IBM MQ and IBM MQ Appliance firmware V9.1.1 continuous delivery release is available

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IBM MQ 9.1.1 is the next continuous delivery release of IBM MQ, and is the first continuous delivery release since we consolidated all the MQ 9.0.x continuous delivery updates into the MQ V9.1 Long Term Support release. To recap what your MQ options are at this point:

* IBM MQ 9.1
	+ **IBM MQ 9.1 Long Term Support**. [Latest available fixpack is 9.1.0.1](http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27006037).
	+ **IBM MQ 9.1.1 CD release**. This release! Note that in MQ 9.1 we tweaked our support statement to state *‘a fix can be provided for a CD release for 12 months from the availability of the release or while it remains one of the two most recent CD releases, whichever is longer.’* This essentially means each CD release is now supported for 12 months, up from about 8 months prior to us making this statement. See question [‘How are fixes delivered for a CD release?’ in the FAQ](https://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27047919).
* IBM MQ 9.0
	+ **IBM MQ 9.0 Long Term Support**. [Latest available fixpack is 9.0.0.5](http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27006037). There is no MQ Appliance 9.0 LTS firmware level, but MQ Appliance 9.1 is a LTS firmware level.
	+ **IBM MQ 9.0.5 CD release**. This drops **out of defect support** with the release of this MQ 9.1.1 update (9.1.1 and 9.1.0 being the most recent two releases), so plan to update asap. If you raise a support ticket for this release you will be asked to update to 9.1.0 or 9.1.1. This is the end of the MQ 9.0.x CD release stream, and it has been superseded by MQ 9.1.x.
* **IBM MQ 8.0 Long Term Support** (only), with [End of Support announced for 30th April 2020](https://www-01.ibm.com/software/support/lifecycleapp/PLCDetail.wss?synkey=P439881V74305Y86-W529440R92146U80-C445939F66552L21), so start thinking about moving to a newer release.

On the MQ Appliance you now have a choice of whether to follow the Long Term Support or Continuous Delivery path for updates. New MQ Appliance M2002 models will ship with the LTS firmware onboard by default, but you can move at any time to the CD firmware if there is function of interest.

Where can I get IBM MQ 9.1.1 from?

MQ 9.1.1 has been delivered concurrently on distributed, z/OS and appliance platforms, and the [IBM MQ on IBM Cloud managed service](https://console.bluemix.net/catalog/services/mq?taxonomyNavigation=apps&cm_sp=dw-bluemix-_-messaging-_-devcenter) will be updated in due course. MQ 9.1.1 can be obtained from:

* **Distributed platforms:**[PassportAdvantage](https://www.ibm.com/software/passportadvantage/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) for AIX, Linux and Windows platforms (Search for part numbers CJ468ML for Production use and CJ4SWML for Trial)
* **z/OS:**[shopZ](http://www-304.ibm.com/software/shopzseries/ShopzSeries_public.wss%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) for z/OS. Each PID has a Long Term Support and Continuous Delivery orderable feature.
The MQ for z/OS 9.1.1 CD orderable feature will be available on 14th December 2018.
PIDs are:
	+ 5655-MQ9 – IBM MQ for z/OS
	+ 5655-VU9 – IBM MQ for z/OS Value Unit Edition
	+ 5655-AM9 – IBM MQ Advanced Message Security for z/OS
	+ 5655-MF9 – IBM MQ Managed File Transfer for z/OS
	+ 5655-AV9 – IBM MQ Advanced for z/OS
		- This is a bundle of MQ Advanced Message Security and MQ Managed File Transfer (no MQ entitlement included)
	+ 5655-AV1 – IBM MQ Advanced for z/OS Value Unit Edition
		- This is a bundle of MQ Advanced Message Security, MQ Managed File Transfer and MQ for z/OS Value Unit Edition
* **MQ Appliance:**The IBM MQ Appliance firmware image can be obtained from [Fix Central](https://ibm.biz/mq91cdappliance) and applied to the M2002, M2001 and M2000 hardware models.
* **IBM MQ on IBM Cloud:**[IBM MQ on IBM Cloud managed service](https://console.bluemix.net/catalog/services/mq?taxonomyNavigation=apps&cm_sp=dw-bluemix-_-messaging-_-devcenter), which has 3 pre-configured queue manager sizes, a 30 day Trial and options for placing the queue manager in an IBM Cloud or AWS data center.

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What’s new in MQ 9.1.1?

IBM MQ and MQ Appliance 9.1.1 announcement letters:

* [IBM MQ and MQ Appliance firmware 9.1.1](http://www.ibm.com/common/ssi/ShowDoc.wss?docURL=/common/ssi/rep_ca/1/897/ENUS218-511/index.html&lang=en)
* [IBM MQ for z/OS 9.1.1 Monthly License Charge](http://www.ibm.com/common/ssi/ShowDoc.wss?docURL=/common/ssi/rep_ca/8/897/ENUS218-508/index.html&lang=en)
* [IBM MQ for z/OS 9.1.1 One Time Charge offerings](http://www.ibm.com/common/ssi/ShowDoc.wss?docURL=/common/ssi/rep_ca/0/897/ENUS218-510/index.html&lang=en)

For our Offering Management perspective on 9.1.1 head over to [Leif Davidsen’s wordpress blog](https://leifdavidsen.wordpress.com/2018/11/27/all-aboard-the-9-1-x-cd-train-first-stop-is-ibm-mq-v9-1-1/)

Updates in this release of IBM MQ include:

* Client support for .NET Core applications on Windows
Many applications use the .NET as a framework for running applications on Microsoft Windows platforms. .NET Core is an increasingly popular choice for clients who use the .NET framework.
* The ability to provide a list of acceptable TLS CipherSpecs
This function enables clients to immediately mitigate against new security vulnerabilities. Weak CipherSpecs can be removed from the list of allowable CipherSpecs without waiting for a security fix from IBM
* Enhanced TLS CipherSpec negotiation
When connecting multiple secure environments, the task of selecting and defining which TLS CipherSpec to set on each channel can be difficult and time consuming. With MQ V9.1.1, a strong CipherSpec can be negotiated dynamically from the set of CipherSpecs available for use on a MQ channel. This helps avoid situations where the CipherSpec selected might be deprecated and require a manual update. It reduces administrative overhead in support of stronger security and it allows CipherSpecs to be deprecated without manually changing configurations.
* Enhanced integration with IBM WebSphere Liberty
The MQ V9.1 LTS release allows message delivery to Message Driven Beans (MDB) that run in WebSphere Application Server to be paused in the event of a poisoned message being detected. This CD release provides the same capability for WebSphere Liberty.
* Improvements to queue manager restart and client reconnect times
MQ V9.1.1 provides improvements in core queue manager functions that will enable faster restarts for queue managers which have large numbers of messages in existing queues, and, at the same time, enable reconnects for client applications up to 5 times faster than before.
* Extended connectivity options for using MQ with z/OS Connect Enterprise Edition (zCEE)
MQ for z/OS, V9.1.1 extends the connectivity options for using MQ with zCEE. In addition to bindings connections, where zCEE must be local to the MQ queue manager and can exploit cross-memory communication, client connections are supported from zCEE to remote z/OS MQ queue managers. This provides more flexibility by allowing more distributed deployment topologies of zCEE and MQ.
* In addition MQ Advanced also adds REST enhancements for MQ Managed File Transfer to list Resource Monitors

Look out for further blog articles.

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Can I get a copy of IBM MQ for development purposes? [](https://developer.ibm.com/messaging/learn-mq/mq-tutorials/mq-dev-essentials/)

* Yes, you can. A free download to use for development on Windows and Linux x86-64 is available from the [IBM MQ download page](https://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSFKSJ/com.ibm.mq.helphome.doc/mq_downloads_admins.htm)
* An IBM MQ Advanced for Developers Docker image is also available on [Docker Store](https://store.docker.com/images/ibm-mq-advanced) or [Docker Hub](https://hub.docker.com/r/ibmcom/mq/)

The [LearnMQ](http://ibm.biz/learn-mq%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)site is regularly updated with a mix of tutorials and essential getting started information, and offers you the opportunity to earn an [IBM MQ Developer Essentials badge.](ibm.biz/mq-badge)

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Downloadable resources

A number of MQ components are made available on IBM Fix Central and elsewhere for ease of download. Here are the links to the available components:

* The [IBM MQ Resource Adapter](https://ibm.biz/mq91cdRA) for use with any JEE 7.0 compliant application server
* [IBM MQ redistributable Managed File Transfer Agents](https://ibm.biz/mq91cdredistmftagent)
* [IBM MQ C clients](https://ibm.biz/mq91cdclients)
* [IBM MQ Java / JMS client](https://ibm.biz/mq91cdjavaclient)
* [IBM MQ redistributable clients](https://ibm.biz/mq91cdredistclients)
* [IBM MQ Service Provider for z/OS Connect](https://ibm.biz/mq91cdzOSConnect)
* [IBM MQ Appliance firmware update](https://ibm.biz/mq91cdappliance)
* [IBM MQ Java client components on Maven](https://search.maven.org/search?q=g:com.ibm.mq%20AND%20a:com.ibm.mq.allclient&core=gav)
* [IBM MQ on AWS Quick Start](https://aws.amazon.com/quickstart/architecture/ibm-mq/)
* [IBM MQ Advanced Cloud Paks for IBM Cloud Private](https://ibm.biz/mq91cdcloudpak) (entitlement needed)
The *MQ Advanced Cloud Pak for IBM Cloud Private with Red Hat OpenShift* is also available via the [Red Hat Container Catalog](https://access.redhat.com/containers/?tab=overview#/non_registry/ibm/ibm-mqadvanced-server). The latest version is always at the link above.

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MQ System Requirements and documentation

The system requirements are documented at the links below. IBM MQ 9.1.1 is being made available on z/OS, Microsoft Windows, Linux on x86-64, Linux on IBM z Systems, Linux on Little Endian Power (RHEL, SLES and Ubuntu) and AIX.

* [IBM MQ and IBM MQ for z/OS](http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27051071)
* [IBM MQ Appliance](http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27051072)

Further information can be found in the [IBM MQ Knowledge Center](http://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSFKSJ_9.1.0/) and the [IBM MQ Appliance Knowledge Center](https://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SS5K6E_9.1.0/)

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What function has released in previous updates?

[IBM MQ 9.1 and IBM MQ Appliance M2002](https://developer.ibm.com/messaging/2018/07/23/ibm-mq-9-1-ibm-mq-appliance-m2002-available/)

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Remind me how the Continuous Delivery support model works…

It’s worth reminding you what the Continuous Delivery support model means for MQ.

* MQ 9.1 LTS is supported for a minimum of 5 years from its availability in July 2018, and will receive fix only updates through fixpacks versioned 9.1.0.1, 9.1.0.2 and so on.
* MQ CD updates will be delivered with the 3rd digit change – 9.1.1, 9.1.2 and so on. Defect support for a CD release is available for 12 months from the availability of the release or while it remains one of the two most recent CD releases, whichever is longer, so you need to keep moving forward with the MQ CD releases.
* MQ CD updates will be delivered with new function enabled by default.
* The [IBM MQ FAQ for Long Term Support and Continuous Delivery Releases](http://ibm.biz/CDvsLTfaq)will hopefully answer most of your questions.

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