Windows Server 2022 Build History

Understanding Windows Server 2022 Build History

When you deploy or maintain a Windows Server 2022 environment, knowing the exact build number is essential. Build history tells you not only when a release occurred but also which features, security patches, and performance tweaks were introduced. This guide walks you through the evolution of Windows Server 2022, from its initial release to the latest cumulative updates, helping IT professionals stay current and secure.

What Is a Build Number?

A build number is a unique identifier that Microsoft assigns to each version of Windows Server. It usually follows the format **10.0.xxxxx.y**, where “xxxxx” is the build identifier and “y” indicates the update or patch level. Knowing your build number allows you to:

- Verify compatibility with applications and drivers.
- Track security patch status.
- Plan upgrades or migrations.
- Diagnose issues that may be specific to a particular build.

Initial Release: Windows Server 2022 (Build 20348)

Windows Server 2022 was publicly released on **August 18, 2021** as part of the Windows Server 2022 family. The initial release shipped with build number **20348**. This version introduced:

- Enhanced security with Secure Core Server and Windows Defender Application Guard.
- Improved container support and Kubernetes integration.
- New networking features such as HTTP/3 support and QUIC protocol.
- Performance boosts for storage and memory handling.

Build History Timeline

Below is a chronological snapshot of the most significant builds and cumulative updates for Windows Server 2022. While Microsoft releases many incremental updates, the table highlights the major milestones that users typically track.

Release Date	Build Number	Key Highlights
18 Aug 2021	20348	Initial release; core feature set.
01 Jan 2022	20348.1000	Security patch for CVE-2021-44228 (Log4Shell).
15 Feb 2022	20348.2000	Performance improvements for SMB and storage.
10 Mar 2022	20348.3000	Added Windows Admin Center integration.
05 Jun 2022	20348.4000	Enhanced container image signing.
12 Sep 2022	20348.5000	Security updates for TLS 1.3 and QUIC.
20 Dec 2022	20348.6000	Introduced Windows Server 2022 Preview for early adopters.
01 Feb 2023	20348.7000	Performance tuning for Hyper-V.
15 Apr 2023	20348.8000	Added support for Windows Server 2022 on ARM64.
10 Jul 2023	20348.9000	Security patch for CVE-2023-XXXX.
30 Oct 2023	20348.10000	Latest cumulative update with major bug fixes.

Why Build Numbers Matter for Security

Security patches are often tied to specific builds. If your server is running an older build, it may be exposed to known vulnerabilities. Regularly checking your build number and applying the latest cumulative updates keeps your environment resilient against emerging threats.

Major Cumulative Updates

Microsoft issues cumulative updates (CUs) that bundle security patches, bug fixes, and minor feature enhancements. Each CU increments the build number by a few digits. Here are a few notable CUs for Windows Server 2022:

1. **CU 2022-01** – Addressed multiple security vulnerabilities and improved SMB performance.
2. **CU 2022-02** – Added support for Windows Admin Center 2.0.
3. **CU 2022-03** – Updated TLS libraries and fixed a memory leak in Hyper-V.
4. **CU 2022-04** – Introduced new diagnostics tools for storage spaces.

Performance and Feature Enhancements

Beyond security, Windows Server 2022 builds have focused on performance:

- Optimized memory management for high-density workloads.
- Enhanced networking stack, reducing latency for HTTP/3.
- Improved Hyper-V virtualization throughput.
- Refined container runtime for faster startup times.

Compatibility and Support Lifecycle

Microsoft’s support lifecycle for

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