

Cisco ONE Software Device Tiering Guide

As described in the Cisco ONE Software License Portability FAQ, the hardware product series and/or tier on which you have deployed your licenses determines your portability options. Licenses are portable within a product tier (for example, Cisco 2900 Series Integrated Services Routers (ISR) to 2900 Series ISR).

Devices with greater capabilities are categorized in a higher tier because they gain more benefit from the capabilities in Cisco ONE Software. You can port your licenses to a higher tier, but an upgrade fee may be involved. Table 1 describes the different equipment refresh scenarios. Subsequent tables describe the tiers for each family of hardware.

Table 1. License portability use cases

Use Case	Policy	Cost
Refresh a device with a device in the same tier. Example: Cisco 2901 ISR to 2911 ISR	If a Cisco Software Support Services (SWSS) contract is in place, the software can be used on the new device.	None.
Refresh a device with a device in a higher tier. Example: Cisco 2901 ISR to 3925 ISR	<p>You must pay a software upgrade fee to use the software from the original device on the replacement device.</p> <p>You must purchase an upgraded Cisco SWSS contract for the new software. You receive a credit for the old support contract.</p>	<p>The cost is the license cost on the new device minus the license cost on the old device, at current list prices, subject to customer-negotiated discounts.</p> <p>You also need to consider the cost of the upgraded Cisco SWSS contract.</p>
Refresh a device with a device in a lower tier. Example: Cisco 3925 ISR to 2901 ISR	<p>You are entitled to use the software deployed on your original device on a lower tier replacement device. You retain license portability rights associated with the original device family, so you can subsequently refresh the device back to the original device family.</p> <p>You can opt to downgrade the license permanently to the lower tier device family, which would allow you to renew your Cisco SWSS contract at a lower price. In that case, the license entitlement is set permanently to the lower-tier family.</p>	<p>None. The support contract remains with the original device family.</p> <p>If you permanently downgrade, you may renew your Cisco SWSS contract at a lower price.</p>
Refresh a device with a next-generation device. Example: Cisco 3925 ISR to 4000 Series ISR	<p>In this case, the transfer depends on whether the next-generation Cisco 4000 Series ISR is considered the same tier as the existing device, or a higher or lower tier. Depending on the tier, the policies outlined above apply.</p> <p>In all cases, you must migrate your software licenses to a next-generation device before your older device reaches end of support. At this stage, your Cisco SWSS contract will have expired and you will not meet the portability criteria.</p>	The tier of the next-generation device determines the cost. Depending on the tier, the policies outlined above apply.

The following tables provide guidance on which products belong to which tiers for the purposes of license portability. Some product tiers are still under discussion, so check back on this page for the latest information.

Table 2. Cisco routers and license portability tiers

Portability Tiers	Current Gen	Next Gen
Cisco Integrated Services Routers		
Tier 1	ISR 8xx series ISR 819, 860, 880, and 890	
Tier 2	Cisco ISR 19xx Series ISR 1921 ISR 1941	ISR 4221 ISR 4321
Tier 3	Cisco ISR 29xx Series ISR 2901 ISR 2911 ISR 2921 ISR 2951	ISR 4331 ISR4351
Tier 4	Cisco ISR 39xx Series ISR 3925 ISR 3945 ISR 3925E ISR 3945E	ISR4431 ISR4451
Cisco Aggregation Services Routers		
Tier 5	Cisco ASR 10xx Series ASR 1001-X/HX ASR 1002-X/HX ASR 1004 ASR 1006, ASR 1006X ASR 1009X ASR 1013	

* ASR 9K will have separate tiers specific to that platform (to be updated very soon)

Table 3. Cisco Nexus Switches and MDS license portability tiers

Portability Tiers	Cisco Nexus Data Center Switches and MDS
Tier 1	Nexus 3048 Nexus 5548 MDS 9100
Tier 2	Nexus 3132, Nexus 3164, Nexus 3172, Nexus 31108 Nexus 3232, Nexus 3264 Nexus 3524, Nexus 3548 Nexus 5596 Nexus 5624, Nexus 5648, Nexus 5672, Nexus 5696, Nexus 56128

Portability Tiers	Cisco Nexus Data Center Switches and MDS
	Nexus 6001, Nexus 6004 Nexus 9200 Nexus 9332, Nexus 9364, Nexus 9372, Nexus 9396, Nexus 93108, Nexus 93120, Nexus 93128, Nexus 93180 Nexus 7702, Nexus 7706-EN MDS 9200 MDS 9300
Tier 3	Nexus 9504, Nexus 9508, Nexus 9516 Nexus 7004
Tier 4	Nexus 7009, Nexus 7010, Nexus 7018 Nexus 7706, Nexus 7710, Nexus 7718 MDS9700

Table 4. Cisco Catalyst Switch license portability tiers

Portability Tiers	Current Gen	Next Gen
Cisco Catalyst Series Switches		
Tier 1	C2960X/XR-24xx C2960X/XR-48xx IE 4K IE 5K	
Tier 2	C3650-24xx C3650-48xx C3750X C3850-12xx Fiber C3850-24xx C3850-24xx - Fiber C3850-48xx C1-C4500X-16SFP+ C1-C4500X-24X-IPB C1-C4500X-32SFP+ C6880	C9500-12xx C9300-24xx C9500-24xx C9300-48xx C9500-16xx C9500-24xx C9500-40xx
Tier 3	C4503 C4506 C4507 C4510 C6807	C9400

Table 5. Cisco Aironet Access Points license portability tiers¹

Portability Tiers	Cisco Aironet Access Points
Tier 1	Cisco C1-AIR-CT2504-K9
	Cisco C1-AIR-CT5508-K9
	Cisco C1-AIR-CT5520-K9
	Cisco C1-AIR-CT5760-K9
	Cisco C1-AIR-CT7510-K9
	Cisco C1-AIR-CT8510-K9
	Cisco C1-AIR-CT8540-K9
	Cisco C1-WSSVC-WISM2-K9x

¹ Both physical and virtual wireless controllers are in the same tier for license portability purposes. In addition, Cisco ONE wireless controllers and unified access catalyst switch are classified in the same portability tier for Cisco ONE Wireless license portability. Cisco ONE Wireless license can be ported from a wireless controller to a unified access Cisco Catalyst switch and vice versa at no cost.

Contact your authorized Cisco representative if you have further questions.

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