups to exclude from the installation. For example:

- %packages
- -@Graphical Administration Tools
- -autofs
- -ipa*compat
- %end



IMPORTANT

Installing all available packages using only * in a Kickstart file is not supported.

You can change the default behavior of the **%packages** section by using several options. Some options work for the entire package selection, others are used with only specific groups.

Additional resources

Managing Software with the DNF Tool

A.2.3. Common package selection options

You can use the following options in the **%packages** sections. To use an option, append it to the start of the package selection section. For example:

%packages --multilib --ignoremissing

--default

Install the default set of packages. This corresponds to the package set which would be installed if no other selections were made in the **Package Selection** screen during an interactive installation.

--excludedocs

Do not install any documentation contained within packages. In most cases, this excludes any files normally installed in the /usr/share/doc directory, but the specific files to be excluded depend on individual packages.

--ignoremissing

Ignore any packages, groups, module streams, module profiles, and environments missing in the installation source, instead of halting the installation to ask if the installation should be aborted or continued.

--inst-langs

Specify a list of languages to install. This is different from package group level selections. This option does not describe which package groups should be installed; instead, it sets RPM macros controlling which translation files from individual packages should be installed.

--multilib

Configure the installed system for multilib packages, to allow installing 32-bit packages on a 64-bit system, and install packages specified in this section as such.

Normally, on an AMD64 and Intel 64 system, you can install only the x86_64 and the noarch packages. However, with the --multilib option, you can automatically install the 32-bit AMD and the i686 Intel system packages available, if any.

This only applies to packages explicitly specified in the **%packages** section. Packages which are only being installed as dependencies without being specified in the Kickstart file are only installed in architecture versions in which they are needed, even if they are available for more architectures.

You can configure Anaconda to install packages in **multilib** mode during the installation of the system. Use one of the following options to enable **multilib** mode:

1. Configure Kickstart file with the following lines:

```
%packages --multilib --default
%end
```

2. Add the inst.multilib boot option during booting the installation image.

--nocore

Disables installation of the **@Core** package group which is otherwise always installed by default. Disabling the **@Core** package group with **--nocore** should be only used for creating lightweight containers; installing a desktop or server system with **--nocore** will result in an unusable system.



NOTES

- Using -@Core to exclude packages in the @Core package group does not work. The only way to exclude the @Core package group is with the --nocore option.
- The @Core package group is defined as a minimal set of packages needed for installing a working system. It is not related in any way to core packages as defined in the Package Manifest and Scope of Coverage Details.

--exclude-weakdeps

Disables installation of packages from weak dependencies. These are packages linked to the selected package set by Recommends and Supplements flags. By default weak dependencies will be installed.

--retries=

Sets the number of times {PackageManagerName} will attempt to download packages (retries). The default value is 10. This option only applies during the installation, and will not affect {PackageManagerName} configuration on the installed system.

--timeout=

Sets the {PackageManagerName} timeout in seconds. The default value is 30. This option only applies during the installation, and will not affect {PackageManagerName} configuration on the installed system.

A.2.4. Options for specific package groups

The options in this list only apply to a single package group. Instead of using them at the **%packages** command in the Kickstart file, append them to the group name. For example:

%packages @Graphical Administration Tools --optional %end

--nodefaults

Only install the group's mandatory packages, not the default selections.

--optional

Install packages marked as optional in the group definition in the *comps-repository.architecture.xml file, in addition to installing the default selections.

Some package groups, such as Scientific Support, do not have any mandatory or default packages specified - only optional packages. In this case the --optional option must always be used, otherwise no packages from this group will be installed.



IMPORTANT

The **--nodefaults** and **--optional** options cannot be used together. You can install only mandatory packages during the installation using **--nodefaults** and install the optional packages on the installed system post installation.

A.2.5. Installing Kernel-64k on ARM using Kickstart

RHEL offers the ARM64 hardware architecture to support workloads that require large physical memory configuration for optimal performance. Such large memory configuration requires the use of a large MMU page size (64k).

While installing RHEL, you can select the **kernel-64k** package to install with a kernel supporting 64k page size.

Procedure

• In the **%packages** section of the kickstart file, add the following list of packages:

%packages kernel-64k -kmod-kvdo -vdo -kernel %end

Verification

• To verify the page size, after installation is completed and the system is rebooted, open the terminal and run:

```
$ getconf PAGESIZE 65536
```

The output 65536 indicates that the 64k kernel is in use.

• To verify that the swap partition is enabled, enter:

```
$ free total used free shared buff/cache available

Mem: 35756352 3677184 34774848 25792 237120 32079168

Swap: 6504384 0 6504384
```

The total and free columns are non-zero, which indicates the swap is enabled successfully.

A.3. SCRIPTS IN KICKSTART FILE

A kickstart file can include the following scripts:

- %pre
- %pre-install
- %post

This section provides the following details about the scripts:

- Execution time
- Types of commands that can be included in the script
- Purpose of the script
- Script options

A.3.1. %pre script

The **%pre** scripts are run on the system immediately after the Kickstart file has been loaded, but before it is completely parsed and installation begins. Each of these sections must start with **%pre** and end with **%end**.

The **%pre** script can be used for activation and configuration of networking and storage devices. It is also possible to run scripts by using interpreters available in the installation environment. Adding a **%pre** script can be useful if you have networking and storage that needs special configuration before proceeding with the installation, or have a script that, for example, sets up additional logging parameters or environment variables.

Debugging problems with **%pre** scripts can be difficult, so it is recommended only to use a **%pre** script when necessary.



IMPORTANT

The **%pre** section of Kickstart is executed at the stage of installation which happens after the installer image (**inst.stage2**) is fetched: it means **after** root switches to the installer environment (the installer image) and **after** the **Anaconda** installer itself starts. Then the configuration in **%pre** is applied and can be used to fetch packages from installation repositories configured, for example, by URL in Kickstart. However, it **cannot** be used to configure the network to fetch the image (**inst.stage2**) from the network.

Commands related to networking, storage, and file systems are available to use in the **%pre** script, in addition to most of the utilities in the installation environment /**sbin** and /**bin** directories.

You can access the network in the **%pre** section. However, the name service has not been configured at this point, so only IP addresses work, not URLs.



NOTE

The pre script does not run in the chroot environment.

A.3.1.1. %pre script section options

The following options can be used to change the behavior of pre-installation scripts. To use an option, append it to the **%pre** line at the beginning of the script. For example:

%pre --interpreter=/usr/libexec/platform-python -- Python script omitted --

%end

--interpreter=

Allows you to specify a different scripting language, such as Python. Any scripting language available on the system can be used; in most cases, these are /usr/bin/sh, /usr/bin/bash, and /usr/libexec/platform-python.

Note that the **platform-python** interpreter uses Python version 3.6. You must change your Python scripts from previous RHEL versions for the new path and version. Additionally, **platform-python** is meant for system tools: Use the **python36** package outside the installation environment. For more details about Python in Red Hat Enterprise Linux, see Introduction to Python

--erroronfail

Displays an error and halts the installation if the script fails. The error message will direct you to where the cause of the failure is logged. The installed system might get into an unstable and unbootable state. You can use the **inst.nokill** option to debug the script.

--log=

Logs the script's output into the specified log file. For example:

%pre --log=/tmp/ks-pre.log

A.3.2. %pre-install script

The commands in the **pre-install** script are run after the following tasks are complete:

System is partitioned

- Filesystems are created and mounted under /mnt/sysroot
- Network has been configured according to any boot options and kickstart commands

Each of the %pre-install sections must start with %pre-install and end with %end.

The **%pre-install** scripts can be used to modify the installation, and to add users and groups with guaranteed IDs before package installation.

It is recommended to use the **%post** scripts for any modifications required in the installation. Use the **%pre-install** script only if the **%post** script falls short for the required modifications.

The **pre-install** script does not run in the chroot environment.

A.3.2.1. %pre-install script section options

The following options can be used to change the behavior of **pre-install** scripts. To use an option, append it to the **%pre-install** line at the beginning of the script. For example:

```
%pre-install --interpreter=/usr/libexec/platform-python -- Python script omitted -- %end
```

You can have multiple **%pre-install** sections, with same or different interpreters. They are evaluated in their order of appearance in the Kickstart file.

--interpreter=

Allows you to specify a different scripting language, such as Python. Any scripting language available on the system can be used; in most cases, these are /usr/bin/sh, /usr/bin/bash, and /usr/libexec/platform-python.

The **platform-python** interpreter uses Python version 3.6. You must change your Python scripts from previous RHEL versions for the new path and version. Additionally, **platform-python** is meant for system tools: Use the **python36** package outside the installation environment. For more details about Python in Red Hat Enterprise Linux, see Introduction to Python.

--erroronfail

Displays an error and halts the installation if the script fails. The error message will direct you to where the cause of the failure is logged. The installed system might get into an unstable and unbootable state. You can use the **inst.nokill** option to debug the script.

--log=

Logs the script's output into the specified log file. For example:

%pre-install --log=/mnt/sysroot/root/ks-pre.log

A.3.3. %post script

The %post script is a post-installation script that is run after the installation is complete, but before the system is rebooted for the first time. You can use this section to run tasks such as system subscription.

You have the option of adding commands to run on the system once the installation is complete, but before the system is rebooted for the first time. This section must start with **%post** and end with **%end**.

The **%post** section is useful for functions such as installing additional software or configuring an additional name server. The post-install script is run in a **chroot** environment, therefore, performing tasks such as copying scripts or RPM packages from the installation media do not work by default. You can change this behavior by using the **--nochroot** option as described below. Then the **%post** script will run in the installation environment, not in **chroot** on the installed target system.

Because the post-install script runs in a **chroot** environment, most **systemctl** commands will refuse to perform any action.

During execution of the **%post** section, the installation media must be still inserted.

A.3.3.1. %post script section options

The following options can be used to change the behavior of post-installation scripts. To use an option, append it to the **%post** line at the beginning of the script. For example:

%post --interpreter=/usr/libexec/platform-python -- Python script omitted -- %end

--interpreter=

Allows you to specify a different scripting language, such as Python. For example:

%post --interpreter=/usr/libexec/platform-python

Any scripting language available on the system can be used; in most cases, these are /usr/bin/sh, /usr/bin/bash, and /usr/libexec/platform-python.

The **platform-python** interpreter uses Python version 3.6. You must change your Python scripts from previous RHEL versions for the new path and version. Additionally, **platform-python** is meant for system tools: Use the **python36** package outside the installation environment. For more details about Python in Red Hat Enterprise Linux, see Introduction to Python in Installing and using dynamic programming languages.

--nochroot

Allows you to specify commands that you would like to run outside of the chroot environment. The following example copies the file /etc/resolv.conf to the file system that was just installed.

%post --nochroot cp /etc/resolv.conf /mnt/sysroot/etc/resolv.conf %end

--erroronfail

Displays an error and halts the installation if the script fails. The error message will direct you to where the cause of the failure is logged. The installed system might get into an unstable and unbootable state. You can use the **inst.nokill** option to debug the script.

--log=

Logs the script's output into the specified log file. The path of the log file must take into account whether or not you use the **--nochroot** option. For example, without **--nochroot**:

%post --log=/root/ks-post.log

and with --nochroot:

%post --nochroot --log=/mnt/sysroot/root/ks-post.log

A.3.3.2. Example: Mounting NFS in a post-install script

This example of a **%post** section mounts an NFS share and executes a script named **runme** located at /usr/new-machines/ on the share. The NFS file locking is not supported while in Kickstart mode, therefore the **-o nolock** option is required.

Start of the %post section with logging into /root/ks-post.log %post --log=/root/ks-post.log

Mount an NFS share mkdir /mnt/temp mount -o nolock 10.10.0.2:/usr/new-machines /mnt/temp openvt -s -w -- /mnt/temp/runme umount /mnt/temp

End of the %post section %end

A.4. KICKSTART ERROR HANDLING SECTION

Starting with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7, Kickstart installations run custom scripts when any fatal error encounters in the installation program. Example scenarios include an error in a package that has been requested for installation or an error while scanning storage devices. In case of such events, installation aborts. To analyze these events, the installation program runs all **%onerror** scripts chronologically as provided in the Kickstart file. In the event of traceback, you can run the **%onerror** scripts.

Each **%onerror** script is required to end with **%end**.

You can enforce the error handler for any error by using **inst.cmdline** to make every error a fatal error.

Error handling sections accept the following options:

--erroronfail

Displays an error and halts the installation if the script fails. The error message will direct you to where the cause of the failure is logged. The installed system might get into an unstable and unbootable state. You can use the **inst.nokill** option to debug the script.

--interpreter=

Allows you to specify a different scripting language, such as Python. For example:

%onerror --interpreter=/usr/libexec/platform-python

Any scripting language available on the system can be used; in most cases, these are /usr/bin/sh, /usr/bin/bash, and /usr/libexec/platform-python.

The **platform-python** interpreter uses Python version 3.6. You must change your Python scripts from previous RHEL versions for the new path and version. Additionally, **platform-python** is meant for system tools: Use the **python36** package outside the installation environment. For more details about Python in Red Hat Enterprise Linux, see Introduction to Python.

--log=

Logs the script's output into the specified log file.

A.5. KICKSTART ADD-ON SECTIONS

Starting with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7, Kickstart installations support add-ons. These add-ons can expand the basic Kickstart (and Anaconda) functionality in many ways.

To use an add-on in your Kickstart file, use the **%addon** *addon_name options* command, and finish the command with an **%end** statement, similar to pre-installation and post-installation script sections. For example, if you want to use the Kdump add-on, which is distributed with Anaconda by default, use the following commands:

%addon com_redhat_kdump --enable --reserve-mb=auto %end

The **%addon** command does not include any options of its own - all options are dependent on the actual add-on.

APPENDIX B. KICKSTART COMMANDS AND OPTIONS REFERENCE

This reference is a complete list of all Kickstart commands supported by the Red Hat Enterprise Linux installation program. The commands are sorted alphabetically in a few broad categories. If a command can fall under multiple categories, it is listed in all of them.

B.1. KICKSTART CHANGES

The following sections describe the changes in Kickstart commands and options in Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10.

B.1.1. Deprecated Kickstart commands and options

The following Kickstart commands and options have been deprecated in {RHEL9}.

Where only specific options are listed, the base command and its other options are still available and not deprecated.

B.1.2. Removed Kickstart commands and options

The following Kickstart commands and options have been removed in {RHEL9}.

B.2. KICKSTART COMMANDS FOR INSTALLATION PROGRAM CONFIGURATION AND FLOW CONTROL

The Kickstart commands in this list control the mode and course of installation, and what happens at its end.

B.2.1. cdrom

The **cdrom** Kickstart command is optional. It performs the installation from the first optical drive on the system. Use this command only once.

Syntax

cdrom

Notes

- This command has no options.
- To actually run the installation, you must specify one of cdrom, harddrive, hmc, nfs, liveimg, ostreesetup, rhsm, or url unless the inst.repo option is specified on the kernel command line.

B.2.2. cmdline

The **cmdline** Kickstart command is optional. It performs the installation in a completely non-interactive command line mode. Any prompt for interaction halts the installation. Use this command only once.

Syntax

cmdline

Notes

- For a fully automatic installation, you must either specify one of the available modes (graphical, text, or cmdline) in the Kickstart file, or you must use the console= boot option. If no mode is specified, the system will use graphical mode if possible, or prompt you to choose from RDP and text mode.
- This command has no options.
- This mode is useful on 64-bit IBM Z systems with the x3270 terminal.

B.2.3. driverdisk

The **driverdisk** Kickstart command is optional. Use it to provide additional drivers to the installation program.

Driver disks can be used during Kickstart installations to provide additional drivers not included by default. You must copy the driver disks contents to the root directory of a partition on the system's disk. Then, you must use the **driverdisk** command to specify that the installation program should look for a driver disk and its location. Use this command only once.

Syntax

driverdisk [partition|--source=url|--biospart=biospart]

Options

You must specify the location of driver disk in one way out of these:

- partition Partition containing the driver disk. The partition must be specified as a full path (for example, /dev/sdb1), not just the partition name (for example, sdb1).
- --source= URL for the driver disk. Examples include:

```
driverdisk --source=ftp://path/to/dd.img
driverdisk --source=http://path/to/dd.img
driverdisk --source=nfs:host:/path/to/dd.img
```

• --biospart= - BIOS partition containing the driver disk (for example, 82p2).

Notes

Driver disks can also be loaded from a local disk or a similar device instead of being loaded over the network or from **initrd**. Follow this procedure:

- 1. Load the driver disk on a disk drive, a USB or any similar device.
- 2. Set the label, for example, DD, to this device.
- 3. Add the following line to your Kickstart file:

driverdisk LABEL=DD:/e1000.rpm

Replace *DD* with a specific label and replace *e1000.rpm* with a specific name. Use anything supported by the **inst.repo** command instead of *LABEL* to specify your disk drive.

B.2.4. eula

The **eula** Kickstart command is optional. Use this option to accept the End User License Agreement (EULA) without user interaction. Specifying this option prevents Initial Setup from prompting you to accept the license agreement after you finish the installation and reboot the system for the first time. Use this command only once.

Syntax

eula [--agreed]

Options

• **--agreed** (required) - Accepts the EULA. This option must always be used, otherwise the **eula** command is meaningless.

B.2.5. firstboot

The **firstboot** Kickstart command is optional. It determines whether the **Initial Setup** application starts the first time the system is booted. If enabled, the **initial-setup** package must be installed. If not specified, this option is disabled by default. Use this command only once.

Syntax

firstboot OPTIONS

Options

- --enable or --enabled Initial Setup is started the first time the system boots.
- --disable or --disabled Initial Setup is not started the first time the system boots.
- --reconfig Enable the Initial Setup to start at boot time in reconfiguration mode. This mode
 enables the root password, time & date, and networking & host name configuration options in
 addition to the default ones.

B.2.6. graphical

The **graphical** Kickstart command is optional. It performs the installation in graphical mode. Use this command only once.

Syntax

graphical [--non-interactive]

Options

• **--non-interactive** - Performs the installation in a completely non-interactive mode. This mode will terminate the installation when user interaction is required.

Note

For a fully automatic installation, you must either specify one of the available modes (graphical, text, or cmdline) in the Kickstart file, or you must use the console= boot option. If no mode is specified, the system will use graphical mode if possible, or prompt you to choose from RDP and text mode.

B.2.7. halt

The halt Kickstart command is optional.

Halt the system after the installation has successfully completed. This is similar to a manual installation, where Anaconda displays a message and waits for the user to press a key before rebooting. During a Kickstart installation, if no completion method is specified, this option is used as the default. Use this command only once. This command has no options.

Syntax

halt

Notes

- The **halt** command is equivalent to the **shutdown -H** command. For more details, see the *shutdown(8)* man page on your system.
- For other completion methods, see the **poweroff**, **reboot**, and **shutdown** commands.

B.2.8. harddrive

The **harddrive** Kickstart command is optional. It performs the installation from a Red Hat installation tree or full installation ISO image on a local drive. The drive must be formatted with a file system the installation program can mount: **ext2**, **ext3**, **ext4**, **vfat**, or **xfs**. Use this command only once.

Syntax

harddrive OPTIONS

Options

- --partition= Partition to install from (such as sdb2).
- --dir= Directory containing the variant directory of the installation tree, or the ISO image of the full installation DVD.

Example

harddrive --partition=hdb2 --dir=/tmp/install-tree

Notes

Previously, the harddrive command had to be used together with the install command. The
install command has been deprecated and harddrive can be used on its own, because it implies
install.

 To actually run the installation, you must specify one of cdrom, harddrive, hmc, nfs, liveimg, ostreesetup, rhsm, or url unless the inst.repo option is specified on the kernel command line.

B.2.9. liveimg

The **liveimg** Kickstart command is optional. It performs the installation from a disk image instead of packages. Use this command only once.

Syntax

liveimg --url=SOURCE [OPTIONS]

Mandatory options

• --url= - The location to install from. Supported protocols are HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, and file.

Optional options

- --url= The location to install from. Supported protocols are HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, and file.
- --proxy= Specify an HTTP, HTTPS or FTP proxy to use while performing the installation.
- --checksum= An optional argument with the **SHA256** checksum of the image file, used for verification.
- --noverifyssl Disable SSL verification when connecting to an HTTPS server.

Example

liveimg --url=file:///images/install/squashfs.img --checksum=03825f567f17705100de3308a20354b4d81ac9d8bed4bb4692b2381045e56197 --noverifyssl

Notes

- The image can be the squashfs.img file from a live ISO image, a compressed tar file (.tar, .tbz, .tgz, .txz, .tar.bz2, .tar.gz, or .tar.xz.), or any file system that the installation media can mount.
 Supported file systems are ext2, ext3, ext4, vfat, and xfs.
- When using the **liveimg** installation mode with a driver disk, drivers on the disk will not
 automatically be included in the installed system. If necessary, these drivers should be installed
 manually, or in the **%post** section of a kickstart script.
- To actually run the installation, you must specify one of cdrom, harddrive, hmc, nfs, liveimg, ostreesetup, rhsm, or url unless the inst.repo option is specified on the kernel command line.

B.2.10. logging

The **logging** Kickstart command is optional. It controls the error logging of Anaconda during installation. It has no effect on the installed system. Use this command only once.

Logging is supported over TCP only. For remote logging, ensure that the port number that you specify in **--port=** option is open on the remote server. The default port is 514.

Syntax

logging OPTIONS

Optional options

- **--host=** Send logging information to the given remote host, which must be running a syslogd process configured to accept remote logging.
- **--port=** If the remote syslog process uses a port other than the default port, set it by using this option.

B.2.11. mediacheck

The **mediacheck** Kickstart command is optional. This command forces the installation program to perform a media check before starting the installation. This command requires that installations be attended, so it is disabled by default. Use this command only once. This command has no options.

Syntax

mediacheck

Note

This Kickstart command is equivalent to the rd.live.check boot option.

B.2.12. nfs

The **nfs** Kickstart command is optional. It performs the installation from a specified NFS server. Use this command only once.

Syntax

nfs OPTIONS

Options

- --server= Server from which to install (host name or IP).
- --dir= Directory containing the *variant* directory of the installation tree.
- --opts= Mount options to use for mounting the NFS export. (optional)

Example

nfs --server=nfsserver.example.com --dir=/tmp/install-tree

Note

 To actually run the installation, you must specify one of cdrom, harddrive, hmc, nfs, liveimg, ostreesetup, rhsm, or url unless the inst.repo option is specified on the kernel command line.

B.2.13. ostreesetup

The **ostreesetup** Kickstart command is optional. It is used to set up OStree-based installations. Use this command only once.

Syntax

ostreesetup --osname=OSNAME [--remote=REMOTE] --url=URL --ref=REF [--nogpg]

Mandatory options:

- --osname=OSNAME Management root for OS installation.
- --url=URL URL of the repository to install from.
- --ref=REF Name of the branch from the repository to be used for installation.

Optional options:

- --remote=REMOTE A remote repository location.
- --nogpg Disable GPG key verification.

For more information about the OStree tools, see the upstream documentation: https://ostreedev.github.io/ostree/

B.2.14. ostreecontainer

The **ostreecontainer** Kickstart command is optional. Use this command for OSTree installations from your custom containers.



IMPORTANT

The **ostreecontainer** is provided as a Technology Preview only. Technology Preview features are not supported with Red Hat production Service Level Agreements (SLAs), might not be functionally complete, and Red Hat does not recommend using them for production. These previews provide early access to upcoming product features, enabling customers to test functionality and provide feedback during the development process.

See Technology Preview Features Support Scope on the Red Hat Customer Portal for information about the support scope for Technology Preview features.

Syntax

ostreecontainer [--stateroot STATEROOT] --url URL [--transport TRANSPORT] [--remote REMOTE] [--no-signature-verification]

Note: The **ostreecontainer** option cannot be used with the **ostreesetup** command.

Options:

- --no-signature-verification: Use this option to disable verification by using an ostree remote.
- --stateroot: Name of the state directory, also known as "osname". Default value is default.

- --url: Name of the container image for the registry transport. For example, quay.io/exampleos/foo:latest.
- --transport: The transport, for example, registry or oci. The default value is registry.
- **--remote**: Name of the OSTree remote used for GPG signature verification. Generally not needed, and does not work with layered images.

When performing Kickstart installations, the following commands are available together with **ostreecontainer**:

- graphical, text, or cmdline
- clearpart and zerombr
- autopart
- part
- logvol and volgroup
- reboot and shutdown
- lang
- rootpw
- sshkey
- **bootloader** (available only with the **--append** optional parameter)
- user

When you specify a group within the user command, the user account can be assigned only to a group that already exists in the container image. Kickstart commands not listed here are allowed to be used with the **ostreecontainer** command, however, they are not guaranteed to work as expected with package-based installations.

The following Kickstart commands are unsupported together with **ostreecontainer**:

- **%packages** (any necessary packages must be already available in the container image)
- **url** (if there is a need to fetch a **stage2** image for installation, for example, PXE installations, use **inst.stage2**= on the kernel instead of providing a url for **stage2** inside the Kickstart file)
- liveimg
- **authconfig** and **authselect** (provide relevant configuration in the container image instead)
- module
- repo
- zipl
- zfcp

B.2.15. poweroff

The **poweroff** Kickstart command is optional. It shuts down and powers off the system after the installation has successfully completed. Normally during a manual installation, Anaconda displays a message and waits for the user to press a key before rebooting. Use this command only once. This command has no options.

Syntax

poweroff

Notes

- The **poweroff** option is equivalent to the **shutdown -P** command. For more details, see the *shutdown(8)* man page on your system.
- For other completion methods, see the **halt**, **reboot**, and **shutdown** Kickstart commands. The **halt** option is the default completion method if no other methods are explicitly specified in the Kickstart file.
- The poweroff command is highly dependent on the system hardware in use. Specifically, certain
 hardware components such as the BIOS, APM (advanced power management), and ACPI
 (advanced configuration and power interface) must be able to interact with the system kernel.
 Consult your hardware documentation for more information about your system's APM/ACPI
 abilities.

B.2.16, reboot

The **reboot** Kickstart command is optional. It instructs the installation program to reboot after the installation is successfully completed (no arguments). Normally, Kickstart displays a message and waits for the user to press a key before rebooting. Use this command only once.

Syntax

reboot OPTIONS

Options

- --eject Attempt to eject the bootable media (DVD, USB, or other media) before rebooting.
- --kexec Uses the kexec system call instead of performing a full reboot, which immediately loads the installed system into memory, bypassing the hardware initialization normally performed by the BIOS or firmware.



IMPORTANT

This option is deprecated and available as a Technology Preview only. For information about Red Hat scope of support for Technology Preview features, see the Technology Preview Features Support Scope document.

When **kexec** is used, device registers (which would normally be cleared during a full system reboot) might stay filled with data, which could potentially create issues for some device drivers.

Notes

- Use of the **reboot** option *might* result in an endless installation loop, depending on the installation media and method.
- The **reboot** option is equivalent to the **shutdown -r** command. For more details, see the *shutdown(8)* man page on your system.
- Specify **reboot** to automate installation fully when installing in command line mode on 64-bit IBM Z.
- For other completion methods, see the halt, poweroff, and shutdown Kickstart options. The
 halt option is the default completion method if no other methods are explicitly specified in the
 Kickstart file.

B.2.17, rhsm

The **rhsm** Kickstart command is optional. It instructs the installation program to register and install RHEL from the CDN. Use this command only once.

The **rhsm** Kickstart command eliminates the requirement of custom **%post** scripts when registering the system.

Options

- --organization= Uses the organization id to register and install RHEL from the CDN.
- **--activation-key=** Uses the activation key to register and install RHEL from the CDN. Option can be used multiple times, once per activation key, as long as the activation keys used are registered to your subscription.
- --connect-to-insights Connects the target system to Red Hat Insights.
- --proxy= Sets the HTTP proxy.



IMPORTANT

- To switch the installation source repository to the CDN by using the rhsm Kickstart command, you must meet the following conditions:
 - On the kernel command line, you have used inst.stage2=<URL> to fetch the
 installation image but have not specified an installation source using
 inst.repo=.
 - In the Kickstart file, you have not specified an installation source by using the **url**, **cdrom**, **harddrive**, **liveimg**, **nfs** and **ostree** setup commands.
- An installation source URL specified using a boot option or included in a Kickstart file takes precedence over the CDN, even if the Kickstart file contains the **rhsm** command with valid credentials. The system is registered, but it is installed from the URL installation source. This ensures that earlier installation processes operate as normal.

B.2.18. shutdown

The **shutdown** Kickstart command is optional. It shuts down the system after the installation has successfully completed. Use this command only once. This command has no options.

Syntax

shutdown

Notes

- The **shutdown** Kickstart option is equivalent to the **shutdown** command. For more details, see the *shutdown(8)* man page on your system.
- For other completion methods, see the halt, poweroff, and reboot Kickstart options. The halt
 option is the default completion method if no other methods are explicitly specified in the
 Kickstart file.

B.2.19. sshpw

The **sshpw** Kickstart command is optional.

During the installation, you can interact with the installation program and monitor its progress over an **SSH** connection. Use the **sshpw** command to create temporary accounts through which to log on. Each instance of the command creates a separate account that exists only in the installation environment. These accounts are not transferred to the installed system.

Syntax

sshpw --username=name[OPTIONS] password

Mandatory options

- **--username**=*name* Provides the name of the user. This option is required.
- password The password to use for the user. This option is required.

Optional options

• **--iscrypted** - If this option is present, the password argument is assumed to already be encrypted. This option is mutually exclusive with **--plaintext**. To create an encrypted password, you can use Python:

\$ python3 -c 'import crypt,getpass;pw=getpass.getpass();print(crypt.crypt(pw) if (pw==getpass.getpass("Confirm: ")) else exit())'

This generates a sha512 crypt-compatible hash of your password by using a random salt.

- **--plaintext** If this option is present, the password argument is assumed to be in plain text. This option is mutually exclusive with **--iscrypted**
- **--lock** If this option is present, this account is locked by default. This means that the user will not be able to log in from the console.
- -sshkey If this option is present, then the <password> string is interpreted as an ssh key value.

Notes

- By default, the **ssh** server is not started during the installation. To make **ssh** available during the installation, boot the system with the kernel boot option **inst.sshd**.
- If you want to disable root **ssh** access, while allowing another user **ssh** access, use the following:

sshpw --username=*example_username example_password* --plaintext sshpw --username=root *example_password* --lock

• To simply disable root **ssh** access, use the following:

sshpw --username=root example_password --lock

B.2.20. text

The **text** Kickstart command is optional. It performs the Kickstart installation in text mode. Kickstart installations are performed in graphical mode by default. Use this command only once.

Syntax

text [--non-interactive]

Options

• **--non-interactive** - Performs the installation in a completely non-interactive mode. This mode will terminate the installation when user interaction is required.

Note

For a fully automatic installation, you must either specify one of the available modes (graphical, text, or cmdline) in the Kickstart file, or you must use the console= boot option. If no mode is specified, the system will use graphical mode if possible, or prompt you to choose from RDP and text mode.

B.2.21. url

The **url** Kickstart command is optional. It is used to install from an installation tree image on a remote server by using the FTP, HTTP, or HTTPS protocol. You can only specify one URL. Use this command only once.

You must specify one of the **--url**, **--metalink** or **--mirrorlist** options.

Syntax

url --url=*FROM* [*OPTIONS*]

Options

- --url=FROM Specifies the HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, or file location to install from.
- --mirrorlist= Specifies the mirror URL to install from.

- --proxy= Specifies an HTTP, HTTPS, or FTP proxy to use during the installation.
- --noverifyssl Disables SSL verification when connecting to an HTTPS server.
- --metalink=URL Specifies the metalink URL to install from. Variable substitution is done for \$releasever and \$basearch in the URL.

Examples

- To install from a HTTP server:
 - url --url=http://server/path
- To install from a FTP server:
 - url --url=ftp://username:password@server/path

Note

 To actually run the installation, you must specify one of cdrom, harddrive, hmc, nfs, liveimg, ostreesetup, rhsm, or url unless the inst.repo option is specified on the kernel command line.

B.2.22. hmc

The hmc kickstart command is optional. Use it to install from an installation medium by using SE/HMC on IBM Z. This command does not have any options.

Syntax

hmc

B.2.23. %include

The %include Kickstart command is optional.

Use the **%include** command to include the contents of another file in the Kickstart file as if the contents were at the location of the **%include** command in the Kickstart file.

This inclusion is evaluated only after the **%pre** script sections and can thus be used to include files generated by scripts in the **%pre** sections. To include files before evaluation of **%pre** sections, use the **%ksappend** command.

Syntax

%include path/to/file

B.2.24. %ksappend

The %ksappend Kickstart command is optional.

Use the **%ksappend** command to include the contents of another file in the Kickstart file as if the contents were at the location of the **%ksappend** command in the Kickstart file.

This inclusion is evaluated before the **%pre** script sections, unlike inclusion with the **%include** command.

Syntax

%ksappend path/to/file

B.3. KICKSTART COMMANDS FOR SYSTEM CONFIGURATION

The Kickstart commands in this list configure further details on the resulting system such as users, repositories, or services.

B.3.1. authselect

The **authselect** Kickstart command is optional. It sets up the authentication options for the system using the **authselect** command, which can also be run on the command line after the installation finishes. Use this command only once.

Syntax

authselect [OPTIONS]

Notes

- This command passes all options to the **authselect** command. Refer to the *authselect(8)* manual page and the **authselect --help** command for more details.
- Passwords are shadowed by default.
- When using OpenLDAP with the SSL protocol for security, ensure that the SSLv2 and SSLv3 protocols are disabled in the server configuration. This is due to the POODLE SSL vulnerability (CVE-2014-3566). For more information, see the Red Hat Knowledgebase solution Resolution for POODLE SSLv3.0 vulnerability.

B.3.2. firewall

The **firewall** Kickstart command is optional. It specifies the firewall configuration for the installed system.

Syntax

firewall --enabled|--disabled [incoming] [OPTIONS]

Mandatory options

- **--enabled** or **--enable** Reject incoming connections that are not in response to outbound requests, such as DNS replies or DHCP requests. If access to services running on this machine is needed, you can choose to allow specific services through the firewall.
- --disabled or --disable Do not configure any iptables rules.

Optional options

- --trust Listing a device here, such as em1, allows all traffic coming to and from that device to go through the firewall. To list more than one device, use the option more times, such as --trust em1 --trust em2. Do not use a comma-separated format such as --trust em1, em2.
- --remove-service Do not allow services through the firewall.
- *incoming* Replace with one or more of the following to allow the specified services through the firewall.
 - o --ssh
 - o --smtp
 - --http
 - o --ftp
- --port= You can specify that ports be allowed through the firewall using the port:protocol format. For example, to allow IMAP access through your firewall, specify imap:tcp. Numeric ports can also be specified explicitly; for example, to allow UDP packets on port 1234 through, specify 1234:udp. To specify multiple ports, separate them by commas.
- --service= This option provides a higher-level way to allow services through the firewall. Some services (like cups, avahi, and so on.) require multiple ports to be open or other special configuration in order for the service to work. You can specify each individual port with the --port option, or specify --service= and open them all at once.
 Valid options are anything recognized by the firewall-offline-cmd program in the firewalld package. If the firewalld service is running, firewall-cmd --get-services provides a list of known service names.
- **--use-system-defaults** Do not configure the firewall at all. This option instructs anaconda to do nothing and allows the system to rely on the defaults that were provided with the package or ostree. If this option is used with other options then all other options will be ignored.

B.3.3. group

The group Kickstart command is optional. It creates a new user group on the system.

group --name=name [--gid=gid]

Mandatory options

• --name= - Provides the name of the group.

Optional options

• --gid= - The group's GID. If not provided, defaults to the next available non-system GID.

Notes

- If a group with the given name or GID already exists, this command fails.
- The **user** command can be used to create a new group for the newly created user.

B.3.4. keyboard

The **keyboard** Kickstart command is required. It sets one or more available keyboard layouts for the system. Use this command only once.

Syntax

keyboard --vckeymap|--xlayouts OPTIONS

Options

- --vckeymap= Specify a VConsole keymap which should be used. Valid names correspond to the list of files in the /usr/lib/kbd/keymaps/xkb/ directory, without the .map.gz extension.
- --xlayouts= Specify a list of X layouts that should be used as a comma-separated list without spaces. Accepts values in the same format as setxkbmap(1), either in the layout format (such as cz), or in the layout (variant) format (such as cz (qwerty)).
 All available layouts can be viewed on the xkeyboard-config(7) man page under Layouts.
- --switch= Specify a list of layout-switching options (shortcuts for switching between multiple keyboard layouts). Multiple options must be separated by commas without spaces. Accepts values in the same format as setxkbmap(1).
 Available switching options can be viewed on the xkeyboard-config(7) man page under Options.

Example

The following example sets up two keyboard layouts (**English (US)** and **Czech (qwerty)**) using the **-- xlayouts=** option, and allows to switch between them using **Alt+Shift**:

keyboard --xlayouts=us,'cz (qwerty)' --switch=grp:alt_shift_toggle

Note

• Either the --vckeymap= or the --xlayouts= option must be used.

B.3.5. lang

The **lang** Kickstart command is required. It sets the language to use during installation and the default language to use on the installed system. Use this command only once.

Syntax

lang language [--addsupport=language,...]

Mandatory options

• language - Install support for this language and set it as system default.

Optional options

• **--addsupport=** - Add support for additional languages. Takes the form of comma-separated list without spaces. For example:

lang en_US --addsupport=cs_CZ,de_DE,en_UK

Notes

- The locale -a | grep _ or localectl list-locales | grep _ commands return a list of supported locales.
- Certain languages (for example, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Indic languages) are not supported during text-mode installation. If you specify one of these languages with the lang command, the installation process continues in English, but the installed system uses your selection as its default language.

Example

To set the language to English, the Kickstart file should contain the following line:

lang en_US

B.3.6. module

The **module** Kickstart command is optional. Use this command to enable a package module stream within the kickstart script.

Syntax

module --name=NAME [--stream=STREAM]

Mandatory options

--name=

Specifies the name of the module to enable. Replace NAME with the actual name.

Optional options

--stream=

Specifies the name of the module stream to enable. Replace STREAM with the actual name.

You do not need to specify this option for modules with a default stream defined. For modules without a default stream, this option is mandatory and leaving it out results in an error. Enabling a module multiple times with different streams is not possible.

Notes

- Using a combination of this command and the %packages section allows you to install
 packages provided by the enabled module and stream combination, without specifying the
 module and stream explicitly. Modules must be enabled before package installation. After
 enabling a module with the module command, you can install the packages enabled by this
 module by listing them in the %packages section.
- A single module command can enable only a single module and stream combination. To enable
 multiple modules, use multiple module commands. Enabling a module multiple times with
 different streams is not possible.
- In Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10, modules are present only in the AppStream repository. To list
 available modules, use the **dnf module list** command on an installed Red Hat Enterprise Linux
 Red Hat Enterprise Linux system with a valid subscription.

Additional resources

Managing Software with the DNF Tool

B.3.7. repo

The **repo** Kickstart command is optional. It configures additional dnf repositories that can be used as sources for package installation. You can add multiple **repo** lines.

Syntax

repo --name=repoid [--baseurl=url|--mirrorlist=url|--metalink=url] [OPTIONS]

Mandatory options

• **--name=** - The repository id. This option is required. If a repository has a name which conflicts with another previously added repository, it is ignored. Because the installation program uses a list of preset repositories, this means that you cannot add repositories with the same names as the preset ones.

URL options

These options are mutually exclusive and optional. The variables that can be used in dnf repository configuration files are not supported here. You can use the strings **\$releasever** and **\$basearch** which are replaced by the respective values in the URL.

- --baseurl= The URL to the repository.
- --mirrorlist= The URL pointing at a list of mirrors for the repository.
- --metalink= The URL with metalink for the repository.

Optional options

- **--install** Save the provided repository configuration on the installed system in the /etc/yum.repos.d/ directory. Without using this option, a repository configured in a Kickstart file will only be available during the installation process, not on the installed system.
- **--cost=** An integer value to assign a cost to this repository. If multiple repositories provide the same packages, this number is used to prioritize which repository will be used before another. Repositories with a lower cost take priority over repositories with higher cost.
- **--excludepkgs=** A comma-separated list of package names that must *not* be pulled from this repository. This is useful if multiple repositories provide the same package and you want to make sure it comes from a particular repository. Both full package names (such as **publican**) and globs (such as **gnome-***) are accepted.
- --includepkgs= A comma-separated list of package names and globs that are allowed to be
 pulled from this repository. Any other packages provided by the repository will be ignored. This
 is useful if you want to install just a single package or set of packages from a repository while
 excluding all other packages the repository provides.
- --proxy=[protocol://][username[:password]@]host[:port] Specify an HTTP/HTTPS/FTP proxy to use just for this repository. This setting does not affect any other repositories, nor how the install.img is fetched on HTTP installations.

--noverifyssl - Disable SSL verification when connecting to an HTTPS server.

Note

 Repositories used for installation must be stable. The installation can fail if a repository is modified before the installation concludes.

B.3.8. rootpw

The **rootpw** Kickstart command is required. It sets the system's root password to the *password* argument. Use this command only once.

Syntax

rootpw [--iscrypted|--plaintext] [--lock] password

Mandatory options

password - Password specification. Either plain text or encrypted string. See --iscrypted and -plaintext below.

Options

• **--iscrypted** - If this option is present, the password argument is assumed to already be encrypted. This option is mutually exclusive with **--plaintext**. To create an encrypted password, you can use python:

\$ python -c 'import crypt,getpass;pw=getpass.getpass();print(crypt.crypt(pw) if (pw==getpass.getpass("Confirm: ")) else exit())'

This generates a sha512 crypt-compatible hash of your password by using a random salt.

- **--plaintext** If this option is present, the password argument is assumed to be in plain text. This option is mutually exclusive with **--iscrypted**.
- **--lock** If this option is present, the root account is locked by default. This means that the root user will not be able to log in from the console. This option will also disable the **Root Password** screens in both the graphical and text-based manual installation.
- **--allow-ssh** If this option is present, the root user can login to the system by using SSH with a password. This option is available in RHEL 9.1 and later only.

Add the following line to the kickstart file during the kickstart installation method to enable **password-based SSH root logins**. The option **--allow-ssh** is not available in RHEL 9.0.

%post echo "PermitRootLogin yes" > /etc/ssh/sshd_config.d/01-permitrootlogin.conf %end

B.3.9. selinux

The **selinux** Kickstart command is optional. It sets the state of SELinux on the installed system. The default SELinux policy is **enforcing**. Use this command only once.

Syntax

selinux [--disabled|--enforcing|--permissive]

Options

--enforcing

Enables SELinux with the default targeted policy being **enforcing**.

--permissive

Outputs warnings based on the SELinux policy, but does not actually enforce the policy.

--disabled

Disables SELinux completely on the system.

Additional resources

Using SElinux

B.3.10. services

The **services** Kickstart command is optional. It modifies the default set of services that will run under the default systemd target. The list of disabled services is processed before the list of enabled services. Therefore, if a service appears on both lists, it will be enabled.

Syntax

services [--disabled=list] [--enabled=list]

Options

- --disabled= Disable the services given in the comma separated list.
- --enabled= Enable the services given in the comma separated list.

Notes

- When using the services element to enable systemd services, ensure you include packages containing the specified service file in the *packages* section.
- Multiple services should be included separated by comma, without any spaces. For example, to disable four services, enter:

services --disabled=auditd,cups,smartd,nfslock

If you include any spaces, Kickstart enables or disables only the services up to the first space. For example:

services --disabled=auditd, cups, smartd, nfslock

That disables only the **auditd** service. To disable all four services, this entry must include no spaces.

B.3.11. skipx

The **skipx** Kickstart command is optional. If present, X is not configured on the installed system.

If you install a display manager among your package selection options, this package creates an X configuration, and the installed system defaults to **graphical.target**. That overrides the effect of the **skipx** option. Use this command only once. This command has no options.

Syntax



B.3.12. sshkey

The **sshkey** Kickstart command is optional. It adds a SSH key to the **authorized_keys** file of the specified user on the installed system.

Syntax

sshkey --username=*user "ssh_key"*

Mandatory options

- --username= The user for which the key will be installed.
- ssh_key The complete SSH key fingerprint. It must be wrapped with quotes.

B.3.13. syspurpose

The **syspurpose** Kickstart command is optional. Use it to set the system purpose which describes how the system will be used after installation. This information helps apply the correct subscription entitlement to the system. Use this command only once.



NOTE

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.0 and later enables you to manage and display system purpose attributes with a single module by making the **role**, **service-level**, **usage**, and **addons** subcommands available under one **subscription-manager syspurpose** module. Previously, system administrators used one of four standalone **syspurpose** commands to manage each attribute. This standalone **syspurpose** command is deprecated starting with RHEL 9.0 and is planned to be removed in post RHEL 9. Red Hat will provide bug fixes and support for this feature during the current release lifecycle, but this feature will no longer receive enhancements. Starting with RHEL 9, the single **subscription-manager syspurpose** command and its associated subcommands is the only way to use system purpose.

Syntax

syspurpose [OPTIONS]

Options

- --role= Set the intended system role. Available values are:
 - Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server
 - Red Hat Enterprise Linux Workstation
 - Red Hat Enterprise Linux Compute Node
- --sla= Set the Service Level Agreement. Available values are:
 - Premium
 - Standard
 - Self-Support
- --usage= The intended usage of the system. Available values are:
 - Production
 - Disaster Recovery
 - Development/Test
- --addon= Specifies additional layered products or features. You can use this option multiple times.

Notes

- Enter the values with spaces and enclose them in double quotes:
 - syspurpose --role="Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server"
- While it is strongly recommended that you configure System Purpose, it is an optional feature of the Red Hat Enterprise Linux installation program.

B.3.14. timezone

The **timezone** Kickstart command is required. It sets the system time zone. Use this command only once.

Syntax

timezone timezone [OPTIONS]

Mandatory options

• timezone - the time zone to set for the system.

Optional options

- --utc If present, the system assumes the hardware clock is set to UTC (Greenwich Mean) time.
- **--ntp-server** Specifies the NTP server for network time synchronization during installation.

Note

In Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10, time zone names are validated using the **pytz.all_timezones** list, provided by the **pytz** package. In previous releases, the names were validated against **pytz.common_timezones**, which is a subset of the currently used list. Note that the graphical and text mode interfaces still use the more restricted **pytz.common_timezones** list; you must use a Kickstart file to use additional time zone definitions.

B.3.15. timesource

The **timesource** kickstart command is optional. Use it to set NTP, NTS servers, and pools that provide time data, as well as control whether NTP services are enabled or disabled on the system.

Syntax

timesource [--ntp-server NTP_SERVER | --ntp-pool NTP_POOL | --ntp-disable] [--nts]

Mandatory options

It is mandatory to specify one of the following options when you use the **timesource** command:

• --ntp-server - adds one NTP server as a time source. This option can be added only once to a single command in order to add a one NTP time source server. To add multiple sources, add multiple timesource commands each with a single --ntp-server or --ntp-pool option each time. For example, to add multiple sources for *Europe* timezone

```
timezone Europe
timesource --ntp-server 0.rhel.pool.ntp.org
timesource --ntp-server 1.rhel.pool.ntp.org
timesource --ntp-server 2.rhel.pool.ntp.org
```

- **--ntp-pool** adds a NTP server pool as a time source. This option can be added only once to add a single NTP time source pool. Repeat the timesource command to add multiple sources.
- --ntp-disable disables NTP time sources for the installed system.

Optional options

• **--nts** - the server or pool added with this command uses the NTS protocol. Note that this option can be added even with --ntp-disable, but it has no effect.

Note

Only timesource command can mark servers and pools as using NTS instead of plain NTP protocol.

B.3.16. user

The **user** Kickstart command is optional. It creates a new user on the system.

Syntax

user --name=*username* [OPTIONS]

Mandatory options

• --name= - Provides the name of the user. This option is required.

Optional options

- **--gecos=** Provides the GECOS information for the user. This is a string of various system-specific fields separated by a comma. It is frequently used to specify the user's full name, office number, and so on. See the **passwd(5)** man page for more details.
- --groups= In addition to the default group, a comma separated list of group names the user should belong to. The groups must exist before the user account is created. See the group command.
- **--homedir=** The home directory for the user. If not provided, this defaults to /home/username.
- **--lock** If this option is present, this account is locked by default. This means that the user will not be able to log in from the console. This option will also disable the **Create User** screens in both the graphical and text-based manual installation.
- --password= The new user's password. If not provided, the account will be locked by default.
- **--iscrypted** If this option is present, the password argument is assumed to already be encrypted. This option is mutually exclusive with **--plaintext**. To create an encrypted password, you can use python:

\$ python -c 'import crypt,getpass;pw=getpass.getpass();print(crypt.crypt(pw) if (pw==getpass.getpass("Confirm: ")) else exit())'

This generates a sha512 crypt-compatible hash of your password by using a random salt.

- **--plaintext** If this option is present, the password argument is assumed to be in plain text. This option is mutually exclusive with **--iscrypted**
- --shell= The user's login shell. If not provided, the system default is used.
- --uid= The user's UID (User ID). If not provided, this defaults to the next available non-system UID.
- --gid= The GID (Group ID) to be used for the user's group. If not provided, this defaults to the next available non-system group ID.

Notes

- Consider using the --uid and --gid options to set IDs of regular users and their default groups at range starting at 5000 instead of 1000. That is because the range reserved for system users and groups, 0-999, might increase in the future and thus overlap with IDs of regular users.
- Files and directories are created with various permissions, dictated by the application used to
 create the file or directory. For example, the **mkdir** command creates directories with all
 permissions enabled. However, applications are prevented from granting certain permissions to
 newly created files, as specified by the **user file-creation mask** setting.

The user file-creation mask can be controlled with the umask command. The default setting of the user file-creation mask for new users is defined by the UMASK variable in the /etc/login.defs configuration file on the installed system. If unset, it defaults to 022. This means

that by default when an application creates a file, it is prevented from granting write permission to users other than the owner of the file. However, this can be overridden by other settings or scripts.

B.3.17. xconfig

The **xconfig** Kickstart command is optional. It configures the X Window System. Use this command only once.

Syntax

xconfig [--startxonboot]

Options

• --startxonboot - Use a graphical login on the installed system.

Note

Because Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 does not include the KDE Desktop Environment, do not
use the --defaultdesktop= documented upstream.

B.4. KICKSTART COMMANDS FOR NETWORK CONFIGURATION

The Kickstart commands in this list let you configure networking on the system.

B.4.1. network

Use the optional **network** Kickstart command to configure network information for the target system and activate the network devices in the installation environment. The device specified in the first **network** command is activated automatically. You can also explicitly require a device to be activated by using the **--activate** option.



WARNING

Re-configuration of already active network devices that are in use by the running installer may lead to an installation failure or freeze. In such a case, avoid reconfiguration of network devices used to access the installer runtime image (stage2) over NFS.

Syntax

network OPTIONS

Options

• --activate - activate this device in the installation environment.

If you use the **--activate** option on a device that has already been activated (for example, an interface you configured with boot options so that the system could retrieve the Kickstart file) the device is reactivated to use the details specified in the Kickstart file.

Use the **--nodefroute** option to prevent the device from using the default route.

- --no-activate do not activate this device in the installation environment.
 By default, Anaconda activates the first network device in the Kickstart file regardless of the --activate option. You can disable the default setting by using the --no-activate option.
- --bootproto= One of dhcp, bootp, ibft, or static. The default option is dhcp; the dhcp and bootp options are treated the same. To disable ipv4 configuration of the device, use --noipv4 option.



NOTE

This option configures the ipv4 configuration of the device. For ipv6 configuration use **--ipv6** and **--ipv6gateway** options.

The DHCP method uses a DHCP server system to obtain its networking configuration. The BOOTP method is similar, requiring a BOOTP server to supply the networking configuration. To direct a system to use DHCP:

network --bootproto=dhcp

To direct a machine to use BOOTP to obtain its networking configuration, use the following line in the Kickstart file:

network --bootproto=bootp

To direct a machine to use the configuration specified in iBFT, use:

network --bootproto=ibft

The **static** method requires that you specify at least the IP address and netmask in the Kickstart file. This information is static and is used during and after the installation.

All static networking configuration information must be specified on *one* line; you cannot wrap lines by using a backslash (\) as you can on a command line.

network --bootproto=static --ip=10.0.2.15 --netmask=255.255.255.0 --gateway=10.0.2.254 --nameserver=10.0.2.1

You can also configure multiple nameservers at the same time. To do so, use the **-- nameserver=** option once, and specify each of their IP addresses, separated by commas:

network --bootproto=static --ip=10.0.2.15 --netmask=255.255.255.0 --gateway=10.0.2.254 --nameserver=192.168.2.1,192.168.3.1

• **--device=** - specifies the device to be configured (and eventually activated in Anaconda) with the **network** command.

If the **--device**= option is missing on the *first* use of the **network** command, the value of the **inst.ks.device**= Anaconda boot option is used, if available. This is considered deprecated behavior; in most cases, you should always specify a **--device**= for every **network** command.



IMPORTANT

NIC teaming is deprecated in {RHEL9}. Consider using the network bonding driver as an alternative. For details, see Configuring a network bond.

The behavior of any subsequent **network** command in the same Kickstart file is unspecified if its **--device=** option is missing. Verify you specify this option for any **network** command beyond the first.

You can specify a device to be activated in any of the following ways:

- the device name of the interface, for example, em1
- the MAC address of the interface, for example, 01:23:45:67:89:ab
- the keyword link, which specifies the first interface with its link in the up state
- the keyword **bootif**, which uses the MAC address that pxelinux set in the **BOOTIF** variable. Set **IPAPPEND 2** in your **pxelinux.cfg** file to have pxelinux set the **BOOTIF** variable.

For example:

- network --bootproto=dhcp --device=em1
- --ipv4-dns-search/--ipv6-dns-search Set the DNS search domains manually. You must use these options together with --device options and mirror their respective NetworkManager properties, for example:
 - network --device ens3 --ipv4-dns-search domain1.example.com,domain2.example.com
- --ipv4-ignore-auto-dns/--ipv6-ignore-auto-dns Set to ignore the DNS settings from DHCP.
 You must use these options together with --device options and these options do not require any arguments.
- --ip= IP address of the device.
- --ipv6= IPv6 address of the device, in the form of address[/prefix length] for example, 3ffe:ffff:0:1::1/128. If the prefix is omitted, 64 is used. You can also use auto for automatic configuration, or dhcp for DHCPv6-only configuration (no router advertisements).
- --gateway= Default gateway as a single IPv4 address.
- --ipv6gateway= Default gateway as a single IPv6 address.
- **--nodefroute** Prevents the interface being set as the default route. Use this option when you activate additional devices with the **--activate**= option, for example, a NIC on a separate subnet for an iSCSI target.
- **--nameserver=** DNS name server, as an IP address. To specify more than one name server, use this option once, and separate each IP address with a comma.
- --netmask= Network mask for the installed system.

--hostname= - Used to configure the target system's host name. The host name can either be a fully qualified domain name (FQDN) in the format hostname.domainname, or a short host name without the domain. Many networks have a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) service that automatically supplies connected systems with a domain name. To allow the DHCP service to assign the domain name to this machine, specify only the short host name. When using static IP and host name configuration, it depends on the planned system use case whether to use a short name or FQDN. Red Hat Identity Management configures FQDN during provisioning but some 3rd party software products may require a short name. In either case, to ensure availability of both forms in all situations, add an entry for the host in /etc/hosts in the format IP FQDN short-alias.

Host names can only contain alphanumeric characters and - or .. Host name should be equal to or less than 64 characters. Host names cannot start or end with - and .. To be compliant with DNS, each part of a FQDN should be equal to or less than 63 characters and the FQDN total length, including dots, should not exceed 255 characters.

If you only want to configure the target system's host name, use the **--hostname** option in the **network** command and do not include any other option.

If you provide additional options when configuring the host name, the **network** command configures a device by using the options specified. If you do not specify which device to configure by using the **--device** option, the default **--device link** value is used. Additionally, if you do not specify the protocol by using the **--bootproto** option, the device is configured to use DHCP by default.

- **--ethtool=** Specifies additional low-level settings for the network device which will be passed to the ethtool program.
- --onboot= Whether or not to enable the device at boot time.
- --dhcpclass= The DHCP class.
- --mtu= The MTU of the device.
- --noipv4 Disable IPv4 on this device.
- --noipv6 Disable IPv6 on this device.
- **--bondslaves=** When this option is used, the bond device specified by the **--device=** option is created using secondary devices defined in the **--bondslaves=** option. For example:

network --device=bond0 --bondslaves=em1,em2

The above command creates a bond device named **bond0** by using the **em1** and **em2** interfaces as its secondary devices.

--bondopts= - a list of optional parameters for a bonded interface, which is specified by using the --bondslaves= and --device= options. Options in this list must be separated by commas (",") or semicolons (";"). If an option itself contains a comma, use a semicolon to separate the options. For example:

network --bondopts=mode=active-backup,balance-rr;primary=eth1



IMPORTANT

The **--bondopts=mode=** parameter only supports full mode names such as **balance-rr** or **broadcast**, not their numerical representations such as **0** or **3**. For the list of available and supported modes, see the Configuring and Managing Networking Guide.

- --vlanid= Specifies virtual LAN (VLAN) ID number (802.1q tag) for the device created by using the device specified in --device= as a parent. For example, network --device=em1 -- vlanid=171 creates a virtual LAN device em1.171.
- --interfacename= Specify a custom interface name for a virtual LAN device. This option should be used when the default name generated by the --vlanid= option is not desirable. This option must be used along with --vlanid=. For example:

network --device=em1 --vlanid=171 --interfacename=vlan171

The above command creates a virtual LAN interface named **vlan171** on the **em1** device with an ID of **171**.

The interface name can be arbitrary (for example, **my-vlan**), but in specific cases, the following conventions must be followed:

- If the name contains a dot (.), it must take the form of **NAME.ID**. The **NAME** is arbitrary, but the **ID** must be the VLAN ID. For example: **em1.171** or **my-vlan.171**.
- Names starting with **vlan** must take the form of **vlan**/*D* for example, **vlan171**.
- --teamslaves= Team device specified by the --device= option will be created by using secondary devices specified in this option. Secondary devices are separated by commas. A secondary device can be followed by its configuration, which is a single-quoted JSON string with double quotes escaped by the \ character. For example:

network --teamslaves="p3p1'{\"prio\": -10, \"sticky\": true}',p3p2'{\"prio\": 100}'"

See also the --teamconfig= option.

NIC teaming is deprecated in {RHEL9}. Consider using the network bonding driver as an alternative. For details, see Configuring a network bond.

• --teamconfig= - Double-quoted team device configuration which is a JSON string with double quotes escaped by the \ character. The device name is specified by --device= option and its secondary devices and their configuration by --teamslaves= option. For example:

network --device team0 --activate --bootproto static --ip=10.34.102.222 -- netmask=255.255.255.0 --gateway=10.34.102.254 --nameserver=10.34.39.2 -- teamslaves="p3p1'{\"prio\": -10, \"sticky\": true}',p3p2'{\"prio\": 100}'" --teamconfig=" {\"runner\": {\"name\": \"activebackup\"}}"



IMPORTANT

NIC teaming is deprecated in {RHEL9}. Consider using the network bonding driver as an alternative. For details, see Configuring a network bond.

--bridgeslaves= - When this option is used, the network bridge with device name specified by using the --device= option will be created and devices defined in the --bridgeslaves= option will be added to the bridge. For example:

network --device=bridge0 --bridgeslaves=em1

- --bridgeopts= An optional comma-separated list of parameters for the bridged interface.
 Available values are stp, priority, forward-delay, hello-time, max-age, and ageing-time. For information about these parameters, see the bridge setting table in the nm-settings(5) man page or at Network Configuration Setting Specification.
 Also see the Configuring and managing networking document for general information about network bridging.
- --bindto=mac Bind the device configuration file on the installed system to the device MAC address (HWADDR) instead of the default binding to the interface name (DEVICE). This option is independent of the --device= option --bindto=mac will be applied even if the same network command also specifies a device name, link, or bootif.

Notes

- The ethN device names such as eth0 are no longer available in Red Hat Enterprise Linux due to changes in the naming scheme. For more information about the device naming scheme, see the upstream document Predictable Network Interface Names.
- If you used a Kickstart option or a boot option to specify an installation repository on a network, but no network is available at the start of the installation, the installation program displays the Network Configuration window to set up a network connection prior to displaying the Installation Summary window. For more details, see Configuring network and host name options.

B.4.2. realm

The **realm** Kickstart command is optional. Use it to join an Active Directory or IPA domain. For more information about this command, see the **join** section of the **realm(8)** man page on your system.

Syntax

realm join [OPTIONS] domain

Mandatory options

• *domain* - The domain to join.

Options

- **--computer-ou=OU=** Provide the distinguished name of an organizational unit in order to create the computer account. The exact format of the distinguished name depends on the client software and membership software. The root DSE portion of the distinguished name can usually be left out.
- --no-password Join automatically without a password.
- --one-time-password= Join using a one-time password. This is not possible with all types of realm.

- --client-software= Only join realms which can run this client software. Valid values include sssd and winbind. Not all realms support all values. By default, the client software is chosen automatically.
- --server-software= Only join realms which can run this server software. Possible values include active-directory or freeipa.
- --membership-software= Use this software when joining the realm. Valid values include samba and adcli. Not all realms support all values. By default, the membership software is chosen automatically.

B.5. KICKSTART COMMANDS FOR HANDLING STORAGE

The Kickstart commands in this section configure aspects of storage such as devices, disks, partitions, LVM, and filesystems.



IMPORTANT

The **sdX** (or /**dev/sdX**) format does not guarantee consistent device names across reboots, which can complicate the usage of some Kickstart commands. When a command requires a device node name, you can use any item from /**dev/disk** as an alternative. For example, instead of using the following device name:

part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=sda1

You can use an entry similar to one of the following:

part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-path/pci-0000:00:05.0-scsi-0:0:0:0-part1

part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-id/ata-ST3160815AS_6RA0C882-part1

By using this approach, the command always targets the same storage device. This is especially useful in large storage environments. To explore the available device names on the system, you can use the **Is -IR** /dev/disk command during the interactive installation. For more information about different ways to consistently refer to storage devices, see Overview of persistent naming attributes.

B.5.1. ignoredisk

The **ignoredisk** Kickstart command is optional. It causes the installation program to ignore the specified disks.

This is useful if you use automatic partitioning and want to be sure that some disks are ignored. For example, without **ignoredisk**, attempting to deploy on a SAN-cluster the Kickstart would fail, as the installation program detects passive paths to the SAN that return no partition table. Use this command only once.

Syntax

ignoredisk --drives=drive1,drive2,... | --only-use=drive

Options

• --drives=driveN,... - Replace driveN with one of sda, sdb,..., hda,... and so on.

• --only-use=driveN,... - Specifies a list of disks for the installation program to use. All other disks are ignored. For example, to use disk sda during installation and ignore all other disks:

```
ignoredisk --only-use=sda
```

To include a multipath device that does not use LVM:

ignoredisk --only-use=disk/by-id/dm-uuid-mpath-2416CD96995134CA5D787F00A5AA11017

To include a multipath device that uses LVM:

```
ignoredisk --only-use==/dev/disk/by-id/dm-uuid-mpath-
```

bootloader --location=mbr

You must specify only one of the --drives or --only-use.

Notes

- To ignore a multipath device that does not use logical volume manager (LVM), use the format disk/by-id/dm-uuid-mpath-WWID, where WWID is the world-wide identifier for the device. For example, to ignore a disk with WWID 2416CD96995134CA5D787F00A5AA11017, use:
 - ignoredisk --drives=disk/by-id/dm-uuid-mpath-2416CD96995134CA5D787F00A5AA11017
- Never specify multipath devices by device names like **mpatha**. Device names such as this are not specific to a particular disk. The disk named /**dev/mpatha** during installation might not be the one that you expect it to be. Therefore, the **clearpart** command could target the wrong disk.
- The sdX (or /dev/sdX) format does not guarantee consistent device names across reboots, which can complicate the usage of some Kickstart commands. When a command requires a device node name, you can use any item from /dev/disk as an alternative. For example, instead of using the following device name:

```
part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=sda1
```

You can use an entry similar to one of the following:

```
part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-path/pci-0000:05.0-scsi-0:0:0:0-part1 part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-id/ata-ST3160815AS_6RA0C882-part1
```

By using this approach, the command always targets the same storage device. This is especially useful in large storage environments. To explore the available device names on the system, you can use the **Is -IR** /**dev**/**disk** command during the interactive installation. For more information about different ways to consistently refer to storage devices, see Overview of persistent naming attributes.

B.5.2. clearpart

The **clearpart** Kickstart command is optional. It removes partitions from the system, prior to creation of new partitions. By default, no partitions are removed. Use this command only once.

Syntax

clearpart OPTIONS

Options

• --all - Erases all partitions from the system.

This option will erase all disks which can be reached by the installation program, including any attached network storage. Use this option with caution.

You can prevent **clearpart** from wiping storage you want to preserve by using the **--drives=** option and specifying only the drives you want to clear, by attaching network storage later (for example, in the **%post** section of the Kickstart file), or by blocklisting the kernel modules used to access network storage.

• **--drives=** - Specifies which drives to clear partitions from. For example, the following clears all the partitions on the first two drives on the primary IDE controller:

clearpart --drives=hda,hdb --all

To clear a multipath device, use the format **disk/by-id/scsi-WWID**, where WWID is the world-wide identifier for the device. For example, to clear a disk with WWID **58095BEC5510947BE8C0360F604351918**, use:

clearpart --drives=disk/by-id/scsi-58095BEC5510947BE8C0360F604351918

This format is preferable for all multipath devices, but if errors arise, multipath devices that do not use logical volume manager (LVM) can also be cleared using the format **disk/by-id/dm-uuid-mpath-WWID**, where WWID is the world-wide identifier for the device. For example, to clear a disk with WWID **2416CD96995134CA5D787F00A5AA11017**, use:

clearpart --drives=disk/by-id/dm-uuid-mpath-2416CD96995134CA5D787F00A5AA11017

Never specify multipath devices by device names like **mpatha**. Device names such as this are not specific to a particular disk. The disk named /**dev/mpatha** during installation might not be the one that you expect it to be. Therefore, the **clearpart** command could target the wrong disk.

--initlabel - Initializes a disk (or disks) by creating a default disk label for all disks in their respective architecture that have been designated for formatting (for example, msdos for x86). Because --initlabel can see all disks, it is important to ensure only those drives that are to be formatted are connected. Disks cleared by clearpart will have the label created even in case the --initlabel is not used.

clearpart --initlabel --drives=names_of_disks

For example:

clearpart --initlabel --drives=dasda,dasdb,dasdc

• --list= - Specifies which partitions to clear. This option overrides the --all and --linux options if used. Can be used across different drives. For example:

clearpart --list=sda2,sda3,sdb1

- **--disklabel=***LABEL* Set the default disklabel to use. Only disklabels supported for the platform will be accepted. For example, on the 64-bit Intel and AMD architectures, the **msdos** and **gpt** disklabels are accepted, but **dasd** is not accepted.
- --linux Erases all Linux partitions.
- --none (default) Do not remove any partitions.
- --cdl Reformat any LDL DASDs to CDL format.

Notes

 The sdX (or /dev/sdX) format does not guarantee consistent device names across reboots, which can complicate the usage of some Kickstart commands. When a command requires a device node name, you can use any item from /dev/disk as an alternative. For example, instead of using the following device name:

```
part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=sda1
```

You can use an entry similar to one of the following:

```
part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-path/pci-0000:00:05.0-scsi-0:0:0:0-part1

part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-id/ata-ST3160815AS_6RA0C882-part1
```

By using this approach, the command always targets the same storage device. This is especially useful in large storage environments. To explore the available device names on the system, you can use the **Is -IR** /**dev**/**disk** command during the interactive installation. For more information about different ways to consistently refer to storage devices, see Overview of persistent naming attributes.

• If the **clearpart** command is used, then the **part --onpart** command cannot be used on a logical partition.

B.5.3. zerombr

The **zerombr** Kickstart command is optional. The **zerombr** initializes any invalid partition tables that are found on disks and destroys all of the contents of disks with invalid partition tables. This command is required when performing an installation on an 64-bit IBM Z system with unformatted Direct Access Storage Device (DASD) disks, otherwise the unformatted disks are not formatted and used during the installation. Use this command only once. This command has no options.

Syntax

zerombr

Notes

On 64-bit IBM Z, if zerombr is specified, any Direct Access Storage Device (DASD) visible to
the installation program which is not already low-level formatted is automatically low-level
formatted with dasdfmt. The command also prevents user choice during interactive
installations.

- If **zerombr** is not specified and there is at least one unformatted DASD visible to the installation program, a non-interactive Kickstart installation exits unsuccessfully.
- If **zerombr** is not specified and there is at least one unformatted DASD visible to the installation program, an interactive installation exits if the user does not agree to format all visible and unformatted DASDs. To circumvent this, only activate those DASDs that you will use during installation. You can always add more DASDs after installation is complete.

B.5.4. bootloader

The **bootloader** Kickstart command is required. It specifies how the boot loader should be installed. Use this command only once.

Syntax

bootloader [OPTIONS]

Options

• **--append=** - Specifies additional kernel parameters. To specify multiple parameters, separate them with spaces. For example:

bootloader --location=mbr --append="hdd=ide-scsi ide=nodma"

The **rhgb** and **quiet** parameters are automatically added when the **plymouth** package is installed, even if you do not specify them here or do not use the **--append=** command at all. To disable this behavior, explicitly disallow installation of **plymouth**:

%packages

-plymouth

%end

This option is useful for disabling mechanisms which were implemented to mitigate the Meltdown and Spectre speculative execution vulnerabilities found in most modern processors (CVE-2017-5754, CVE-2017-5753, and CVE-2017-5715). In some cases, these mechanisms may be unnecessary, and keeping them enabled causes decreased performance with no improvement in security. To disable these mechanisms, add the options to do so into your Kickstart file - for example, **bootloader --append="nopti noibrs noibpb"** on AMD64/Intel 64 systems.



WARNING

Ensure your system is not at risk of attack before disabling any of the vulnerability mitigation mechanisms. See the Red Hat vulnerability response article for information about the Meltdown and Spectre vulnerabilities.

• **--boot-drive=** - Specifies which drive the boot loader should be written to, and therefore which drive the computer will boot from. If you use a multipath device as the boot drive, specify the device by using its disk/by-id/dm-uuid-mpath-WWID name.



IMPORTANT

The **--boot-drive=** option is currently being ignored in Red Hat Enterprise Linux installations on 64-bit IBM Z systems by using the **zipl** boot loader. When **zipl** is installed, it determines the boot drive on its own.

- --leavebootorder This option is applicable for Power and UEFI systems. The installation
 program adds Red Hat Enterprise Linux 10 to the list of the installed systems in UEFI. It does not
 add the installed system to the boot order. All existing boot entries as well as their order are
 preserved.
- **--driveorder=** Specifies which drive is first in the BIOS boot order. For example:
 - bootloader --driveorder=sda,hda
- **--location=** Specifies where the boot record is written. Valid values are the following:
 - mbr The default option. Depends on whether the drive uses the Master Boot Record (MBR) or GUID Partition Table (GPT) scheme:
 On a GPT-formatted disk, this option installs stage 1.5 of the boot loader into the BIOS boot partition.
 - On an MBR-formatted disk, stage 1.5 is installed into the empty space between the MBR and the first partition.
 - partition Install the boot loader on the first sector of the partition containing the kernel.
 - o none Do not install the boot loader.

In most cases, this option does not need to be specified.

- --nombr Do not install the boot loader to the MBR.
- **--password=** If using GRUB2, set the boot loader password to the one specified with this option. This should be used to restrict access to the GRUB2 shell, where arbitrary kernel options can be passed.
 - If a password is specified, GRUB2 also asks for a user name. The user name is always root.
- --iscrypted Normally, when you specify a boot loader password by using the --password=
 option, it is stored in the Kickstart file in plain text. If you want to encrypt the password, use this
 option and an encrypted password.
 - To generate an encrypted password, use the **grub2-mkpasswd-pbkdf2** command, enter the password you want to use, and copy the command's output (the hash starting with **grub.pbkdf2**) into the Kickstart file. An example **bootloader** Kickstart entry with an encrypted password looks similar to the following:

bootloader --iscrypted -password=grub.pbkdf2.sha512.10000.5520C6C9832F3AC3D149AC0B24BE69E2D4FB0DBE EDBD29CA1D30A044DE2645C4C7A291E585D4DC43F8A4D82479F8B95CA4BA4381F8550 510B75E8E0BB2938990.C688B6F0EF935701FF9BD1A8EC7FE5BD2333799C98F28420C5 CC8F1A2A233DE22C83705BB614EA17F3FDFDF4AC2161CEA3384E56EB38A2E39102F53 34C47405E

- --timeout= Specifies the amount of time the boot loader waits before booting the default option (in seconds).
- --default= Sets the default boot image in the boot loader configuration.
- --extlinux Use the extlinux boot loader instead of GRUB2. This option only works on systems supported by extlinux.
- **--disabled** This option is a stronger version of **--location=none**. While **--location=none** simply disables boot loader installation, **--disabled** disables boot loader installation and also disables installation of the package containing the boot loader, thus saving space.

Notes

- Red Hat recommends setting up a boot loader password on every system. An unprotected boot loader can allow a potential attacker to modify the system's boot options and gain unauthorized access to the system.
- In some cases, a special partition is required to install the boot loader on AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM systems. The type and size of this partition depends on whether the disk you are installing the boot loader to use the Master Boot Record (MBR) or a GUID Partition Table (GPT) schema. For more information, see the Configuring boot loader section.
- The sdX (or /dev/sdX) format does not guarantee consistent device names across reboots, which can complicate the usage of some Kickstart commands. When a command requires a device node name, you can use any item from /dev/disk as an alternative. For example, instead of using the following device name:

```
part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=sda1
```

You can use an entry similar to one of the following:

```
part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-path/pci-0000:00:05.0-scsi-0:0:0:0-part1 part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-id/ata-ST3160815AS_6RA0C882-part1
```

By using this approach, the command always targets the same storage device. This is especially useful in large storage environments. To explore the available device names on the system, you can use the **Is -IR** /**dev**/**disk** command during the interactive installation. For more information about different ways to consistently refer to storage devices, see Overview of persistent naming attributes.

B.5.5. autopart

The **autopart** Kickstart command is optional. It automatically creates partitions.

The automatically created partitions are: a root (/) partition (1 GiB or larger), a **swap** partition, and an appropriate /**boot** partition for the architecture. On large enough drives (50 GiB and larger), this also creates a /**home** partition. Use this command only once.

Syntax

autopart OPTIONS

Options

- **--type=** Selects one of the predefined automatic partitioning schemes you want to use. Accepts the following values:
 - **Ivm**: The LVM partitioning scheme.
 - plain: Regular partitions with no LVM.
 - **thinp**: The LVM Thin Provisioning partitioning scheme.
- --fstype= Selects one of the available file system types. The available values are ext2, ext3, ext4, xfs, and vfat. The default file system is xfs.
- --nohome Disables automatic creation of the /home partition.
- --nolvm Do not use LVM for automatic partitioning. This option is equal to --type=plain.
- --noboot Do not create a /boot partition.
- --noswap Do not create a swap partition.
- --encrypted Encrypts all partitions with Linux Unified Key Setup (LUKS). This is equivalent to
 checking the Encrypt partitions check box on the initial partitioning screen during a manual
 graphical installation.



NOTE

When encrypting one or more partitions, Anaconda attempts to gather 256 bits of entropy to ensure the partitions are encrypted securely. Gathering entropy can take some time - the process will stop after a maximum of 10 minutes, regardless of whether sufficient entropy has been gathered.

The process can be sped up by interacting with the installation system (typing on the keyboard or moving the mouse). If you are installing in a virtual machine, you can also attach a **virtio-rng** device (a virtual random number generator) to the guest.

- --luks-version=LUKS_VERSION Specifies which version of LUKS format should be used to
 encrypt the filesystem. This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified.
- --passphrase= Provides a default system-wide passphrase for all encrypted devices.
- **--escrowcert=** *URL_of_X.509_certificate* Stores data encryption keys of all encrypted volumes as files in /**root**, encrypted by using the X.509 certificate from the URL specified with *URL_of_X.509_certificate*. The keys are stored as a separate file for each encrypted volume. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified.
- **--backuppassphrase** Adds a randomly-generated passphrase to each encrypted volume. Store these passphrases in separate files in /root, encrypted by using the X.509 certificate specified with **--escrowcert**. This option is only meaningful if **--escrowcert** is specified.
- --cipher= Specifies the type of encryption to use if the Anaconda default aes-xts-plain64 is not satisfactory. You must use this option together with the --encrypted option; by itself it has

no effect. Available types of encryption are listed in the Security hardening document, but Red Hat strongly recommends using either **aes-xts-plain64** or **aes-cbc-essiv:sha256**.

- --pbkdf=PBKDF Sets Password-Based Key Derivation Function (PBKDF) algorithm for LUKS keyslot. See also the man page cryptsetup(8). This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified.
- **--pbkdf-memory=PBKDF_MEMORY** Sets the memory cost for PBKDF. See also the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified.
- **--pbkdf-time=PBKDF_TIME** Sets the number of milliseconds to spend with PBKDF passphrase processing. See also **--iter-time** in the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified, and is mutually exclusive with **--pbkdf-iterations**.
- --pbkdf-iterations=PBKDF_ITERATIONS Sets the number of iterations directly and avoids PBKDF benchmark. See also --pbkdf-force-iterations in the man page cryptsetup(8). This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified, and is mutually exclusive with --pbkdf-time.

Notes

- The **autopart** option cannot be used together with the **part/partition**, **raid**, **logvol**, or **volgroup** options in the same Kickstart file.
- The **autopart** command is not mandatory, but you must include it if there are no **part** or **mount** commands in your Kickstart script.
- It is recommended to use the **autopart --nohome** Kickstart option when installing on a single FBA DASD of the CMS type. This ensures that the installation program does not create a separate /**home** partition. The installation then proceeds successfully.
- If you lose the LUKS passphrase, any encrypted partitions and their data is completely inaccessible. There is no way to recover a lost passphrase. However, you can save encryption passphrases with the --escrowcert and create backup encryption passphrases with the --backuppassphrase options.
- Ensure that the disk sector sizes are consistent when using **autopart**, **autopart --type=lvm**, or **autopart=thinp**.

B.5.6. regpart

The **reqpart** Kickstart command is optional. It automatically creates partitions required by your hardware platform. These include a /**boot**/efi partition for systems with UEFI firmware, a **biosboot** partition for systems with BIOS firmware and GPT, and a **PRePBoot** partition for IBM Power Systems. Use this command only once.

Syntax

reqpart [--add-boot]

Options

• **--add-boot** - Creates a separate /**boot** partition in addition to the platform-specific partition created by the base command.

k I . . .

Note

This command cannot be used together with autopart, because autopart does everything the
reqpart command does and, in addition, creates other partitions or logical volumes such as / and
swap. In contrast with autopart, this command only creates platform-specific partitions and
leaves the rest of the drive empty, allowing you to create a custom layout.

B.5.7. part or partition

The part or partition Kickstart command is required. It creates a partition on the system.

Syntax

part|partition mntpoint [OPTIONS]

Options

- mntpoint Where the partition is mounted. The value must be of one of the following forms:
 - o /path

For example, /, /usr, /home

swap

The partition is used as swap space.

To determine the size of the swap partition automatically, use the **--recommended** option:

swap --recommended

The size assigned will be effective but not precisely calibrated for your system.

To determine the size of the swap partition automatically but also allow extra space for your system to hibernate, use the **--hibernation** option:

swap --hibernation

The size assigned will be equivalent to the swap space assigned by **--recommended** plus the amount of RAM on your system. For the swap sizes assigned by these commands, see Recommended Partitioning Scheme for AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM systems.

o raid.id

The partition is used for software RAID (see **raid**).

o pv.id

The partition is used for LVM (see logvol).

biosboot

The partition will be used for a BIOS Boot partition. A 1 MiB BIOS boot partition is necessary on BIOS-based AMD64 and Intel 64 systems using a GUID Partition Table (GPT); the boot loader will be installed into it. It is not necessary on UEFI systems. See also the **bootloader** command.

o /boot/efi

An EFI System Partition. A 50 MiB EFI partition is necessary on UEFI-based AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM; the recommended size is 200 MiB. It is not necessary on BIOS systems. See also the **bootloader** command.

- --size= The minimum partition size in MiB. Specify an integer value here such as find until include the unit). Installation fails if size specified is too small. Set the --size value as the minimum amount of space you require. For size recommendations, see Recommended Partitioning Scheme.
- --grow Specifies the partition to grow to fill available space (if any), or up to the maximum size setting, if one is specified. If you use --grow= without setting --maxsize= on a swap partition, Anaconda limits the maximum size of the swap partition. For systems that have less than 2 GiB of physical memory, the imposed limit is twice the amount of physical memory. For systems with more than 2 GiB, the imposed limit is the size of physical memory plus 2GiB.
- --maxsize= The maximum partition size in MiB when the partition is set to grow. Specify an integer value here such as **500** (do not include the unit).
- --noformat Specifies that the partition should not be formatted, for use with the --onpart command.
- --onpart= or --usepart= Specifies the device on which to place the partition. Uses an existing blank device and formats it to the new specified type. For example:

partition /home --onpart=hda1

puts /home on /dev/hda1.

These options can also add a partition to a logical volume. For example:

partition pv.1 --onpart=hda2

The device must already exist on the system; the --onpart option will not create it.

It is also possible to specify an entire drive, rather than a partition, in which case Anaconda will format and use the drive without creating a partition table. However, installation of GRUB2 is not supported on a device formatted in this way, and must be placed on a drive with a partition table.

partition pv.1 --onpart=hdb

--ondisk= or --ondrive= - Creates a partition (specified by the part command) on an existing disk. This command always creates a partition. Forces the partition to be created on a particular disk. For example, --ondisk=sdb puts the partition on the second SCSI disk on the system. To specify a multipath device that does not use logical volume manager (LVM), use the format disk/by-id/dm-uuid-mpath-WWID, where WWID is the world-wide identifier for the device. For example, to specify a disk with WWID 2416CD96995134CA5D787F00A5AA11017, use:

part / --fstype=xfs --grow --asprimary --size=8192 --ondisk=disk/by-id/dm-uuid-mpath-2416CD96995134CA5D787F00A5AA11017



WARNING

Never specify multipath devices by device names like **mpatha**. Device names such as this are not specific to a particular disk. The disk named /dev/mpatha during installation might not be the one that you expect it to be. Therefore, the **part** command could target the wrong disk.

- **--asprimary** Forces the partition to be allocated as a *primary* partition. If the partition cannot be allocated as primary (usually due to too many primary partitions being already allocated), the partitioning process fails. This option only makes sense when the disk uses a Master Boot Record (MBR); for GUID Partition Table (GPT)-labeled disks this option has no meaning.
- --fsprofile= Specifies a usage type to be passed to the program that makes a filesystem on this partition. A usage type defines a variety of tuning parameters to be used when making a filesystem. For this option to work, the filesystem must support the concept of usage types and there must be a configuration file that lists valid types. For ext2, ext3, ext4, this configuration file is /etc/mke2fs.conf.
- --mkfsoptions= Specifies additional parameters to be passed to the program that makes a
 filesystem on this partition. This is similar to --fsprofile but works for all filesystems, not just the
 ones that support the profile concept. No processing is done on the list of arguments, so they
 must be supplied in a format that can be passed directly to the mkfs program. This means
 multiple options should be comma-separated or surrounded by double quotes, depending on
 the filesystem. For example,

```
part /opt/foo1 --size=512 --fstype=ext4 --mkfsoptions="-O 
^has_journal,^flex_bg,^metadata_csum"

part /opt/foo2 --size=512 --fstype=xfs --mkfsoptions="-m bigtime=0,finobt=0"
```

For details, see the man pages of the filesystems you are creating. For example, **mkfs.ext4** or **mkfs.xfs**.

- --fstype= Sets the file system type for the partition. Valid values are xfs, ext2, ext3, ext4, swap, vfat, efi and biosboot.
- **--fsoptions** Specifies a free form string of options to be used when mounting the filesystem. This string will be copied into the /**etc/fstab** file of the installed system and should be enclosed in quotes.



NOTE

In the EFI system partition (/boot/efi), anaconda hard codes the value and ignores the users specified --fsoptions values.

- --label= assign a label to an individual partition.
- **--recommended** Determine the size of the partition automatically. For details about the recommended scheme, see Recommended Partitioning Scheme for AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM. This option can only be used for partitions which result in a file system such as the

/boot partition and swap space. It cannot be used to create LVM physical volumes or RAID members.

- --onbiosdisk Forces the partition to be created on a particular disk as discovered by the BIOS.
- --encrypted Specifies that this partition should be encrypted with Linux Unified Key Setup (LUKS) by using the passphrase provided in the --passphrase option. If you do not specify a passphrase, Anaconda uses the default, system-wide passphrase set with the autopart -- passphrase command, or stops the installation and prompts you to provide a passphrase if no default is set.



NOTE

When encrypting one or more partitions, Anaconda attempts to gather 256 bits of entropy to ensure the partitions are encrypted securely. Gathering entropy can take some time - the process will stop after a maximum of 10 minutes, regardless of whether sufficient entropy has been gathered.

The process can be sped up by interacting with the installation system (typing on the keyboard or moving the mouse). If you are installing in a virtual machine, you can also attach a **virtio-rng** device (a virtual random number generator) to the guest.

- --luks-version=LUKS_VERSION Specifies which version of LUKS format should be used to encrypt the filesystem. This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified.
- **--passphrase=** Specifies the passphrase to use when encrypting this partition. You must use this option together with the **--encrypted** option; by itself it has no effect.
- --cipher= Specifies the type of encryption to use if the Anaconda default aes-xts-plain64 is not satisfactory. You must use this option together with the --encrypted option; by itself it has no effect. Available types of encryption are listed in the Security hardening document, but Red Hat strongly recommends using either aes-xts-plain64 or aes-cbc-essiv:sha256.
- --escrowcert= URL_of_X.509_certificate Store data encryption keys of all encrypted partitions as files in /root, encrypted by using the X.509 certificate from the URL specified with URL_of_X.509_certificate. The keys are stored as a separate file for each encrypted partition. This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified.
- **--backuppassphrase** Add a randomly-generated passphrase to each encrypted partition. Store these passphrases in separate files in /root, encrypted by using the X.509 certificate specified with **--escrowcert**. This option is only meaningful if **--escrowcert** is specified.
- --pbkdf=PBKDF Sets Password-Based Key Derivation Function (PBKDF) algorithm for LUKS keyslot. See also the man page cryptsetup(8). This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified.
- **--pbkdf-memory=PBKDF_MEMORY** Sets the memory cost for PBKDF. See also the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified.
- **--pbkdf-time=PBKDF_TIME** Sets the number of milliseconds to spend with PBKDF passphrase processing. See also **--iter-time** in the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified, and is mutually exclusive with **--pbkdf-iterations**.
- --pbkdf-iterations=*PBKDF_ITERATIONS* Sets the number of iterations directly and avoids PBKDF benchmark. See also --pbkdf-force-iterations in the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This

option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified, and is mutually exclusive with **--pbkdf-time**.

• --resize= - Resize an existing partition. When using this option, specify the target size (in MiB) by using the --size= option and the target partition by using the --onpart= option.

Notes

- The part command is not mandatory, but you must include either part, autopart or mount in your Kickstart script.
- If partitioning fails for any reason, diagnostic messages appear on virtual console 3.
- All partitions created are formatted as part of the installation process unless --noformat and -onpart are used.
- The sdX (or /dev/sdX) format does not guarantee consistent device names across reboots, which can complicate the usage of some Kickstart commands. When a command requires a device node name, you can use any item from /dev/disk as an alternative. For example, instead of using the following device name:

```
part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=sda1
```

You can use an entry similar to one of the following:

```
part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-path/pci-0000:00:05.0-scsi-0:0:0:0-part1

part / --fstype=xfs --onpart=/dev/disk/by-id/ata-ST3160815AS_6RA0C882-part1
```

By using this approach, the command always targets the same storage device. This is especially useful in large storage environments. To explore the available device names on the system, you can use the **Is -IR** /**dev**/**disk** command during the interactive installation. For more information about different ways to consistently refer to storage devices, see Overview of persistent naming attributes.

If you lose the LUKS passphrase, any encrypted partitions and their data is completely inaccessible. There is no way to recover a lost passphrase. However, you can save encryption passphrases with the --escrowcert and create backup encryption passphrases with the --backuppassphrase options.

B.5.8. raid

The **raid** Kickstart command is optional. It assembles a software RAID device.

Syntax

raid mntpoint --level=level --device=device-name partitions*

Options

• mntpoint - Location where the RAID file system is mounted. If it is /, the RAID level must be 1 unless a boot partition (/boot) is present. If a boot partition is present, the /boot partition must be level 1 and the root (/) partition can be any of the available types. The partitions* (which denotes that multiple partitions can be listed) lists the RAID identifiers to add to the RAID array.



IMPORTANT

- On IBM Power Systems, if a RAID device has been prepared and has not been reformatted during the installation, ensure that the RAID metadata version is **0.90** or **1.0** if you intend to put the /boot and PReP partitions on the RAID device. The mdadm metadata versions **1.1** and **1.2** are not supported for the /boot and PReP partitions.
- The **PReP** Boot partitions are not required on PowerNV systems.
- --level= RAID level to use (0, 1, 4, 5, 6, or 10).
- --device= Name of the RAID device to use for example, --device=root.



IMPORTANT

Do not use **mdraid** names in the form of **md0** - these names are not guaranteed to be persistent. Instead, use meaningful names such as **root** or **swap**. Using meaningful names creates a symbolic link from /**dev/md/** name to whichever /**dev/md** node is assigned to the array.

If you have an old (v0.90 metadata) array that you cannot assign a name to, you can specify the array by a filesystem label or UUID. For example, -- device=LABEL=root or --device=UUID=93348e56-4631-d0f0-6f5b-45c47f570b88.

You can use the UUID of the file system on the RAID device or UUID of the RAID device itself. The UUID of the RAID device should be in the **8-4-4-4-12** format. UUID reported by mdadm is in the **8:8:8** format which needs to be changed. For example **93348e56:4631d0f0:6f5b45c4:7f570b88** should be changed to **93348e56-4631-d0f0-6f5b-45c47f570b88**.

- --chunksize= Sets the chunk size of a RAID storage in KiB. In certain situations, using a different chunk size than the default (512 Kib) can improve the performance of the RAID.
- **--spares=** Specifies the number of spare drives allocated for the RAID array. Spare drives are used to rebuild the array in case of drive failure.
- **--fsprofile=** Specifies a usage type to be passed to the program that makes a filesystem on this partition. A usage type defines a variety of tuning parameters to be used when making a filesystem. For this option to work, the filesystem must support the concept of usage types and there must be a configuration file that lists valid types. For ext2, ext3, and ext4, this configuration file is /etc/mke2fs.conf.
- --fstype= Sets the file system type for the RAID array. Valid values are xfs, ext2, ext3, ext4, swap, and vfat.
- --fsoptions= Specifies a free form string of options to be used when mounting the filesystem.
 This string will be copied into the /etc/fstab file of the installed system and should be enclosed in quotes. In the EFI system partition (/boot/efi), anaconda hard codes the value and ignores the users specified --fsoptions values.
- **--mkfsoptions=** Specifies additional parameters to be passed to the program that makes a filesystem on this partition. No processing is done on the list of arguments, so they must be supplied in a format that can be passed directly to the mkfs program. This means multiple

options should be comma-separated or surrounded by double quotes, depending on the filesystem. For example,

For details, see the man pages of the filesystems you are creating. For example, **mkfs.ext4** or **mkfs.xfs**.

- --label= Specify the label to give to the filesystem to be made. If the given label is already in use by another filesystem, a new label will be created.
- **--noformat** Use an existing RAID device and do not format the RAID array.
- --useexisting Use an existing RAID device and reformat it.
- --encrypted Specifies that this RAID device should be encrypted with Linux Unified Key Setup (LUKS) by using the passphrase provided in the --passphrase option. If you do not specify a passphrase, Anaconda uses the default, system-wide passphrase set with the autopart -- passphrase command, or stops the installation and prompts you to provide a passphrase if no default is set.



NOTE

When encrypting one or more partitions, Anaconda attempts to gather 256 bits of entropy to ensure the partitions are encrypted securely. Gathering entropy can take some time - the process will stop after a maximum of 10 minutes, regardless of whether sufficient entropy has been gathered.

The process can be sped up by interacting with the installation system (typing on the keyboard or moving the mouse). If you are installing in a virtual machine, you can also attach a **virtio-rng** device (a virtual random number generator) to the guest.

- --luks-version=LUKS_VERSION Specifies which version of LUKS format should be used to
 encrypt the filesystem. This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified.
- --cipher= Specifies the type of encryption to use if the Anaconda default aes-xts-plain64 is not satisfactory. You must use this option together with the --encrypted option; by itself it has no effect. Available types of encryption are listed in the Security hardening document, but Red Hat strongly recommends using either aes-xts-plain64 or aes-cbc-essiv:sha256.
- **--passphrase=** Specifies the passphrase to use when encrypting this RAID device. You must use this option together with the **--encrypted** option; by itself it has no effect.
- --escrowcert=URL_of_X.509_certificate Store the data encryption key for this device in a file in /root, encrypted by using the X.509 certificate from the URL specified with URL_of_X.509_certificate. This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified.
- **--backuppassphrase** Add a randomly-generated passphrase to this device. Store the passphrase in a file in /**root**, encrypted by using the X.509 certificate specified with **--escrowcert**. This option is only meaningful if **--escrowcert** is specified.

- --pbkdf=PBKDF Sets Password-Based Key Derivation Function (PBKDF) algorithm for LUKS keyslot. See also the man page cryptsetup(8). This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified.
- **--pbkdf-memory=PBKDF_MEMORY** Sets the memory cost for PBKDF. See also the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified.
- **--pbkdf-time=PBKDF_TIME** Sets the number of milliseconds to spend with PBKDF passphrase processing. See also **--iter-time** in the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified, and is mutually exclusive with **--pbkdf-iterations**.
- --pbkdf-iterations=PBKDF_ITERATIONS Sets the number of iterations directly and avoids PBKDF benchmark. See also --pbkdf-force-iterations in the man page cryptsetup(8). This option is only meaningful if --encrypted is specified, and is mutually exclusive with --pbkdf-time.

Example

The following example shows how to create a RAID level 1 partition for /, and a RAID level 5 for /home, assuming there are three SCSI disks on the system. It also creates three swap partitions, one on each drive.

```
part raid.01 --size=6000 --ondisk=sda
part raid.02 --size=6000 --ondisk=sdb
part raid.03 --size=6000 --ondisk=sdc
part swap --size=512 --ondisk=sda
part swap --size=512 --ondisk=sdb
part swap --size=512 --ondisk=sdc
part raid.11 --size=1 --grow --ondisk=sda
part raid.12 --size=1 --grow --ondisk=sdb
part raid.13 --size=1 --grow --ondisk=sdb
part raid.13 --size=1 --grow --ondisk=sdc
raid / --level=1 --device=rhel8-root --label=rhel8-root raid.01 raid.02 raid.03
raid /home --level=5 --device=rhel8-home --label=rhel8-home raid.11 raid.12 raid.13
```

Note

• If you lose the LUKS passphrase, any encrypted partitions and their data is completely inaccessible. There is no way to recover a lost passphrase. However, you can save encryption passphrases with the --escrowcert and create backup encryption passphrases with the --backuppassphrase options.

B.5.9. volgroup

The volgroup Kickstart command is optional. It creates a Logical Volume Manager (LVM) group.

Syntax

volgroup name [OPTIONS] [partition*]

Mandatory options

• name - Name of the new volume group.

Options

- partition Physical volume partitions to use as backing storage for the volume group.
- --noformat Use an existing volume group and do not format it.
- **--useexisting** Use an existing volume group and reformat it. If you use this option, do not specify a *partition*. For example:

volgroup rhel00 --useexisting --noformat

- **--pesize=** Set the size of the volume group's physical extents in KiB. The default value is 4096 (4 MiB), and the minimum value is 1024 (1 MiB).
- --reserved-space= Specify an amount of space to leave unused in a volume group in MiB. Applicable only to newly created volume groups.
- **--reserved-percent=** Specify a percentage of total volume group space to leave unused. Applicable only to newly created volume groups.

Notes

• Create the partition first, then create the logical volume group, and then create the logical volume. For example:

```
part pv.01 --size 10000
volgroup my_volgrp pv.01
logvol / --vgname=my_volgrp --size=2000 --name=root
```

• Do not use the dash (-) character in logical volume and volume group names when installing Red Hat Enterprise Linux by using Kickstart. If this character is used, the installation finishes normally, but the /dev/mapper/ directory will list these volumes and volume groups with every dash doubled. For example, a volume group named volgrp-01 containing a logical volume named logvol-01 will be listed as /dev/mapper/volgrp--01-logvol--01.

This limitation only applies to newly created logical volume and volume group names. If you are reusing existing ones by using the **--noformat** option, their names will not be changed.

B.5.10. logvol

The **logvol** Kickstart command is optional. It creates a logical volume for Logical Volume Manager (LVM).

Syntax

logvol mntpoint --vgname=name --name=name [OPTIONS]

Mandatory options

mntpoint

The mount point where the partition is mounted. Must be of one of the following forms:

/path
 For example, / or /home

swap

The partition is used as swap space.

To determine the size of the swap partition automatically, use the **--recommended** option:

swap --recommended

To determine the size of the swap partition automatically and also allow extra space for your system to hibernate, use the **--hibernation** option:

swap --hibernation

The size assigned will be equivalent to the swap space assigned by **--recommended** plus the amount of RAM on your system. For the swap sizes assigned by these commands, see Recommended Partitioning Scheme for AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM systems.

--vgname=name

Name of the volume group.

--name=name

Name of the logical volume.

Optional options

--noformat

Use an existing logical volume and do not format it.

--useexisting

Use an existing logical volume and reformat it.

--fstype=

Sets the file system type for the logical volume. Valid values are xfs, ext2, ext3, ext4, swap, and vfat.

--fsoptions=

Specifies a free form string of options to be used when mounting the filesystem. This string will be copied into the /etc/fstab file of the installed system and should be enclosed in quotes.



NOTE

In the EFI system partition (/boot/efi), anaconda hard codes the value and ignores the users specified --fsoptions values.

--mkfsoptions=

Specifies additional parameters to be passed to the program that makes a filesystem on this partition. No processing is done on the list of arguments, so they must be supplied in a format that can be passed directly to the mkfs program. This means multiple options should be commaseparated or surrounded by double quotes, depending on the filesystem. For example,

For details, see the man pages of the filesystems you are creating. For example, **mkfs.ext4** or **mkfs.xfs**.

--fsprofile=

Specifies a usage type to be passed to the program that makes a filesystem on this partition. A usage type defines a variety of tuning parameters to be used when making a filesystem. For this option to work, the filesystem must support the concept of usage types and there must be a configuration file that lists valid types. For **ext2**, **ext3**, and **ext4**, this configuration file is /etc/mke2fs.conf.

--label=

Sets a label for the logical volume.

--grow

Extends the logical volume to occupy the available space (if any), or up to the maximum size specified, if any. The option must be used only if you have pre-allocated a minimum storage space in the disk image, and would want the volume to grow and occupy the available space. In a physical environment, this is a one-time-action. However, in a virtual environment, the volume size increases as and when the virtual machine writes any data to the virtual disk.

--size=

The size of the logical volume in MiB. This option cannot be used together with the **--percent=** option.

--percent=

The size of the logical volume, as a percentage of the free space in the volume group after any statically-sized logical volumes are taken into account. This option cannot be used together with the **--size=** option.



IMPORTANT

When creating a new logical volume, you must either specify its size statically by using the **--size=** option, or as a percentage of remaining free space by using the **--percent=** option. You cannot use both of these options on the same logical volume.

--maxsize=

The maximum size in MiB when the logical volume is set to grow. Specify an integer value here such as **500** (do not include the unit).

--recommended

Use this option when creating a logical volume to determine the size of this volume automatically, based on your system's hardware. For details about the recommended scheme, see Recommended Partitioning Scheme for AMD64, Intel 64, and 64-bit ARM systems.

--resize

Resize a logical volume. If you use this option, you must also specify --useexisting and --size.

--encrypted

Specifies that this logical volume should be encrypted with Linux Unified Key Setup (LUKS) by using the passphrase provided in the **--passphrase**= option. If you do not specify a passphrase, the installation program uses the default, system-wide passphrase set with the **autopart --passphrase** command, or stops the installation and prompts you to provide a passphrase if no default is set.



NOTE

When encrypting one or more partitions, Anaconda attempts to gather 256 bits of entropy to ensure the partitions are encrypted securely. Gathering entropy can take some time - the process will stop after a maximum of 10 minutes, regardless of whether sufficient entropy has been gathered.

The process can be sped up by interacting with the installation system (typing on the keyboard or moving the mouse). If you are installing in a virtual machine, you can also attach a **virtio-rng** device (a virtual random number generator) to the guest.

--passphrase=

Specifies the passphrase to use when encrypting this logical volume. You must use this option together with the **--encrypted** option; it has no effect by itself.

--cipher=

Specifies the type of encryption to use if the Anaconda default **aes-xts-plain64** is not satisfactory. You must use this option together with the **--encrypted** option; by itself it has no effect. Available types of encryption are listed in the Security hardening document, but Red Hat strongly recommends using either **aes-xts-plain64** or **aes-cbc-essiv:sha256**.

--escrowcert=URL_of_X.509_certificate

Store data encryption keys of all encrypted volumes as files in /**root**, encrypted by using the X.509 certificate from the URL specified with *URL_of_X.509_certificate*. The keys are stored as a separate file for each encrypted volume. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified.

--luks-version=LUKS_VERSION

Specifies which version of LUKS format should be used to encrypt the filesystem. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified.

--backuppassphrase

Add a randomly-generated passphrase to each encrypted volume. Store these passphrases in separate files in /root, encrypted by using the X.509 certificate specified with --escrowcert. This option is only meaningful if --escrowcert is specified.

--pbkdf=PBKDF

Sets Password-Based Key Derivation Function (PBKDF) algorithm for LUKS keyslot. See also the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified.

--pbkdf-memory=PBKDF MEMORY

Sets the memory cost for PBKDF. See also the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified.

--pbkdf-time=PBKDF_TIME

Sets the number of milliseconds to spend with PBKDF passphrase processing. See also **--iter-time** in the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified, and is mutually exclusive with **--pbkdf-iterations**.

--pbkdf-iterations=PBKDF_ITERATIONS

Sets the number of iterations directly and avoids PBKDF benchmark. See also **--pbkdf-force-iterations** in the man page *cryptsetup(8)*. This option is only meaningful if **--encrypted** is specified, and is mutually exclusive with **--pbkdf-time**.

--thinpool

Creates a thin pool of logical volume. (Use a mount point of **none**)

--metadatasize=size

Specify the metadata area size (in MiB) for a new thin pool device.

--chunksize=size

Specify the chunk size (in KiB) for a new thin pool device.

--thin

Create a thin logical volume. (Requires use of **--poolname**)

--poolname=name

Specify the name of the thin pool in which to create a thin logical volume. Requires the --thin option.

--profile=name

Specify the configuration profile name to use with thin logical volumes. If used, the name will also be included in the metadata for the given logical volume. By default, the available profiles are **default** and **thin-performance** and are defined in the <code>/etc/lvm/profile/</code> directory. See the <code>lvm(8)</code> man page for additional information.

--cachepvs=

A comma-separated list of physical volumes which should be used as a cache for this volume.

--cachemode=

Specify which mode should be used to cache this logical volume - either writeback or writethrough.



NOTE

For more information about cached logical volumes and their modes, see the **lvmcache(7)** man page on your system.

--cachesize=

Size of cache attached to the logical volume, specified in MiB. This option requires the **--cachepvs=** option.

Notes

- Do not use the dash (-) character in logical volume and volume group names when installing Red Hat Enterprise Linux by using Kickstart. If this character is used, the installation finishes normally, but the /dev/mapper/ directory will list these volumes and volume groups with every dash doubled. For example, a volume group named volgrp-01 containing a logical volume named logvol-01 will be listed as /dev/mapper/volgrp—01-logvol—01.
 This limitation only applies to newly created logical volume and volume group names. If you are reusing existing ones by using the --noformat option, their names will not be changed.
- If you lose the LUKS passphrase, any encrypted partitions and their data is completely inaccessible. There is no way to recover a lost passphrase. However, you can save encryption passphrases with the --escrowcert and create backup encryption passphrases with the --backuppassphrase options.

Examples

• Create the partition first, create the logical volume group, and then create the logical volume:

```
part pv.01 --size 3000
volgroup myvg pv.01
logvol / --vgname=myvg --size=2000 --name=rootvol
```

• Create the partition first, create the logical volume group, and then create the logical volume to occupy 90% of the remaining space in the volume group:

```
part pv.01 --size 1 --grow
volgroup myvg pv.01
logvol / --vgname=myvg --name=rootvol --percent=90
```

Additional resources

• Configuring and managing logical volumes

B.5.11. snapshot

The **snapshot** Kickstart command is optional. Use it to create LVM thin volume snapshots during the installation process. This enables you to back up a logical volume before or after the installation.

To create multiple snapshots, add the **snaphost** Kickstart command multiple times.

Syntax

snapshot vg_name/lv_name --name=snapshot_name --when=pre-install|post-install

Options

- **vg_name**/**Iv_name** Sets the name of the volume group and logical volume to create the snapshot from.
- **--name**=**snapshot_name** Sets the name of the snapshot. This name must be unique within the volume group.
- --when=pre-install|post-install Sets if the snapshot is created before the installation begins
 or after the installation is completed.

B.5.12. mount

The **mount** Kickstart command is optional. It assigns a mount point to an existing block device, and optionally reformats it to a given format.

Syntax

mount [OPTIONS] device mountpoint

Mandatory options:

- **device** The block device to mount.
- mountpoint Where to mount the device. It must be a valid mount point, such as / or /usr, or none if the device is unmountable (for example swap).

Optional options:

• --reformat= - Specifies a new format (such as ext4) to which the device should be reformatted.

- --mkfsoptions= Specifies additional options to be passed to the command which creates the
 new file system specified in --reformat=. The list of options provided here is not processed, so
 they must be specified in a format that can be passed directly to the mkfs program. The list of
 options should be either comma-separated or surrounded by double quotes, depending on the
 file system. See the mkfs man page for the file system you want to create (for example
 mkfs.ext4(8) or mkfs.xfs(8)) for specific details.
- --mountoptions= Specifies a free form string that contains options to be used when mounting the file system. The string will be copied to the /etc/fstab file on the installed system and should be enclosed in double quotes. See the mount(8) man page for a full list of mount options, and fstab(5) for basics.

Notes

- Unlike most other storage configuration commands in Kickstart, mount does not require you to
 describe the entire storage configuration in the Kickstart file. You only need to ensure that the
 described block device exists on the system. However, if you want to create the storage stack
 with all the devices mounted, you must use other commands such as part to do so.
- You can not use **mount** together with other storage-related commands such as **part**, **logvol**, or **autopart** in the same Kickstart file.

B.5.13. zipl

The **zipl** Kickstart command is optional. It specifies the ZIPL configuration for 64-bit IBM Z. Use this command only once.

Options

• **--secure-boot** - Enables secure boot if it is supported by the installing system.



NOTE

When installed on a system that is later than IBM z14, the installed system cannot be booted from an IBM z14 or earlier model.

• --force-secure-boot - Enables secure boot unconditionally.



NOTE

Installation is not supported on IBM z14 and earlier models.

• --no-secure-boot - Disables secure boot.



NOTE

Secure Boot is not supported on IBM z14 and earlier models. Use **--no-secure-boot** if you intend to boot the installed system on IBM z14 and earlier models.

B.5.14. fcoe

The **fcoe** Kickstart command is optional. It specifies which FCoE devices should be activated automatically in addition to those discovered by Enhanced Disk Drive Services (EDD).

Syntax

fcoe --nic=name [OPTIONS]

Options

- --nic= (required) The name of the device to be activated.
- --dcb= Establish Data Center Bridging (DCB) settings.
- --autovlan Discover VLANs automatically. This option is enabled by default.

B.5.15. iscsi

The **iscsi** Kickstart command is optional. It specifies additional iSCSI storage to be attached during installation.

Syntax

iscsi --ipaddr=address [OPTIONS]

Mandatory options

• --ipaddr= (required) - the IP address of the target to connect to.

Optional options

- **--port=** (required) the port number. If not present, **--port=3260** is used automatically by default.
- --target= the target IQN (iSCSI Qualified Name).
- **--iface=** bind the connection to a specific network interface instead of using the default one determined by the network layer. Once used, it must be specified in all instances of the **iscsi** command in the entire Kickstart file.
- --user= the user name required to authenticate with the target
- --password= the password that corresponds with the user name specified for the target
- **--reverse-user=** the user name required to authenticate with the initiator from a target that uses reverse CHAP authentication
- --reverse-password= the password that corresponds with the user name specified for the initiator

Notes

If you use the iscsi command, you must also assign a name to the iSCSI node by using the
iscsiname command. The iscsiname command must appear before the iscsi command in the
Kickstart file.

- Wherever possible, configure iSCSI storage in the system BIOS or firmware (iBFT for Intel systems) rather than use the **iscsi** command. Anaconda automatically detects and uses disks configured in BIOS or firmware and no special configuration is necessary in the Kickstart file.
- If you must use the **iscsi** command, ensure that networking is activated at the beginning of the installation, and that the **iscsi** command appears in the Kickstart file *before* you refer to iSCSI disks with commands such as **clearpart** or **ignoredisk**.

B.5.16. iscsiname

The **iscsiname** Kickstart command is optional. It assigns a name to an iSCSI node specified by the **iscsi** command. Use this command only once.

Syntax

iscsiname iqname

Options

• *igname* - Name to assign to the iSCSI node.

Note

• If you use the **iscsi** command in your Kickstart file, you must specify **iscsiname** earlier in the Kickstart file.

B.5.17. zfcp

The **zfcp** Kickstart command is optional. It defines a Fibre channel device.

This option only applies on 64-bit IBM Z.

Syntax

zfcp --devnum=devnum [--wwpn=wwpn --fcplun=lun]

Options

- --devnum= The device number (zFCP adapter device bus ID).
- --wwpn= The device's World Wide Port Name (WWPN). Takes the form of a 16-digit number, preceded by **0x**.
- **--fcplun=** The device's Logical Unit Number (LUN). Takes the form of a 16-digit number, preceded by **0x**.



NOTE

It is sufficient to specify an FCP device bus ID if automatic LUN scanning is available and when installing 10 or later releases. Otherwise all three parameters are required. Automatic LUN scanning is available for FCP devices operating in NPIV mode if it is not disabled through the **zfcp.allow_lun_scan** module parameter (enabled by default). It provides access to all SCSI devices found in the storage area network attached to the FCP device with the specified bus ID.

Example

B.6. KICKSTART COMMANDS FOR ADDONS SUPPLIED WITH THE RHEL INSTALLATION PROGRAM

The Kickstart commands in this section are related to add-ons supplied by default with the Red Hat Enterprise Linux installation program.

B.6.1. %addon com redhat kdump

The **%addon com_redhat_kdump** Kickstart command is optional. This command configures the kdump kernel crash dumping mechanism.

Syntax

%addon com_redhat_kdump [OPTIONS] %end



NOTE

The syntax for this command is unusual because it is an add-on rather than a built-in Kickstart command.

Notes

Kdump is a kernel crash dumping mechanism that allows you to save the contents of the system's memory for later analysis. It relies on **kexec**, which can be used to boot a Linux kernel from the context of another kernel without rebooting the system, and preserve the contents of the first kernel's memory that would otherwise be lost.

In case of a system crash, **kexec** boots into a second kernel (a capture kernel). This capture kernel resides in a reserved part of the system memory. Kdump then captures the contents of the crashed kernel's memory (a crash dump) and saves it to a specified location. The location cannot be configured using this Kickstart command; it must be configured after the installation by editing the /etc/kdump.conf configuration file.

For more information about Kdump, see the Installing kdump.

Options

- --enable Enable kdump on the installed system.
- --disable Disable kdump on the installed system.
- --reserve-mb= The amount of memory you want to reserve for kdump, in MiB. For example:

%addon com_redhat_kdump --enable --reserve-mb=128 %end

You can also specify **auto** instead of a numeric value. In that case, the installation program will determine the amount of memory automatically based on the criteria described in the Memory requirements for kdump section of the *Managing*, *monitoring* and *updating* the kernel document.

If you enable kdump and do not specify a --reserve-mb= option, the value auto will be used.

• --enablefadump - Enable firmware-assisted dumping on systems which allow it (notably, IBM Power Systems servers).

B.7. KICKSTART COMMANDS FOR SYSTEM RECOVERY

The Kickstart command in this section repairs an installed system.

B.7.1. rescue

The **rescue** Kickstart command is optional. It provides a shell environment with root privileges and a set of system management tools to repair the installation and to troubleshoot the issues like:

- Mount file systems as read-only
- Blocklist or add a driver provided on a driver disc
- Install or upgrade system packages
- Manage partitions



NOTE

The Kickstart rescue mode is different from the rescue mode and emergency mode, which are provided as part of the systemd and service manager.

The **rescue** command does not modify the system on its own. It only sets up the rescue environment by mounting the system under /mnt/sysimage in a read-write mode. You can choose not to mount the system, or to mount it in read-only mode. Use this command only once.

Syntax

rescue [--nomount|--romount]

Options

--nomount or --romount - Controls how the installed system is mounted in the rescue
environment. By default, the installation program finds your system and mount it in read-write
mode, telling you where it has performed this mount. You can optionally select to not mount
anything (the --nomount option) or mount in read-only mode (the --romount option). Only one
of these two options can be used.

Notes

To run a rescue mode, make a copy of the Kickstart file, and include the **rescue** command in it.

Using the **rescue** command causes the installer to perform the following steps:

1. Run the **%pre** script.

2. Set up the environment for rescue mode. The following kickstart commands take effect:

- a. updates
- b. sshpw
- c. logging
- d. lang
- e. network
- 3. Set up an advanced storage environment.

 The following kickstart commands take effect:
 - a. fcoe
 - b. iscsi
 - c. iscsiname
 - d. nvdimm
 - e. zfcp
- 4. Mount the system
 - rescue [--nomount|--romount]
- 5. Run %post script
 This step is run only if the installed system is mounted in read-write mode.
- 6. Start shell
- 7. Reboot system

APPENDIX C. BOOT OPTIONS REFERENCE

You can use the boot options to modify the default behavior of the installation program.

C.1. INSTALLATION SOURCE BOOT OPTIONS

This section describes various installation source boot options.

inst.repo=

The **inst.repo**= boot option specifies the installation source, that is, the location providing the package repositories and a valid **.treeinfo** file that describes them. For example: **inst.repo**=**cdrom**. The target of the **inst.repo**= option must be one of the following installation media:

- an installable tree, which is a directory structure containing the installation program images, packages, and repository data as well as a valid .treeinfo file
- a DVD (a physical disk present in the system DVD drive)
- an ISO image of the full Red Hat Enterprise Linux installation DVD, placed on a disk or a network location accessible to the system.

Use the **inst.repo=** boot option to configure different installation methods by using different formats. The following table contains details of the **inst.repo=** boot option syntax:

Table C.1. Types and format for the inst.repo= boot option and installation source

Source type	Boot option format	Source format
CD/DVD drive	inst.repo=cdrom: <device></device>	Installation DVD as a physical disk. ^[a]
Mountable device (HDD and USB stick)	inst.repo=hd: <device>:/<path></path></device>	Image file of the installation DVD.
NFS Server	inst.repo=nfs: [options:] <server>:/<path></path></server>	Image file of the installation DVD, or an installation tree, which is a complete copy of the directories and files on the installation DVD. [b]
HTTP Server	inst.repo=http:// <host>/<path></path></host>	Installation tree that is a complete copy of the directories and files on the installation DVD.
HTTPS Server	inst.repo=https:// <host>/<path></path></host>	
FTP Server	inst.repo=ftp:// <username>:<password >@<host>/<path></path></host></password </username>	
НМС	inst.repo=hmc	

Source type Boot option format Source form
--

[a] If device is left out, installation program automatically searches for a drive containing the installation DVD.

[b] The NFS Server option uses NFS protocol version 3 by default. To use a different version, add **nfsvers=** X to options, replacing X with the version number that you want to use.

Set disk device names with the following formats:

- Kernel device name, for example /dev/sda1 or sdb2
- File system label, for example **LABEL=Flash** or **LABEL=RHEL8**
- File system UUID, for example **UUID=8176c7bf-04ff-403a-a832-9557f94e61db**

Non-alphanumeric characters must be represented as **\xNN**, where *NN* is the hexadecimal representation of the character. For example, **\x20** is a white space (" ").

inst.addrepo=

Use the **inst.addrepo=** boot option to add an additional repository that you can use as another installation source along with the main repository (**inst.repo=**). You can use the **inst.addrepo=** boot option multiple times during one boot. The following table contains details of the **inst.addrepo=** boot option syntax.



NOTE

The **REPO_NAME** is the name of the repository and is required in the installation process. These repositories are only used during the installation process; they are not installed on the installed system.

For more information about unified ISO, see Unified ISO.

Table C.2. Installation sources and boot option format

Installation source	Boot option format	Additional information
Installable tree at a URL	inst.addrepo=REPO_NAME, [http,https,ftp]:// <host>/<pat h></pat </host>	Looks for the installable tree at a given URL.
Installable tree at an NFS path	inst.addrepo=REPO_NAME,n fs:// <i><server></server></i> :/ <i><path></path></i>	Looks for the installable tree at a given NFS path. A colon is required after the host. The installation program passes everything after nfs: // directly to the mount command instead of parsing URLs according to RFC 2224.

Installation source	Boot option format	Additional information
Installable tree in the installation environment	inst.addrepo=REPO_NAME,fi le:// <path></path>	Looks for the installable tree at the given location in the installation environment. To use this option, the repository must be mounted before the installation program attempts to load the available software groups. The benefit of this option is that you can have multiple repositories on one bootable ISO, and you can install both the main repository and additional repositories from the ISO. The path to the additional repositories is /run/install/source/REPO_IS O_PATH. Additionally, you can mount the repository directory in the %pre section in the Kickstart file. The path must be absolute and start with /, for example inst.addrepo=REPO_NAME,file:/// <pre> /// Install /spath ></pre>
Disk	inst.addrepo=REPO_NAME,h d: <i><device></device></i> : <i><path></path></i>	Mounts the given <device> partition and installs from the ISO that is specified by the <path>. If the <path> is not specified, the installation program looks for a valid installation ISO on the <device>. This installation method requires an ISO with a valid installable tree.</device></path></path></device>

inst.stage2=

The **inst.stage2=** boot option specifies the location of the installation program's runtime image. This option expects the path to a directory that contains a valid **.treeinfo** file and reads the runtime image location from the **.treeinfo** file. If the **.treeinfo** file is not available, the installation program attempts to load the image from **images/install.img**.

When you do not specify the **inst.stage2** option, the installation program attempts to use the location specified with the **inst.repo** option.

Use this option when you want to manually specify the installation source in the installation program at a later time. For example, when you want to select the Content Delivery Network (CDN) as an installation source. The installation DVD and Boot ISO already contain a suitable **inst.stage2** option to boot the installation program from the respective ISO.

If you want to specify an installation source, use the **inst.repo=** option instead.



NOTE

By default, the **inst.stage2=** boot option is used on the installation media and is set to a specific label; for example, **inst.stage2=hd:LABEL=RHEL-x-0-0-BaseOS-x86_64**. If you modify the default label of the file system that contains the runtime image, or if you use a customized procedure to boot the installation system, verify that the **inst.stage2=** boot option is set to the correct value.

inst.noverifyssl

Use the **inst.noverifyssl** boot option to prevent the installer from verifying SSL certificates for all HTTPS connections with the exception of additional Kickstart repositories, where **--noverifyssl** can be set per repository.

For example, if your remote installation source is using self-signed SSL certificates, the **inst.noverifyssl** boot option enables the installer to complete the installation without verifying the SSL certificates.

Example when specifying the source by using inst.stage2=

inst.stage2=https://hostname/path_to_install_image/ inst.noverifyssl

Example when specifying the source by using inst.repo=

inst.repo=https://hostname/path_to_install_repository/ inst.noverifyssl

inst.stage2.all

Use the **inst.stage2.all** boot option to specify several HTTP, HTTPS, or FTP sources. You can use the **inst.stage2=** boot option multiple times with the **inst.stage2.all** option to fetch the image from the sources sequentially until one succeeds. For example:

inst.stage2.all inst.stage2=http://hostname1/path_to_install_tree/ inst.stage2=http://hostname2/path_to_install_tree/ inst.stage2=http://hostname3/path_to_install_tree/

inst.dd=

The **inst.dd=** boot option is used to perform a driver update during the installation. For more information about how to update drivers during installation, see the *Updating drivers during installation*.

inst.repo=hmc

This option eliminates the requirement of an external network setup and expands the installation options. When booting from a Binary DVD, the installation program prompts you to enter additional kernel parameters. To set the DVD as an installation source, append the <code>inst.repo=hmc</code> option to the kernel parameters. The installation program then enables support element (SE) and hardware management console (HMC) file access, fetches the images for stage2 from the DVD, and provides access to the packages on the DVD for software selection.



IMPORTANT

To use the **inst.repo** boot option, ensure the user is configured with a **minimum of Privilege Class B**. For more information about the user configuration, see IBM documentation.

inst.proxy=

This boot option is used when performing an installation from a HTTP, HTTPS, and FTP protocol. For example:

[PROTOCOL: //] [USERNAME[:PASSWORD]@] HOST[:PORT]

inst.nosave=

Use the **inst.nosave=** boot option to control the installation logs and related files that are not saved to the installed system, for example **input_ks**, **output_ks**, **all_ks**, **logs** and **all**. You can combine multiple values separated by a comma. For example,

inst.nosave=Input_ks,logs



NOTE

The **inst.nosave** boot option is used for excluding files from the installed system that cannot be removed by a Kickstart %post script, such as logs and input/output Kickstart results.

input_ks

Disables the ability to save the input Kickstart results.

output_ks

Disables the ability to save the output Kickstart results generated by the installation program.

all ks

Disables the ability to save the input and output Kickstart results.

logs

Disables the ability to save all installation logs.

all

Disables the ability to save all Kickstart results, and all logs.

inst.multilib

Use the **inst.multilib** boot option to set DNF's **multilib_policy** to **all**, instead of **best**.

inst.memcheck

The **inst.memcheck** boot option performs a check to verify that the system has enough RAM to complete the installation. If there is not enough RAM, the installation process is stopped. The system check is approximate and memory usage during installation depends on the package selection, user interface, for example graphical or text, and other parameters.

inst.nomemcheck

The **inst.nomemcheck** boot option does not perform a check to verify if the system has enough RAM to complete the installation. Any attempt to perform the installation with less than the minimum amount of memory is unsupported, and might result in the installation process failing.

C.2. NETWORK BOOT OPTIONS

If your scenario requires booting from an image over the network instead of booting from a local image, you can use the following options to customize network booting.



NOTE

Initialize the network with the **dracut** tool. For complete list of **dracut** options, see the **dracut.cmdline(7)** man page on your system.

ip=

Use the **ip=** boot option to configure one or more network interfaces. To configure multiple interfaces, use one of the following methods;

- use the **ip** option multiple times, once for each interface; to do so, use the **rd.neednet=1** option, and specify a primary boot interface using the **bootdev** option.
- use the **ip** option once, and then use Kickstart to set up further interfaces. This option accepts several different formats. The following tables contain information about the most common options.

In the following tables:

- The **ip** parameter specifies the client IP address and **IPv6** requires square brackets, for example 192.0.2.1 or [2001:db8::99].
- The **gateway** parameter is the default gateway. **IPv6** requires square brackets.
- The **netmask** parameter is the netmask to be used. This can be either a full netmask (for example, 255.255.255.0) or a prefix (for example, 64).
- The hostname parameter is the host name of the client system. This parameter is optional.

Table C.3. Boot option formats to configure the network interface

Boot option format	Configuration method
ip=method	Automatic configuration of any interface
ip=interface:method	Automatic configuration of a specific interface
ip=ip::gateway:netmask:hostname:interface:none	Static configuration, for example, IPv4: ip=192.0.2.1::192.0.2.254:255.255.255.0:se rver.example.com:enp1s0:none IPv6: ip=[2001:db8::1]:: [2001:db8::fffe]:64:server.example.com:e np1s0:none
ip=ip::gateway:netmask:hostname:interfa ce:method:mtu	Automatic configuration of a specific interface with an override

Configuration methods for the automatic interface

The method **automatic configuration of a specific interface with an override** opens the interface by using the specified method of automatic configuration, such as **dhcp**, but overrides the automatically obtained IP address, gateway, netmask, host name or other specified parameters. All parameters are optional, so specify only the parameters that you want to override.

The **method** parameter can be any of the following:

DHCP

dhcp

IPv6 DHCP

dhcp6

IPv6 automatic configuration

auto6

iSCSI Boot Firmware Table (iBFT)

ibft



NOTE

- o If you use a boot option that requires network access, such as inst.ks=http://host/path, without specifying the ip option, the default value of the **ip** option is **ip=dhcp**..
- To connect to an iSCSI target automatically, activate a network device for accessing the target by using the **ip=ibft** boot option.

nameserver=

The **nameserver=** option specifies the address of the name server. You can use this option multiple times.



NOTE

The **ip=** parameter requires square brackets. However, an IPv6 address does not work with square brackets. An example of the correct syntax to use for an IPv6 address is nameserver=2001:db8::1.

bootdev=

The **bootdev=** option specifies the boot interface. This option is mandatory if you use more than one **ip** option.

ifname=

The ifname= options assigns an interface name to a network device with a given MAC address. You can use this option multiple times. The syntax is ifname=interface:MAC. For example:



ifname=eth0:01:23:45:67:89:ab



NOTE

The **ifname=** option is the only supported way to set custom network interface names during installation.

inst.dhcpclass=

The **inst.dhcpclass=** option specifies the DHCP vendor class identifier. The **dhcpd** service recognizes this value as vendor-class-identifier. The default value is anaconda-\$(uname -

srm). To ensure the **inst.dhcpclass=** option is applied correctly, request network activation during the early stage of installation by also adding the **ip** option.

inst.waitfornet=

Using the **inst.waitfornet=SECONDS** boot option causes the installation system to wait for network connectivity before installation. The value given in the **SECONDS** argument specifies the maximum amount of time to wait for network connectivity before timing out and continuing the installation process even if network connectivity is not present.

vlan=

Use the **vlan=** option to configure a Virtual LAN (VLAN) device on a specified interface with a given name. The syntax is **vlan=name:interface**. For example:

vlan=vlan5:enp0s1

This configures a VLAN device named **vlan5** on the **enp0s1** interface. The name can take the following forms:

- VLAN_PLUS_VID: vlan0005
- VLAN_PLUS_VID_NO_PAD: vlan5
- DEV_PLUS_VID: enp0s1.0005
- DEV_PLUS_VID_NO_PAD: enp0s1.5

bond=

Use the **bond=** option to configure a bonding device with the following syntax: **bond=name[:interfaces][:options]**. Replace *name* with the bonding device name, *interfaces* with a comma-separated list of physical (Ethernet) interfaces, and *options* with a comma-separated list of bonding options. For example:

bond=bond0:enp0s1,enp0s2:mode=active-backup,tx_queues=32,downdelay=5000

For a list of available options, execute the **modinfo** bonding command.

team=

Use the **team=** option to configure a team device with the following syntax: **team=name:interfaces**. Replace *name* with the desired name of the team device and *interfaces* with a comma-separated list of physical (Ethernet) devices to be used as underlying interfaces in the team device. For example:

team=team0:enp0s1,enp0s2



IMPORTANT

NIC teaming is deprecated in {RHEL9}. Consider using the network bonding driver as an alternative. For details, see Configuring a network bond.

bridge=

Use the **bridge=** option to configure a bridge device with the following syntax: **bridge=name:interfaces**. Replace *name* with the desired name of the bridge device and *interfaces* with a comma-separated list of physical (Ethernet) devices to be used as

underlying interfaces in the bridge device. For example:

bridge=bridge0:enp0s1,enp0s2

Additional resources

Configuring and managing networking

C.3. CONSOLE BOOT OPTIONS

This section describes how to configure boot options for your console, monitor display, and keyboard.

console=

Use the **console=** option to specify a device that you want to use as the primary console. For example, to use a console on the first serial port, use **console=ttyS0**. When using the **console=** argument, the installation starts with a text UI. If you must use the **console=** option multiple times, the boot message is displayed on all specified console. However, the installation program uses only the last specified console. For example, if you specify **console=ttyS0 console=ttyS1**, the installation program uses **ttyS1**.

inst.lang=

Use the **inst.lang=** option to set the language that you want to use during the installation. To view the list of locales, enter the command **locale -a | grep _** or the **localectI list-locales | grep _** command.

inst.geoloc=

Use the **inst.geoloc=** option to configure geolocation usage in the installation program. Geolocation is used to preset the language and time zone, and uses the following syntax: **inst.geoloc=value**. The **value** can be any of the following parameters:

- Disable geolocation: inst.geoloc=0
- Use the Fedora GeoIP API: inst.geoloc=provider fedora geoip. This option is deprecated.
- Use the Hostip.info GeoIP API: inst.geoloc=provider hostip. This option is deprecated.

inst.keymap=

Use the **inst.keymap=** option to specify the keyboard layout to use for the installation.

inst.cmdline

Use the **inst.cmdline** option to force the installation program to run in command-line mode. This mode does not allow any interaction, and you must specify all options in a Kickstart file or on the command line.

inst.graphical

Use the **inst.graphical** option to force the installation program to run in graphical mode. The graphical mode is the default.

inst.text

Use the **inst.text** option to force the installation program to run in text mode instead of graphical mode.

inst.noninteractive

Use the **inst.noninteractive** boot option to run the installation program in a non-interactive mode. User interaction is not permitted in the non-interactive mode, and **inst.noninteractive** you can use

the **inst.nointeractive** option with a graphical or text installation. When you use the **inst.noninteractive** option in text mode, it behaves the same as the **inst.cmdline** option.

inst.resolution=

Use the **inst.resolution**= option to specify the screen resolution in graphical mode. The format is **NxM**, where N is the screen width and M is the screen height (in pixels). The recommended resolution is 1024×768 .

inst.rdp

Use the **inst.rdp** option to run the graphical installation using remote desktop protocol.

inst.rdppassword=

Use the **inst.rdppassword=** option to set a password on the RDP server that is used by the installation program.

inst.rdpconnect=

Use the **inst.rdpconnect**= option to connect to a listening RDP client at the given host location, for example, **inst.rdpconnect**=<**host**>[:<**port**>] The default port is 5900.

modprobe.blacklist=

Use the **modprobe.blacklist=** option to blocklist or completely disable one or more drivers. Drivers (mods) that you disable using this option cannot load when the installation starts. After the installation finishes, the installed system retains these settings. You can find a list of the blocklisted drivers in the /etc/modprobe.d/ directory. Use a comma-separated list to disable multiple drivers. For example:

modprobe.blacklist=ahci,firewire_ohci



NOTE

You can use **modprobe.blacklist** in combination with the different command line options. For example, use it with the **inst.dd** option to ensure that an updated version of an existing driver is loaded from a driver update disc:

modprobe.blacklist=virtio_blk

inst.xtimeout=

Use the **inst.xtimeout=** option to specify the timeout in seconds for starting X server.

inst.sshd

Use the **inst.sshd** option to start the **sshd** service during installation, so that you can connect to the system during the installation using SSH, and monitor the installation progress. For more information about SSH, see the **ssh(1)** man page on your system. By default, the **sshd** option is automatically started only on the 64-bit IBM Z architecture. On other architectures, **sshd** is not started unless you use the **inst.sshd** option.



NOTE

During installation, the root account has no password by default. You can set a root password during installation with the **sshpw** Kickstart command.

inst.kdump_addon=

Use the **inst.kdump_addon=** option to enable or disable the Kdump configuration screen (add-on) in the installation program. This screen is enabled by default; use **inst.kdump_addon=off** to disable

it. Disabling the add-on disables the Kdump screens in both the graphical and text-based interface as well as the **%addon com_redhat_kdump** Kickstart command.

C.4. DEBUG BOOT OPTIONS

This section describes the options you can use when debugging issues.

inst.rescue

Use the **inst.rescue** option to run the rescue environment for diagnosing and fixing systems. For more information, see the Red Hat Knowledgebase solution repair a filesystem in rescue mode.

inst.updates=

Use the **inst.updates=** option to specify the location of the **updates.img** file that you want to apply during installation. The **updates.img** file can be derived from one of several sources.

Table C.4. updates.img file sources

Source	Description	Example
Updates from a network	Specify the network location of updates.img . This does not require any modification to the installation tree. To use this method, edit the kernel command line to include inst.updates .	inst.updates=http://website. com/path/to/updates.img.
Updates from a disk image	Save an updates.img on a floppy drive or a USB key. This can be done only with an ext2 filesystem type of updates.img . To save the contents of the image on your floppy drive, insert the floppy disc and run the command.	dd if=updates.img of=/dev/fd0 bs=72k count=20. To use a USB key or flash media, replace /dev/fd0 with the device name of your USB flash drive.
Updates from an installation tree	If you are using a CD, disk, HTTP, or FTP install, save the updates.img in the installation tree so that all installations can detect the .img file. The file name must be updates.img .	For NFS installs, save the file in the images / directory, or in the RHupdates / directory.

inst.syslog=

Sends log messages to the **syslog** process on the specified host when the installation starts. You can use **inst.syslog=** only if the remote **syslog** process is configured to accept incoming connections.

inst.virtiolog=

Use the **inst.virtiolog**= option to specify which virtio port (a character device at /dev/virtio-ports/name) to use for forwarding logs. The default value is **org.fedoraproject.anaconda.log.0**.

rd.live.ram

Copies the **stage 2** image in **images/install.img** into RAM. Note that this increases the memory required for installation by the size of the image which is usually between 400 and 800MB.

inst.nokill

Prevent the installation program from rebooting when a fatal error occurs, or at the end of the installation process. Use it capture installation logs which would be lost upon reboot.

inst.noshell

Prevent a shell on terminal session 2 (tty2) during installation.

inst.notmux

Prevent the use of tmux during installation. The output is generated without terminal control characters and is meant for non-interactive uses.

inst.remotelog=

Sends all the logs to a remote **host:port** by using a TCP connection. The connection is retired if there is no listener and the installation proceeds as normal.

C.5. STORAGE BOOT OPTIONS

This section describes the options you can specify to customize booting from a storage device.

inst.nompath

Disables support for multipath devices. Use this option only if your system has a false-positive that incorrectly identifies a normal block device as a multipath device.



WARNING

Use this option with caution. Do not use this option with multipath hardware. Using this option to install to a single path of a multipath device is not supported.

inst.gpt

Forces the installation program to install partition information to a GUID Partition Table (GPT) instead of a Master Boot Record (MBR). This option is not valid on UEFI-based systems, unless they are in BIOS compatibility mode. Normally, BIOS-based systems and UEFI-based systems in BIOS compatibility mode attempt to use the MBR schema for storing partitioning information, unless the disk is 2^32 sectors in size or larger. Disk sectors are typically 512 bytes in size, meaning that this is usually equivalent to 2 TiB. The **inst.gpt** boot option allows a GPT to be written to smaller disks.

inst.wait_for_disks=

Use the **inst.wait_for_disks=** option to specify the number of seconds installation program to wait for disk devices to appear at the beginning of the installation. Use this option when you use the **OEMDRV-labeled** device to automatically load the Kickstart file or the kernel drivers but the device takes longer time to appear during the boot process. By default, installation program waits for **5** seconds. Use **0** seconds to minimize the delay.