

License Management

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This document applies to V2.9

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General Information

Summary

MikroTik RouterOS software has a licensing system with Software License (Software Key) issued for each individual installation of the RouterOS.

Specifications

Packages required: *system*

License required: *level1*

Home menu level: */system license*

Hardware usage: *Not significant*

Description

The Software License can be obtained through the Account Server at **www.mikrotik.com** after the MikroTik RouterOS has been installed. The Software ID of the installation is required when obtaining the Software License. Please read the MikroTik RouterOS Basic Setup Guide for detailed explanation of the installation and licensing process.

RouterOS allows you to use all its features without registration for about 24 hours from the first run. Note that if you shut the router down, the countdown is paused, and it is resumed only when the router is started again. During this period you must get a key, otherwise you will need to reinstall the system. A purchased license key allows you to use RouterOS features according to the chosen license level for unlimited time, and gives you rights to freely upgrade and downgrade its versions for the term of one or three years since the key was purchased depending on license level. A free registered license key (referred as a DEMO key further on) allows you to use a restricted set of functions for unlimited period of time, but does not allow upgrading and downgrading versions.

There are 6 licensing levels, each providing some additional features. Level 0 means that there is no key and

all the features are enabled for one day. Level 2 is a transitional license level from versions prior 2.8, that allows to use all the features were allowed by your original license key for a previous version.

Level number	1 (DEMO)	3 (WISP CPE)	4 (WISP)	5 (WISP 3Y)	6 (Controller 3Y)
Upgrade time	-	1 year	1 year	3 years	3 years
Initial Config Support	-	-	15 days	30 days	30 days
Wireless Client and Bridge	-	yes	yes	yes	yes
Wireless AP	-	-	yes	yes	yes
Synchronous interfaces	-	-	yes	yes	yes
EoIP tunnels	1	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
PPPoE tunnels	1	200	200	500	unlimited
PPTP tunnels	1	200	200	unlimited	unlimited
L2TP tunnels	1	200	200	unlimited	unlimited
VLAN interfaces	1	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
P2P firewall rules	1	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
NAT rules	1	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
HotSpot active users	1	1	200	500	unlimited
RADIUS client	-	yes	yes	yes	yes
Queues	1	30	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
Web proxy	-	yes	yes	yes	yes
RIP, OSPF, BGP protocols	-	yes	yes	yes	yes

Note that **Wireless Client and Bridge** means that wireless cards can be used in **station** and **bridge** modes. **Bridge** mode allows one wireless station to connect it.

There is a possibility to upgrade your key (i.e. to extend licensing term) from the console or WinBox.

Note that the license is kept on hard drive. You can move the hard drive to another system, but you can not move license on another hard drive. License transfer to another drive is a paid service (unless your hard drive has crashed). Please contact support@mikrotik.com to arrange this. Also note that you must not use MS-DOS format or fdisk utilities or you may loose the license.

Important: the abovementioned limits depict the limits enforced by the license. The actual number of concurrent tunnels, rules, queues, users, etc. will vary depending the combination of features used and the load they place on the MikroTik RouterOS.

License Management

Home menu level: */system license*

Description

There are three methods of entering a key to the system console:

- import a file that should be sent to you after you will require a key (you should upload this file to the router's FTP server)
- simply copy the received key as a text and paste (or type) in to the router's console (no matter in which submenu)

These methods also apply to WinBox, with the difference that key importing and exporting is happening through the Windows host PC itself. The options available:

- **Paste Key** - get a new license from the Windows Clipboard
- **Import Key** - get a new license from a file stored locally on the Windows PC
- **Export Key** - save the existing license as a file on the Windows PC
- **Upgrade/Get New Key** - the same as new-upgrade-key command in system console
- **Update Key** - the same as update-key command in system console

Property Description

key (*read-only: text*) - software license key that unlocks the installation

level (*read-only: integer: 0..6*) - license level of the installation

software-id (*read-only: text*) - ID number of the installation

upgradable-until (*read-only: text*) - the date until which the software version can be upgraded or downgraded

Command Description

import - import a key file (*name*) - file name to use as a key

new-upgrade-key - request a new key (*IP address*) - key server's IP address (*text*) - username to log into the key server (*text*) - password to log into the key server (*integer: 2..6*) - license level to request (*credit-card* | *credit-keys* | *credit-money* | *debit-keys* | *debit-money*) - Payment method to use (*text*; default: `""`) - script to execute while the command is running (*time*; default: **1s**) - how frequently to execute the given script - if specified, executes the script once, and then terminates the command - command's execution status

- **Resolving www.mikrotik.com** - resolving DNS name
- **Failed to resolve www.mikrotik.com, check your dns settings** - check whether DNS client is set up on the router, and that it is allowed to resolve a DNS name on the DNS server set

- **Failed to connect, probably no IP address** - self-explanatory
- **Failed to connect, is your router public?** - check whether the router has a default route and is able to reach the key server
- **Conneccion failed** - connection has timed out
- **Bad response from server** - try again
- **ERROR: You don't have appropriate debit key!** - no existing debit keys on your account matches the requested one
- **ERROR: You don't have enough debit money!** - self-explanatory
- **ERROR: Credit key limit exceeded!** - self-explanatory
- **ERROR: Your credit limit is exceeded!** - self-explanatory
- **ERROR: This payment method is not more allowed! Go to www.mikrotik.com, log on and purchase key there or use other payment methods.** - you can not use the selected payment method from the router anymore due to system changes (for credit cards now)
- **ERROR: You must enable this feature in account server (change user information section)!** - you should enable Allow to use my account in netinstall feature on the account server (in change user information section)
- **ERROR: Incorrect username or password!** - self-explanatory
- **ERROR: You are not allowed to use this service!** - please contact sales@mikrotik.com for further assistance
- **Key upgraded successfully** - the upgrade procedure has been completed successfully

output - exports the current key to a key file

update-key - request a free update of your existing key to the version's 2.9 one (this can be done during your existing key upgrade term) (*IP address*) - key server's IP address (*text*) - username to log into the key server (*text*) - password to log into the key server (*text*; default: "") - script to execute while the command is running (*time*; default: **1s**) - how frequently to execute the given script - if specified, executes the script once, and then terminates the command - command's execution status

- **Resolving www.mikrotik.com** - resolving DNS name
- **Failed to resolve www.mikrotik.com, check your dns settings** - check whether DNS client is set up on the router, and that it is allowed to resolve a DNS name on the DNS server set
- **Failed to connect, probably no IP address** - self-explanatory
- **Failed to connect, is your router public?** - check whether the router has a default route and is able to reach the key server
- **Conneccion failed** - connection has timed out
- **Bad response from server** - try again
- **ERROR: You must enable this feature in account server (change user information section)!** - you should enable Allow to use my account in netinstall feature on the account server (in change user information section)
- **ERROR: Incorrect username or password!** - self-explanatory
- **ERROR: Someone has already converted this key!** - the requested software ID has already been converted to 2.9 version
- **ERROR: Key for specified software ID is expired. You can purchase new key at www.mikrotik.com website!** - you may not update an expired key to the version 2.9, you must

purchase a new one

- **ERROR: You are not allowed to use this service!** - please contact sales@mikrotik.com for further assistance
- **Key upgraded successfully** - the upgrade procedure has been completed successfully