

Updating Raspbian

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Raspbian is based on Debian. Upgrading it to the latest version is done the same way as upgrading a normal Debian distribution. To not make this my shortest blog ever, I'll show how I upgrade one of my Raspberry Pi.

The upgrade to release N is performed by starting the process release N-1. For each upgrade:

1. Update current release
2. Prepare configuration for next release
3. Run upgrade
4. Clean up
5. Validate result of upgrade

Update your current Raspbian

```
sudo apt-get update sudo apt full-upgrade
```

Prepare configuration for next Raspbian version

Edit repository files and change the distribution name to stretch or buster, depending from where you are upgrading from. A [list of releases for Raspbian](#) can be found at the Wikipedia page.

```
sudo vim /etc/apt/sources.list
```

To update to stretch:

sources.list:

```
deb http://archive.raspbian.org/raspbian stretch main contrib non-free rpi
```

To update to buster:

sources.list:

```
deb http://archive.raspbian.org/raspbian buster main contrib non-free rpi
```

Note

You may have more repository servers configured. For instance, check the content of the file:

It's full of stars!

~~Where documentation meets reality~~

/etc/apt/sources.list.d/raspi.list.

Make sure to enable IPv6 support.

```
Acquire::ForceIPv4 "false";
```

Run upgrade

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

Sample output for update to stretch

Sample output for update to buster

Clean up

```
sudo apt autoremove
```

Validate result of upgrade

After running the above commands again, they should not report any more updates or dependencies.

```
sudo apt dist-upgrade
```

Check Debian version

```
more /etc/os-release
```

The entries for version and codename should now match your targeted release. For buster, it is:

```
VERSION_ID="10" VERSION_CODENAME=buster
```