

F5 BIG IP Software Upgrade



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1. Objective

The objective of this document is to provide a high-level design providing insights into how AppViewX can simply and streamline F5 BIGIP Device Upgrades while ensuring operation stability.

2. Scope

- Upgrade of a standalone F5 BIG IP.
- Upgrade of a BIG IP pair in HA.

3. Out of Scope

- Upgrading of multiple F5 Devices at the same time.


4. Pre Requisite / Expectations

- All F5s in scope to be in 'Managed' state in AppViewX.
- F5 recommendation of resource provisioning for MGMT as 'LARGE' to be completed.
- F5 recommendation of using a new HD partition for v15 to be followed.

5. F5 BIG IP Version Upgrade

- The user will have to fill out a form with basic details like Device Type (Standalone or HA Pair), F5 Device name, Installation file name, Installation volume name.
- Based on the device type chosen, the upgrade process will run.

Standalone Devices:


- The device will be initially in Active Mode.
 - The installation files will be transferred from the AppViewX server to the F5 device in the volume chosen in the form.
 - Installation process will be started and status at each point will be checked.
 - The device configuration will be fetched.
 - Device configuration backup will be done.
 - The device will be forced to go offline.
 - The configuration will be copied to the new volume.
 - The device will be rebooted and will be released from offline mode.
 - VIP status will be fetched and device will be checked for active connections.
 - The upgrade process is complete and the device will be ready to use.
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HA Pair Devices:

- There will be two devices available – one in standby and the other in active.
- The installation files will be transferred from the AppViewX server to both the F5 devices in the volume chosen in the form.
- Installation process will be initiated on the standby device.
- Then Active base image installation will be done in the Standby device.
- The standby device configuration will be fetched.
- Device configuration backup of standby device will be done.
- The standby device will be forced to go offline.
- The configuration will be copied to the new volume.
- The standby device will be rebooted and will be released from offline mode.
- VIP status will be fetched and standby device will be checked for active connections.
- Next, the active device configuration will be fetched.
- Device configuration backup of active device will be done.
- The active device will be forced to go offline.
- The configuration will be copied to the new volume.
- The active device will be rebooted and will be released from offline mode.
- VIP status will be fetched and standby device will be checked for active connections.
- F5 HA Pair synchronization will be done to keep both the devices in sync.
- The upgrade process is complete and both devices will be ready to use.

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