

# Release Note

## Release Information

Product Platform: **Linux**

Product Version: **4.0**

Date: **TBA**

# Linux 4.0

## Introduction

Admin By Request for Linux 4.0 contains several bug fixes and two new features. The new features are *Break Glass*, now available on Linux, and *Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)*, for both graphical user and command line interfaces.

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Refer to the [Admin By Request Documentation Center](#) for full details on these new features or any other aspect of Admin By Request.

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## Prerequisites

Organizations wishing to evaluate endpoints running Linux 4.0 need the following:

1. One or more devices running one of the following operating systems:
  - Ubuntu 20.04 LTS
  - Ubuntu 22.04 LTS
  - Ubuntu 24.04 LTS
  - Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL9)
  - Rocky Linux 9.0
2. Credentials to access the Admin By Request portal at <https://adminbyrequest.com/login>
3. Admin By Request for **Linux 4.0** client software, downloaded from the portal and available to each endpoint

## Support for Break Glass

The *Break Glass* feature is now available on Linux endpoints. A Break Glass Account is for situations such as when the domain trust relationship is broken or an administrator without credentials needs to service the endpoint. The provisioned account is a temporary local user created in the local administrators group. Once logged-in, the account must be used within a pre-configured time (typically **2 hours**) and the account is removed after a single use.

Conceptually, this works in the same way as for the Windows and Mac clients:

- In the portal inventory, you issue a new, temporary, one-time-use administrator account for a specific endpoint.
- Behind-the-scenes, we instruct the endpoint that these credentials are now available.
- At the endpoint, the user (e.g. IT Admin) logs in using this account and receives full administrative permissions.
- When the user logs out, or the pre-configured time expires, the session is terminated and the account is removed.

Refer to [Setting-up a Break Glass Account](#) for more information.

## Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

Portal administrators can now use *Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)* to authenticate users logging-in on Linux endpoints. As with the *Break Glass* feature, the concept is the same as on Windows and Mac endpoints; portal admins can direct that elevation requests should be authenticated with MFA using a portal setting. This means that when Linux users attempt to elevate, or optionally run a pre-approved app, they need to authenticate via a single sign-on (SSO) email match against Entra ID or Active Directory.

This works on both graphical systems and in the command-line interface. On GUI systems a browser appears that allows users to authenticate – much like Windows and Mac clients. In the command-line console, users are instead presented with a URL and an ASCII-rendered QR-code that can be scanned on their phones to get the authentication window to pop up.

Refer to [Using MFA with Run As Admin](#) or [Using MFA with Admin Sessions](#) for more information.

## Account Separation

*Account Separation* for Cyber Essentials Plus compliance is now available on Linux endpoints, allowing administrators to enforce that privilege elevation requires an account that is different from the day-to-day account used on the endpoint.

Refer to [Cyber Essentials Plus](#) for more information.

## Bug fixes

Several minor bugs have been fixed in Admin By Request for Linux 4.0. Inaccurate text and screenshots have also been updated in the portal.

## How does the Update Process work?

Admin By Request software updates to Linux endpoints are delivered via the distribution package update process. Please note that, when we release a new version, we do not make it immediately available to the update process. This is simply to mitigate any unforeseen issues.

Our rule-of-thumb for a new release is to make it available within **4 - 8 weeks** of release, but this is subject to change, depending on feedback and any potential issues that might arise.

[Contact us](#) if you wish to receive the latest version right now. You can also raise a support ticket requesting the latest update.

Visit the [Download Archive](#) for previous versions of Admin By Request.

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