

Mitigate Oracle license compliance risk

Take control of your Oracle estate to cut compliance risks and reduce unnecessary spend

Understanding the complexities of Oracle entitlements and matching them to your usage are notoriously difficult. Oracle also allows you to install and use everything, regardless of what's been purchased, and can hit you with a hefty compliance bill after auditing.

To get a true picture of your license liability, you need to know how your organization is deploying virtualization technologies; if your organization has enabled Management Packs; which Database Options are in use; the hardware processing power and its configuration; your license liability as part of your support policy, where Java is used in your environment and, of course, the number of users.

See your estate through an auditor's eyes

The Flexera Solution for Oracle enables Oracle administrators and software asset managers to easily track, manage and optimize the configuration of [Oracle databases and middleware products](#) and identify where Java licenses are required. With the ability to create on-demand Oracle Server Worksheets in minutes, administrators can save precious time and avoid compliance risks and unnecessary costs.

Because Flexera is verified for Oracle Middleware, Oracle Java, Oracle E-Business Suite, and Oracle Database and Database Options, IT leaders and software asset managers can be confident in the data used in calculating your effective license position.

The screenshot shows the 'Oracle overview' dashboard in the Flexera console. It features a navigation bar at the top with tabs for Home, Applications, Computations, Users, Cloud, Agreements, Licenses, Objects, Enterprise, and Reports. Below the navigation bar, there are several summary cards for Products (4), Recommendations (3), Entitlements (0), Reports (47), and Oracle verified data (Database). The main content area displays a table of servers with columns for Server name, Database, Instance name, Installed Database edition, Assigned Database license, Metric, Environment, and Last scanned. The table lists 14 servers, with two checked as having completed verified data. The servers include various instance names like 'prod-m-01_10' and 'dev-mib-03', and are associated with different Oracle Database editions and licenses.

Server name	Database	Instance name	Installed Database edition	Assigned Database license	Metric	Environment	Last scanned
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> e7-132-rac2.localdomain	PDB1	cfbrac2	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	21/02/2022
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> e7-132-rac2.localdomain	CFBRAC	cfbrac2	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	21/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> prod-m-01	prod-m-01_10	DBD	Oracle Database Standard Edition	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> prod-m-01	prod-m-01_11	DBD	Oracle Database Standard Edition 2	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> prod-m-01	prod-m-01_12	DBD	Oracle Database Standard Edition 2	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> prod-m-01	prod-m-01_13	DBD	Oracle Database Standard Edition	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> dev-mib-03	dev-mib-03_10	LBL	Oracle Database Standard Edition	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> dev-mib-03	prod-mib-23_10	LBL	Oracle Database Standard Edition 2	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> dev-mib-03	dev-mib-03_12	LBL	Oracle Database Standard Edition 2	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> dev-mib-03	dev-mib-03_13	LBL	Oracle Database Standard Edition	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> prod-wsd-20	prod-wsd-20_10	PAE	Oracle Database Standard Edition 2	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> prod-wsd-20	prod-wsd-20_11	PAE	Oracle Database Standard Edition	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> prod-mib-23	prod-mib-23_10	PAE	Oracle Database Standard Edition 2	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> test-u-01	test-u-01_10	PAE	Oracle Database Standard Edition	Oracle Database Enterprise Edition	Processor	Prod	20/02/2022

Understand when to use soft-partitioned environments

Poor usage of soft-partitioned environments could lead to a substantial bill. Oracle doesn't accept soft partitioning as a way of reducing the number of required licenses; therefore, all physical cores on all machines that could host the virtual machine must be licensed.

Flexera provides insight into datacenters hosting a virtual machine and calculates the required number of licenses, allowing you to see whether the deployment is right for your needs.

Benefits

Rightsize virtualization technologies

- Identify licensing implications for virtualization technologies
- Calculate correct license requirements for datacenters running VMWare
- Apply correct licensing rules automatically to hard-partitioned environments and calculate license requirements for products deployed

Import license entitlements

- Link licenses to support policies and Customer Support Identifiers (CSIs)
- Understand entitlements to know when support agreements need to be renewed
- Use entitlements to generate compliancy views

Use only what you need

- See which Management Packs your organization has enabled and agreed upon
- Match Database Option installation to usage
- Make informed decisions to disable or uninstall underutilized options

Balanced Processor vs. Named User Plus licenses

- Calculate minimum number of Named User Plus (NUP) licenses required for each product deployed
- Understand how hard-/soft-partitioning rules affect NUP licensing
- Ensure you have the right number of licenses to minimize compliance risk

License compliance and cost savings

- When organizations identify versions of Oracle Java running on devices, they are able to remove unnecessary versions and save license costs

Fast response to security incidents

- Organizations can quickly help IT security teams identify where vulnerable versions of Java are located, such as in the case of the recent Spring4Shell Zero-Day vulnerability

Oracle licensing is both expensive and multifaceted

Every configuration variation can lead to significant differences in license exposure. Oracle typically audits their customers once every three to four years, so software asset managers need to ensure they get the configuration right to avoid costly, unbudgeted license fees.

Costs can quickly mount if the Oracle estate is unmanaged and not optimized. A seemingly small configuration decision can become financially embarrassing, with hefty back usage and true-up fees. For example, having one instance of an Enterprise Edition database installed where a Standard Edition 2 would suffice could cost **\$30,000¹** or more, plus 22% maintenance. An organization could have inadvertently activated one or more Management Packs or Options—installed by default on enterprise editions—that could add further expense.

Flexera enables organizations to independently assess Oracle usage and licensing obligations. This provides an accurate customer view on software installs, management pack and option activation, plus actual usage levels.

Using a solution that allows stakeholders to understand the configuration of all Oracle components ensures effective and proactive management of Oracle licenses.

Oracle Java visibility for license compliance

Java is an incredibly flexible, platform-independent programming language and almost every organization uses it somewhere. Oracle Java can also be used outside of Oracle environments, and complicated and expensive license compliance can be an unwelcome surprise for non-Oracle customers.

The Flexera Scanner for Java scans your end-user devices and datacenter devices for both Oracle and non-Oracle Java versions, including IBM, RedHat, and Azul.



Proven cost avoidance with Snow Software For Oracle License Management

Sasol experienced numerous audits over a two-year period. During a third-party review of Sasol's Oracle licenses' compliance status, the Flexera platform identified some potential compliance concerns for which there were these estimated cost avoidances:

Database compliance cost avoidance

\$1.3 million

Middleware compliance cost avoidance

\$27.3 million

Learn more about Sasol's software asset management [savings](#).

An Oracle asset view you can trust through the audit process

All Java installations
This report provides visibility into all installed components of Java.

REPORT CRITERIA

Computer name: Algiers_VM (Continued on the next page)

Computer type	Architecture	Installation status	Home path	Vendor	Version	Full version	Product name	Reason message
VM	64-bit	Recognised	C:\Program Files\Java\openjdk\jdk-9.0.4	Oracle Corporation	Oracle OpenJDK 9	9.0.4	Oracle OpenJDK	
VM	64-bit	Recognised	C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-14.0.2	Oracle Corporation	Java SE 14	14.0.2	Oracle Java SE	
VM	64-bit	Recognised	C:\Program Files\Java\openjdk\jdk-15.0.2	Oracle Corporation	Oracle OpenJDK 15	15.0.2	Oracle OpenJDK	
VM	64-bit	Not recognised	C:\oracle\agent\agent_13.3.0.0\oracle_common\jdk\jre	Oracle Corporation				
VM	64-bit	Not recognised	C:\oracle\middleware\oracle_common\jdk\jre	Oracle Corporation				
VM	64-bit	Recognised	C:\Program Files\Java\jre-9.0.4	Oracle Corporation	Java SE 9	9.0.4	Oracle Java SE (Non-licensable)	

About Flexera

Flexera helps organizations understand and maximize the value of their technology, saving billions of dollars in wasted spend. Powered by the Flexera Technology Intelligence Platform, our award-winning IT asset management, FinOps and SaaS management solutions provide comprehensive visibility and actionable insights on an organization's entire IT ecosystem. This intelligence enables IT, finance, procurement and cloud teams to address skyrocketing costs, optimize spend, mitigate risk and identify opportunities to create positive business outcomes.

More than 50,000 global organizations rely on Flexera and its Technopedia reference library, the largest repository of technology asset data. Learn more at flexera.com

» NEXT STEPS

Learn how to cut Oracle compliance risks and reduce spend

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