aws marketplace

AlmaLinux

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users

Powered by PeerSpot

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Product Recap

AlmaLinux

AlmaLinux Recap

AlmaLinux is an open-source, enterprise-level Linux distribution designed to provide stability, high performance, and community-driven support. It offers compatibility with RHEL, making it a reliable option for businesses seeking robust OS alternatives.

Built by CloudLinux, AlmaLinux serves enterprises looking for a powerful Linux distribution. It boasts seamless transitions from CentOS, providing a familiar environment for IT teams. With its open-source nature, AlmaLinux empowers organizations by offering control over their workflows. It supports diverse workloads, making it suitable for handling anything from basic setups to complex architectures. AlmaLinux stands out due to its strong security features, which focus on protecting sensitive data and maintaining secure server environments.

What are AlmaLinux's most important features?

- Compatibility with RHEL: Ensures a seamless transition for users familiar with Red Hat Enterprise Linux.
- Long-Term Support: Offers extended support periods, ensuring stability for enterprise systems.
- Rich Community Support: Backed by an active community and regular updates.
- Security Enhancements: Integrated security improvements for protecting business data.
- Open-Source Nature: Provides flexibility and customization through a transparent codebase.

What benefits or ROI should users look for?

- Cost Efficiency: Free to use, reducing operational expenses.
- Reliable Performance: Consistent updates and support for enterprise needs.
- Reduced Vendor Lock-in: Allows migration from other enterprise Linux systems with ease.
- Security Assurance: Continuous security patches protect corporate assets.

AlmaLinux has been implemented across industries like finance, healthcare, and technology due to its reliability and adaptability. In finance, it ensures secure transactions and data integrity. Healthcare organizations rely on it for managing sensitive patient data. Tech companies use it for its stability and community-driven enhancements, making it a versatile choice for diverse applications.

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Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- "Organizations should consider AlmaLinux if they want a stable, secure, and cost-effective enterprise Linux platform with strong RHEL compatibility."

Arka A
Technical Solution Development Engineer at Ericsson

- "Moreover, stable OVS networking and floating IP configuration is very easy for me when using AlmaLinux, making it a reliable and highly recommended option for teams needing an enterprise-grade Red Hat compatible workflow without the subscription cost."

Naim Khan
DevOps Engineer at SMC Labs, LLC

- "AlmaLinux has delivered a significant positive impact on my organization through cost savings while maintaining enterprise-level reliability."

Aniket Wankhede
Associate Systems Engineer at Dhanyaayai Enterprises Pvt Ltd

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"Using AlmaLinux was a condition to do my job, and right afterwards, I have been enjoying it."

Onyeahialam Gracious

Cloud Security Engineer at Andela

"The long-term support provided by AlmaLinux helps my business by ensuring that we do not have to renew our servers every four to five years."

Validated user

Owner

"Overall, AlmaLinux is really good, easier as well, and I do not see much difference between CentOS and AlmaLinux."

Abhishek Hegde

Senior Linux Systems Engineer at Liquid Web

"AlmaLinux offers the best features in that it is freeware for RHEL, and it is really reliable."

AnilKumar13

Devops Engineer at EDAG

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What users had to say about valuable features:

"In my opinion, the best features that AlmaLinux offers are the fact that I can customize it using the Kickstart files and have very comprehensive documentation on the vendor's website that allows me precisely to completely customize it the way I want.."

Kevin Baclet
System engineer at Alliance4u

Read full review

"AlmaLinux is a pretty fast software for handling those simulations and managing multiple jobs. I can process my code and my simulation much faster than with Windows. AlmaLinux is good to work on folders using the terminal, and if I can change something inside the operational system, I have the ability to do that.

"I prefer AlmaLinux because it is free and open. I can change anything in AlmaLinux if I want to.."

Wallison Campanelli
Data engineer at a educational organization with 51-200 employees

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“AlmaLinux is lightweight, so my hardware resource usage is very low, and I am able to use it effectively.

“AlmaLinux provides regular updates, and the security is very good because it is a flavor of Linux. I know that Linux security is excellent.

“AlmaLinux's performance is very good, and I am getting high performance in my application, which is a very positive thing. It is very reliable with excellent performance.

“I notice faster load times and reduced resource usage with AlmaLinux. That is the main benefit I have experienced.

“AlmaLinux is stable and scalable with good scalability features..”

Validated user
SR system engineer at a retailer with 11-50 employees

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"AlmaLinux offers several standout features that I have observed during my usage, including long-term stability, RHEL compatibility, being free and open source, providing regular security updates, and community governance.

"The most valuable feature for me is RHEL compatibility. It allows for the use of the same tools, packages, and administration practices found in enterprise Linux environments while avoiding subscription costs. This is especially useful for learning, testing, and infrastructure deployments. RHEL compatibility reduces troubleshooting and configuration effort because extensive documentation and a large knowledge base are available. Administrators can follow well-established enterprise Linux procedures, reducing the likelihood of configuration errors.

"AlmaLinux has delivered a significant positive impact on my organization through cost savings while maintaining enterprise-level reliability. AlmaLinux provides a stable server platform without operating system licensing fees, allowing organizations to allocate resources elsewhere.."

Aniket Wankhede
Associate Systems Engineer at Dhanyaayai Enterprises Pvt Ltd

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The best features AlmaLinux offers include its support, which is outstanding from TuxCare, as we are getting the fixes and patch sets for the OS very fast.

When I mention the support from TuxCare, their support stands out because on multiple occasions during our migration processes, we faced blockades where some of the kernel tuning parts or the OS configurations were difficult to migrate or understand for our teams, and they helped promptly. We were on the call immediately the next day, and their engineers were helping us to fix those issues. Currently, we also have an active channel, and they are promptly replying to the support tickets whenever we have issues.

“AlmaLinux has positively impacted my organization, and the impact has just started. We have implemented a lot of new things with AlmaLinux, and their integration with KernelCare is very strong, which has helped us to patch and keep the environment compliant with the FedRAMP and PCI compliances.

“AlmaLinux has helped with FedRAMP and PCI compliance. For example, the vulnerability scan results that we need to share with the FedRAMP have SLAs to the vulnerabilities, and we have to patch them within the SLA timelines, which are promptly fixed with the help of KernelCare or the custom supported OS packages from the TuxCare repositories. The updates are promptly available. .”

Mayur Kapurkar
Cloud Software Engineer at a tech vendor with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"The key features of AlmaLinux I would highlight are the RHEL compatibility and application and package compatibility with RHEL. Stability and reliability are also important points as it is well-suited for production servers. Long-term support is valuable because it is suitable for enterprise environments. Security, including SELinux, FirewallD, and regular security updates, is a key important point. It is open source and free with no subscription cost for the OS, and it has easy package management as it uses DNF and RPM. It provides a good enterprise ecosystem that works well with common monitoring, virtualization, cloud, and automation tools.

"I rely mostly on stability, security, and RHEL compatibility in my day-to-day work. I frequently use DNF for patching, systemctl for service management, SELinux and FirewallD for security, and standard Linux troubleshooting tools to manage the charging nodes. One area I would see improved is simplifying some enterprise administration and troubleshooting workflows, especially through better centralized management and monitoring tool servers. Overall, AlmaLinux works very well for production environments.

"It has helped mainly in reducing OS licensing cost while maintaining a stable RHEL compatible platform. It has also given us good flexibility for production workloads, security patching, system administration, and troubleshooting. From an operational perspective, the familiar RHEL ecosystem makes it very easy for our team to deploy, maintain, and troubleshoot servers consistently.

"The biggest outcome has been cost-efficiency and easier operation. Since AlmaLinux is free and RHEL compatible, we can avoid OS licensing costs while keeping the same familiar administration model. It also saves time because the team can use the same tools, commands, packages, and troubleshooting approach we already know from the RHEL ecosystem. It improves productivity, especially during patching, deployments, and incident troubleshooting.."

Arka A
Technical Solution Development Engineer at Ericsson

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Other Solutions Considered

"Before choosing AlmaLinux, I evaluated other solutions, specifically we were on Red Hat 7, and given the security vulnerabilities and the obsolescence of the old distribution, the team leader decided to move us to AlmaLinux.."

Kevin Baclet
System engineer at Alliance4u

Read full review

"I did not use any other solution before AlmaLinux. I did not evaluate any other options. I was completely focused on AlmaLinux and had my eye on AlmaLinux, so there were no alternative options considered.."

Aniket Wankhede
Associate Systems Engineer at Dhanyaayai Enterprises Pvt Ltd

Read full review

"Before settling on AlmaLinux, I evaluated other options while testing in a local environment, especially for students encountering financial constraints. Given its resemblance to Red Hat and CentOS, I recommended AlmaLinux as the best solution due to its free nature.."

Naim Khan
DevOps Engineer at SMC Labs, LLC

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"Previously, we used CentOS, but after CentOS Linux reached its end of life, we moved to AlmaLinux. The main reason was to get a stable, free, RHEL-compatible platform without having to make major changes to our existing applications and operational processes. The migration path was also relatively straightforward.."

Arka A
Technical Solution Development Engineer at Ericsson

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"We evaluated a few options, mainly Rocky Linux, Oracle Linux, RHEL, and Ubuntu. We compared them based on RHEL compatibility, stability, support life cycle, licensing cost, and migration effort. AlmaLinux was a good fit because it gave us a stable, RHEL-compatible platform without the commercial licensing.."

Arka A
Technical Solution Development Engineer at Ericsson

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"When I compare AlmaLinux to alternatives, I think it is somewhat different because I try to separate them. I believe Enterprise Linux distributions, including Red Hat, Oracle, AlmaLinux, and Rocky, are very fine systems. Others, such as Ubuntu, Arch Linux, and Manjaro, have fewer vendors in my opinion.

Regarding my experience today, I installed AlmaLinux 8, and everything is okay, but the significant problem is that AlmaLinux does not ship with Wi-Fi drivers. For me, this is not a problem because I grew up with Linux and open source, so I know that I need to research and troubleshoot this issue. I found many third-party repositories, and with these, I could use my Wi-Fi and install any other third-party applications. So in comparison with the others, this is a slight disadvantage.."

Laszlo Porcsin

Junior Software Test Automation Engineer at a consultancy with 51-200 employees

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ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

"The most immediate benefit has been the elimination of licensing and subscription fees compared to commercial enterprise Linux distributions or Windows.."

Haithem Hamed
Ingénieur Systéme at Groupe Open SA

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"I have seen a return on investment thanks to AlmaLinux, specifically time savings, but I do not have access to economic indicators, since I only handle the system side; it is more the people on the commercial side who could provide such indicators.."

Kevin Baclet
System engineer at Alliance4u

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"In terms of return on investment from using AlmaLinux, I maintain that since we use the free version, we have saved significantly and have encountered fewer security risks. If the AlmaLinux team announces that the latest version complies with CIS benchmarks and security protocols, I will continue to endorse AlmaLinux.."

Naim Khan
DevOps Engineer at SMC Labs, LLC

Read full review

"AlmaLinux impacts an organization by helping you understand when there are errors or flaws that you need to mitigate by providing you the logs. The errors and logs are found when you initiate it, helping in communication because you are able to read your log files and communicate with your colleagues about what I have seen on the logs, stating we have to fix specific issues.."

Onyeahialam Gracious
Cloud Security Engineer at Andela

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"The return on investment comes primarily from lower operating system costs, operational consistency, and reduced administrative effort. Even without exact metrics, the impact is reflected in cost savings from licensing, faster deployments through RHEL compatibility, and a stable platform that supports reliable operations. The clearest measurable benefit is avoiding operating system subscription costs while maintaining enterprise Linux compatibility and stability.."

Aniket Wankhede
Associate Systems Engineer at Dhanyaayai Enterprises Pvt Ltd

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"We saw ROI mainly through reduced licensing costs and lower migration and administration effort. Since AlmaLinux is free and RHEL compatible, we avoided the OS subscription cost while continuing to use the same familiar tools and operational processes. We also saved engineering time because the team did not need significant retraining or changes to our existing Linux procedures. I do not have an exact percentage for the savings, but the main measurable benefits were licensing cost reduction and reduced operational effort.."

Arka A
Technical Solution Development Engineer at Ericsson

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Use Case

"I have been using AlmaLinux in my organization for about two years. My main use case for AlmaLinux in my company is hardening and customizing Kickstart files to have a fully customized OS for the client. A concrete example of how I customize these Kickstart files with AlmaLinux to meet the needs of a particular client is that I modify the Kickstart file by adding lines to remove applications and to automate the download and installation of certain other applications on AlmaLinux, so that as soon as it is deployed, the applications are already installed.."

Kevin Baclet
System engineer at Alliance4u

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"AlmaLinux is primarily used for running stable server workloads and enterprise Linux environments. Since it is binary compatible with Red Hat Enterprise Linux, it provides a reliable platform for hosting applications, web servers, databases, and infrastructure services without subscription costs.

"I deployed a web application environment consisting of Apache, a database server, and automation scripts using AlmaLinux. The RHEL compatibility allowed me to follow enterprise Linux best practices while avoiding licensing costs. I also used AlmaLinux for Kubernetes and container-related labs because it provides a stable operating system foundation similar to enterprise Linux environments.."

Aniket Wankhede
Associate Systems Engineer at Dhanyaayai Enterprises Pvt Ltd

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"I am using AlmaLinux as a hosting platform for my application. I have taken VMs and deployed a React and Node-based application on AlmaLinux.

"I am using AlmaLinux only for hosting my application server. My application is used daily, but I do not use AlmaLinux login every day. When I need to update anything in the application, then I use it.

"AlmaLinux is deployed in my organization on the public cloud through AWS. I purchased AlmaLinux through the AWS Marketplace.

"As an application server, it will not save any employee costs or anything.."

Validated user

SR system engineer at a retailer with 11-50 employees

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My main use case for AlmaLinux is that we are migrating all our infrastructure from various Linux flavors to a single operating system, which will be AlmaLinux, whether it is Docker images or virtual machines.

We as a base team who works on the OS part are migrating from the Amazon Linux 2 OS to AlmaLinux as part of our migration, and we are creating our custom OS image, which will be supplied to all our teams for their applications to be migrated. We are migrating from AL2 to AlmaLinux, and we migrated our Chef cookbooks, which were AL2 dependent, to AlmaLinux. We migrated our image build pipelines and our scripts, which were shell scripts, and they will be compatible with AlmaLinux.

"Whatever infrastructure we have, we will be migrating that to AlmaLinux, and we are not targeting it for a specific use case. There are definitely advantages with the support from TuxCare that we are targeting, but we are not picking this up for a particular application. ."

Mayur Kapurkar
Cloud Software Engineer at a tech vendor with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"I use AlmaLinux to create simulations, Monte Carlo simulations using C++, and for that I need to use the terminal and put a lot of different jobs to process the code.

"AlmaLinux is a pretty fast software for handling those simulations and managing multiple jobs. I can process my code and my simulation much faster than with Windows. AlmaLinux is good to work on folders using the terminal, and if I can change something inside the operational system, I have the ability to do that.

"I prefer AlmaLinux because it is free and open. I can change anything in AlmaLinux if I want to. If I need to modify code, multithread, or other elements, I can do that with the flexibility that AlmaLinux offers.

"With AlmaLinux, I can use the CERN infrastructure. I can use the server from CERN, and CERN has used AlmaLinux since 2024. They installed it recently. It is fast, and Linux is better for coding in C++, Python, and other languages. If you need to manage data, it is considerably better. If I need to process code, AlmaLinux will be two times faster than Windows, for example, which is a specific outcome since switching.."

Wallison Campanelli
Data engineer at a educational organization with 51-200 employees

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"My main use case for AlmaLinux is enterprise server environments, hosting different applications, databases, and our charging workloads. I use it where I need a stable, secure, RHEL compatible OS with long-term support.

"In an enterprise environment, I have used AlmaLinux mainly for application and telecom servers. We host telecom applications and services that require RHEL compatible OS, running databases and middleware components. We are using it for monitoring and logging custom servers, managing servers with SystemD, SSH, FirewallD, SELinux, and package management using DNF. We perform patching, security updates, troubleshooting, and system health checks with this. The main reason is its RHEL compatibility, stability, security, and long-term support, which makes it very suitable for production environments.

"I also use AlmaLinux for system administration and production support, including OS patching and upgrades, troubleshooting performance and service issues, managing users and permissions, checking logs, configuring networking and security, and automating routine tasks with shell scripts.."

Arka A
Technical Solution Development Engineer at Ericsson

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Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

"I follow the documentation for AlmaLinux, which I believe could be more extensive for enterprise setups. My primary use case remains deploying private cloud infrastructure using OpenStack Yoga, thus suggesting improvements to cater to specific cloud instances like AWS Graviton or Azure NVMe.."

Naim Khan

DevOps Engineer at SMC Labs, LLC

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"My experience with AlmaLinux in terms of pricing, installation cost, and license has been very positive because AlmaLinux is free and open source with no licensing or subscription fees, which significantly reduced our operating cost in comparison to commercial enterprise Linux distributions.."

Haithem Hamed

Ingénieur Systéme at Groupe Open SA

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"The initial setup is pretty much straightforward. I use automation tools such as Ansible for the installation process, making deployment efficient regardless of whether it's AWS or on-site.."

Alex Kvasnytskyy

Technical Operations Manager at a wholesaler/distributor with 10,001+ employees

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"My experience has been quite positive from a cost perspective. AlmaLinux itself is free and open-source, so there is no OS licensing fee. The main costs are infrastructure, such as AWS compute, storage, and network, and any optional commercial support we choose. From a setup perspective, deployment is straightforward because it follows the RHEL ecosystem, so there is very little additional migration cost for the team.."

Arka A

Technical Solution Development Engineer at Ericsson

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"I set up AlmaLinux on my machine myself. I went to the official AlmaLinux website, found the ISO image file that I needed, and verified the checksum file on my PowerShell before I installed it to ensure that I installed the verified and authenticated ISO image type.

"I found the initial setup process to be straightforward. I documented the entire setup on LinkedIn and could share the link if needed.."

Onyeahialam Gracious

Cloud Security Engineer at Andela

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"From my point of view, the deployment of AlmaLinux is absolutely easy. I download any ISO, create it on Ventoy or another tool, and possibly use Rufus for Windows. After plugging it into the laptop, I choose the boot system, and everything is fine. I receive a welcome message, then I need to choose the keyboard and language. Following that, I see the system requirements, the root user, and system settings such as date and time. After that, I choose whatever I want to install, click to install, and everything is fine. I find it very easy, at least for me.."

Laszlo Porcsin

Junior Software Test Automation Engineer at a consultancy with 51-200 employees

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Customer Service and Support

"I did not attend any customer support calls for AlmaLinux because my team handles it. I am only handling the deployment, and the deployment is very good.."

Validated user
SR system engineer at a retailer with 11-50 employees

Read full review

"I rate AlmaLinux's customer support as good because for now, I have not yet had the opportunity to deal with customer support, because everything I have had to do has worked very well. When it did not necessarily work the first time, it was enough to just reread the documentation properly with a clear head and then the problem was resolved.."

Kevin Baclet
System engineer at Alliance4u

Read full review

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"AlmaLinux offers strong community support and excellent documentation. While it does not provide the same vendor-backed support experience as Red Hat Enterprise Linux, the available resources are more than sufficient for many organizations and administrators.."

Aniket Wankhede
Associate Systems Engineer at Dhanyaayai Enterprises Pvt Ltd

Read full review

"I worked with AlmaLinux and shared it with a lot of people. The customer support was good.

"I did not use the customer support myself, but I have a friend who used it and he said it is an eight.."

Wallison Campanelli
Data engineer at a educational organization with 51-200 employees

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"AlmaLinux customer support is good, but its model is different from RHEL. It is strong and active with forums, chat, mailing lists, GitHub, Wiki, and community troubleshooting. For commercial support, enterprise-level SLAs, and dedicated assistance, AlmaLinux lists third-party commercial providers such as TuxCare, Cybertrust, and Fujitsu. For technical issues, the community is very useful for installation, configuration, migration, and troubleshooting, but response time can vary sometimes because community resources are volunteer-supported.."

Arka A
Technical Solution Development Engineer at Ericsson

Read full review

The best features AlmaLinux offers include its support, which is outstanding from TuxCare, as we are getting the fixes and patch sets for the OS very fast.

When I mention the support from TuxCare, their support stands out because on multiple occasions during our migration processes, we faced blockades where some of the kernel tuning parts or the OS configurations were difficult to migrate or understand for our teams, and they helped promptly. We were on the call immediately the next day, and their engineers were helping us to fix those issues. Currently, we also have an active channel, and they are promptly replying to the support tickets whenever we have issues. ."

Mayur Kapurkar
Cloud Software Engineer at a tech vendor with 1,001-5,000 employees

Read full review

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Other Advice

"My advice to other professionals who are considering using AlmaLinux is to go for it without asking themselves questions, because all the necessary support is there to start from scratch and manage to do great things with it. Tutorials, documentation, and forums are all available and represent a very good thing. I rate this review as a nine out of ten.."

Kevin Baclet
System engineer at Alliance4u

Read full review

"I would advise organizations to consider AlmaLinux if they want a stable, secure, and cost-effective enterprise Linux platform with a strong RHEL compatibility. Before migrating, they should validate applications compatibility, test their workloads in a non-production environment, and evaluate their requirements for commercial support. Overall, it is a very strong option for organizations looking to reduce licensing costs without compromising on reliability and scalability. I would rate this product a nine out of ten.."

Arka A
Technical Solution Development Engineer at Ericsson

Read full review

AlmaLinux is deployed in our organization in the public cloud, specifically on AWS and GCP. We use AWS most for AlmaLinux. I purchased AlmaLinux through the AWS Marketplace.

The advice I would give to others looking into using AlmaLinux is that it is a good

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OS with the latest standards, and we are using the minimal image, which is very lightweight for the servers. I would rate this product an 8 out of 10. .”

Mayur Kapurkar
Cloud Software Engineer at a tech vendor with 1,001-5,000 employees

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“I do not understand about AI capabilities when I relate this to AlmaLinux governance and security.

“I do not know about the accuracy and reliability of AlmaLinux output.

“I do not think there are any improvements needed for AlmaLinux that I have not mentioned yet.

“I did not take the decision. I just used AlmaLinux because CERN was using the server.

“I would rate this review an eight out of ten..”

Wallison Campanelli
Data engineer at a educational organization with 51-200 employees

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“I would rate AlmaLinux an eight as an application server or if you use it as a server. If you use it as an operating system, then it will not be good. It is not user-friendly like Windows.

“I chose eight because I think there are some hardware usage issues with AlmaLinux. It is not supporting the latest hardware, so that is not good. If it did, I would suggest it for laptops also.

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"There are no other improvements needed for AlmaLinux that I have not mentioned yet.

"I did not see the pricing for AlmaLinux because that is handled by another team. A different purchasing team in my organization handles the pricing.

"If you want to host an application in a VM, then you should go for AlmaLinux. It will take low hardware resources, and you can get high scalability.

"There are no other additional thoughts about AlmaLinux.

"My overall rating for AlmaLinux is eight.."

Validated user
SR system engineer at a retailer with 11-50 employees

Read full review

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"AlmaLinux is highly rated overall. I would advise you to seriously consider AlmaLinux if you are looking for a stable, enterprise-grade Linux distribution without operating system licensing costs. It provides excellent compatibility with the Red Hat ecosystem, making it a strong choice for servers, cloud deployments, virtualization, containers, and enterprise applications.

"AlmaLinux scales very well and can support everything from a small virtual machine to large enterprise deployments. It works effectively in physical, virtualized, cloud, containerized, and clustered environments. I would rate AlmaLinux highly for scalability.

"AlmaLinux's role is seen as enabling governance and security rather than directly governing AI. Its enterprise security features, long-term support, auditing capabilities, and stable operating environment help organizations run AI workloads securely and in a controlled manner. AI governance itself is typically implemented through higher-level tools, policies, and processes.

"I would not rate AlmaLinux on AI output accuracy because that is determined by the AI application itself. However, I would rate AlmaLinux highly for reliability as a platform for AI workloads because it provides enterprise-grade stability, security, and long-term support.

"Based on my experience using AlmaLinux, I do not believe there are any other improvements needed. I would give this product a rating of nine out of ten.."

Aniket Wankhede
Associate Systems Engineer at Dhanyaayai Enterprises Pvt Ltd

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by visitors reading reviews

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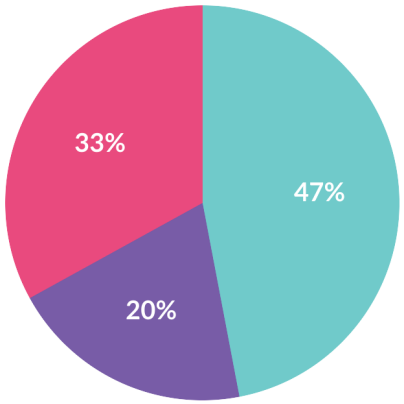
Manufacturing Company	10%
Financial Services Firm	9%

Company Size

by reviewers



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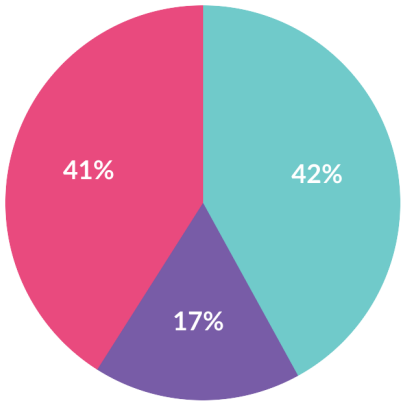

Large Enterprise Midsize Enterprise Small Business

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