



BEAJRokit JDK

Upgrade Guide

R27.5
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Upgrading BEA JRockit

This document contains information that will help you upgrade to the latest version of BEA JRockit. It contains information on the following subjects:

- [Supported Configurations](#)
- [Upgrading from an Earlier Release](#)
- [Special Note on Upgrading to BEA JRockit R26 and R27](#)
- [Practical Upgrading](#)
- [Release Notes](#)

Supported Configurations

Please make sure that BEA JRockit is deployed on a supported configuration. If it isn't, you will have to upgrade your configuration. For details on all supported configurations, please refer to [BEA JRockit Supported Configurations](#) at:

http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/jrdocs/suppPlat/supp_plat.html

Upgrading from an Earlier Release

This section contains information critical to successfully upgrading your version of BEA JRockit to version R27. It includes information on the following subjects:

- [Java Standard Edition \(Java SE\) Dependencies](#)

- [Upgrading from BEA JRockit 5.0 R26](#)
- [Upgrading from BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R26](#)
- [Upgrading from BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R24](#)
- [Upgrading from BEA JRockit 8.1](#)
- [Upgrading from BEA JRockit 7.0 SP6 R23](#)

Java Standard Edition (Java SE) Dependencies

J2SE dependencies vary, depending upon the J2SE version you are running:

- [J2SE 1.4.2](#)
- [J2SE 5.0](#)
- [Java SE 6](#)

J2SE 1.4.2

BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R26 and R27 are certified against J2SE 1.4.2 and it includes the Sun J2SE class libraries for J2SE 1.4.2. Please make sure that your application is compliant with J2SE 1.4.2. For verification, please refer to:

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.4.2/docs/api/>

Please refer to [Compatibility Between Releases](#) for general implications at:

<http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/jrdocs/suppPlat/prodsupp.html#wp999010>

J2SE 5.0

BEA JRockit 5.0 R26 and R27 are certified against J2SE 5.0 and it includes the Sun J2SE class libraries for J2SE 5.0. Please make sure that your application is compliant with J2SE 5.0. For verification, please refer to:

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.5.0/docs/api/>

Please refer to [Compatibility Between Releases](#) for general implications at:

<http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/jrdocs/suppPlat/prodsupp.html#wp999010>

Java SE 6

BEA JRockit 6 R27 is certified against Java SE 6 and it includes the Sun Java SE class libraries for Java SE 6. Please make sure that your application is compliant with Java SE 6. For verification, please refer to:

<http://java.sun.com/javase/6/docs/api/>

Please refer to [Compatibility Between Releases](#) for general implications at:

<http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/jrdocs/suppPlat/prodsupp.html#wp999010>

Upgrading from BEA JRockit 5.0 R26

No additional procedures are required to upgrade to BEA JRockit 5.0 R27 from BEA JRockit 5.0 R26.

Upgrading from BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R26

No additional procedures are required to upgrade to BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R27 from BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R26.

Note that BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R27 supports Solaris.

Upgrading from BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R24

BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R24 was certified against J2SE 1.4.2, which is the same J2SE version that BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R27 has been certified against. Your application should already be compatible with J2SE 1.4.2.

Upgrading from BEA JRockit 8.1

BEA JRockit 8.1 was certified against J2SE 1.4.1. Make sure that you application is compatible with J2SE 1.4.2. Please refer to the section [Java Standard Edition \(Java SE\) Dependencies](#) for further details.

Upgrading from BEA JRockit 7.0 SP6 R23

BEA JRockit 7.0 SP6 R23 was certified against J2SE 1.3.1. Make sure that you application is compatible with J2SE 1.4.2.

Refer to [Java Standard Edition \(Java SE\) Dependencies](#) for further details.

Special Note on Upgrading to BEA JRockit R26 and R27

BEA JRockit R26 and R27 represent new, major JVM releases when you upgrade to it from any of these releases:

- BEA JRockit 1.4.2 R24.5.0
- BEA JRockit 8.1
- BEA JRockit 7.0

By simply replacing your existing JVM with this version and making no or minimal changes to your application, BEA JRockit R26 and R27 will deliver:

- Improved performance
- Improved startup time
- Much improved `-xdebug` mode
- Access to BEA JRockit Mission Control, providing stabilized and fully-supported feature-rich monitoring and management tools

Practical Upgrading

This section includes information that you will find helpful when upgrading to BEA JRockit R27. It includes information on these subjects:

- [The JVM Version](#)
- [Startup Options](#)
- [Testing Your Application in a Staging Environment](#)

The JVM Version

To verify the installation, check the version string by issuing the command `java -version`. The BEA JRockit version information, for example, BEA JRockit 1.4.2_15 R27.4.0 is comprised of two elements

- The Java 2 Standard Edition (J2SE) major, minor, micro, and update version; for example, 1.4.2_15
- The specific BEA JRockit JVM version; for example, R27.4.0

Startup Options

As a rule of thumb, consider as few startup options as possible. Please make sure that all startup options are well understood and required.

Some `-xx` options might have changed. For more information of how options can be changed, please refer to [Compatibility Between Releases](#) at:

<http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/jrdocs/suppPlat/prodsupp.html#wp999010>

Testing Your Application in a Staging Environment

Please make sure to test your application in a controlled staging environment before upgrading your production environment. The staging environment should be as similar to your production environment as possible. This includes hardware, software, usage patterns and load.

Applications are sometimes sensitive to timing. A BEA JRockit upgrade can sometimes expose errors in your application; for example, dependencies on unspecified behavior or APIs. Timing differences introduced when upgrading the JVM may for instance expose erroneous synchronization.

Release Notes

This section contains important information regarding release information that might have some impact on upgrading from one version of BEA JRockit to another. It contains the following subjects:

- [Changes to Intermediate Releases](#)
- [Noticeable Changes](#)

Changes to Intermediate Releases

Be careful when reading the recent changes in the release notes; be sure to read about the changes happening in intermediate version upgrades up to R27. For a list of the changes in intermediate versions, please refer to the release notes for each version:

- [BEA JRockit 7.0 Release Notes](#)
- [BEA JRockit 1.4.2 Release Notes](#)
- [BEA JRockit 5.0 Release Notes](#)

- [BEA JRockit R26 Release Notes](#)
- [BEA JRockit R27 Release Notes](#)

Noticeable Changes

Following is a list of some of the changes that might indicate that your application could behave differently after upgrading to R27. These changes include:

- [Updated Command-line Options](#)
- [Support for Larger Heaps](#)
- [Garbage Collection](#)
- [References API](#)
- [Client Application Deployment Technologies](#)
- [Tools — BEA JRockit Mission Control](#)

Please also visit the R27 [Developers' FAQ](#) at:

http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/webdocs/dev_faq.html

Updated Command-line Options

The rules for how command-line parameters are parsed have been updated to avoid user confusion. Incompatible command-line combinations now cause BEA JRockit to print out an error message and terminate. Please refer to the specific option in the BEA JRockit [Reference Manual](#) (by clicking on the option name in [Table 1](#)) for a description of the new behavior.

Table 1 Updated Command-line Options

-X options	-XX options
-Xgc	-XXallocClearChunks
-XgcPrio	-XXallocClearChunkSize
-Xms	-XXallocPrefetch
-Xmx	-XXallocRedoPrefetch
-Xns	-XXcompactSetLimit

Table 1 Updated Command-line Options

-X options	-XX options
<code>-XpauseTarget</code>	<code>-XXcompactSetLimitPerObject</code>
	<code>-XXcompactRatio</code>
	<code>-XXcompressedRefs</code>
	<code>-XXdisableFatSpin</code>
	<code>-XXdisableGcHeuristics</code>
	<code>-XXexternalCompactRatio</code>
	<code>-XXfullCompaction</code>
	<code>-XXfullSystemGc</code>
	<code>-XXinternalCompactRatio</code>
	<code>-XXlargeObjectLimit</code>
	<code>-XXminBlockSize</code>
	<code>-XXnoCompaction</code>
	<code>-XXnoSystemGc</code>
	<code>-XXpointerMatrixLinearSeekDistance</code>
	<code>-XXsetGC</code>
	<code>-XXstaticCompaction</code>
	<code>-XXthroughputCompaction</code>
	<code>-XXtlaSize</code>
	<code>-XXusePointerMatrix</code>
	<code>-XX:(+ -)useNewHashFunction</code>
	<code>-XX:(+ -)useThreadPriorities</code>

Support for Larger Heaps

It is now possible to make use of a larger part of the process memory for the java heap as the demand for continuous heap has been removed.

Garbage Collection

The new default garbage collection strategy is `-Xgcprio:throughput`. A new feature `-XpauseTarget` is implemented to specify desired maximum pause time. The Generational Copy collector, started with `-Xgc:gencopy` has been removed. For more information on garbage collection in BEA JRockit, please refer to [Memory Management Basics](#) at:

http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/geninfo/diagnos/garbage_collect.html

References API

New implementation of how softly reachable references are collected. The `-Xverbose:references` output has been enhanced. For more information, please refer to the `-Xverbose` section in the BEA JRockit [Reference Manual](#) at

<http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/jrdocs/refman/optionX.html#wp999543>

Client Application Deployment Technologies

The features of Java Web Start and Java Plug-in have been removed.

Tools — BEA JRockit Mission Control

The monitoring and management tools now require a license. A free development license is available to test the tools in a development environment and limited to work only during the first hour of any application run; that is, restarting the application will allow another hour of tools testing. For more information on Mission Control licensing, please refer to [Mission Control Documentation](#) at:

<http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/tools/index.html>

Mission Control includes the BEA JRockit Management Console, JRockit Runtime Analyzer and the JRockit Memory Leak Detector. The JRockit Management Console can be used without a license but is then not eligible for support.

For more information on BEA JRockit Mission Control, please refer to the [Mission Control page on dev2dev](#), at:

<http://dev2dev.bea.com/jrockit/tools.html>

and the [Mission Control documentation set](#) at:

<http://edocs.bea.com/jrockit/tools/index.html>

Upgrading BEA JRockit