

How we decide when to release Fedora

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Open source projects can use a variety of different models for deciding when to put out a release. Some projects release on a set schedule. Others decide on what the next release should contain and release whenever that is ready. Some just wake up one day and decide it's time to release. And other projects go for a rolling release model, avoiding the question entirely.

For Fedora, we go with a schedule-based approach. Releasing twice a year means we can give our contributors time to implement large changes while still keeping on the leading edge. Targeting releases for the end of April and the end of October gives everyone predictability: contributors, users, upstreams, and downstreams.

But it's not enough to release whatever's ready on the scheduled date. We want to make sure that we're releasing quality software. Over the years, the Fedora community has developed a set of processes to help ensure we can meet both our time and quality targets.

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