



## CHAPTER 3

# Managing Feature Licenses

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A license specifies the options that are enabled on a given security appliance. It is represented by an activation key which is a 160-bit (5 32-bit words or 20 bytes) value. This value encodes the serial number (an 11 character string) and the enabled features.

This chapter describes how to obtain an activation key and activate it. It also describes the available licenses for each model. This chapter includes the following sections:

This document includes the following sections:

- [Supported Feature Licenses Per Model, page 3-1](#)
- [Information About Feature Licenses, page 3-9](#)
- [Guidelines and Limitations, page 3-12](#)
- [Viewing Your Current License, page 3-12](#)
- [Obtaining an Activation Key, page 3-14](#)
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- [Upgrading the License for a Failover Pair, page 3-16](#)
- [Feature History for Licensing, page 3-18](#)

## Supported Feature Licenses Per Model

This section lists the feature licenses available for each model:

- ASA 5505, [Table 3-1 on page 3-2](#)
- ASA 5510, [Table 3-2 on page 3-3](#)
- ASA 5520, [Table 3-3 on page 3-4](#)
- ASA 5540, [Table 3-4 on page 3-5](#)
- ASA 5550, [Table 3-5 on page 3-6](#)
- PIX 515/515E, [Table 3-6 on page 3-7](#)
- PIX 525, [Table 3-7 on page 3-8](#)
- PIX 535, [Table 3-8 on page 3-9](#)

**Note**

The ASA 5580 is not supported in Version 8.0; for ASA 5580 information, see the licensing documentation for Version 8.1 or later.

The PIX 500 series security appliance does not support temporary licenses.

Items that are in italics are separate, optional licenses with which that you can replace the Base or Security Plus license. You can mix and match licenses, for example, the 10 security context license plus the Strong Encryption license; or the 500 SSL VPN license plus the GTP/GPRS license; or all four licenses together.

**Table 3-1 ASA 5505 Adaptive Security Appliance License Features**

ASA 5505	Base License		Security Plus	
Users, concurrent <sup>1</sup>	10 <sup>2</sup>	<i>Optional licenses:</i> 50    Unlimited	10 <sup>2</sup>	<i>Optional licenses:</i> 50    Unlimited
Security Contexts	No support		No support	
VPN Sessions <sup>3</sup>	25 combined IPsec and SSL VPN		25 combined IPsec and SSL VPN	
Max. IPsec Sessions	10		25	
Max. SSL VPN Sessions	2	<i>Optional licenses:</i> 10    25	2	<i>Optional licenses:</i> 10    25
VPN Load Balancing	No support		No support	
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>	None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions <sup>4</sup>	2	<i>Optional license: 24</i>	2	<i>Optional license: 24</i>
Failover	No support		Active/Standby (no stateful failover)	
GTP/GPRS	No support		No support	
Maximum VLANs/Zones	3 (2 regular zones and 1 restricted zone that can only communicate with 1 other zone)		20	
Maximum VLAN Trunks	No support		8 trunks	
Concurrent Firewall Conns	10 K		25 K	
Max. Physical Interfaces	Unlimited, assigned to VLANs/zones		Unlimited, assigned to VLANs/zones	
Encryption	Base (DES)	<i>Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)</i>	Base (DES)	<i>Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)</i>
Minimum RAM	256 MB (default)		256 MB (default)	

- In routed mode, hosts on the inside (Business and Home VLANs) count towards the limit only when they communicate with the outside (Internet VLAN). Internet hosts are not counted towards the limit. Hosts that initiate traffic between Business and Home are also not counted towards the limit. The interface associated with the default route is considered to be the Internet interface. If there is no default route, hosts on all interfaces are counted toward the limit. In transparent mode, the interface with the lowest number of hosts is counted towards the host limit. See the **show local-host** command to view the host limits.
- For a 10-user license, the max. DHCP clients is 32. For 50 users, the max. is 128. For unlimited users, the max. is 250, which is the max. for other models.
- Although the maximum IPsec and SSL VPN sessions add up to more than the maximum VPN sessions, the combined sessions should not exceed the VPN session limit. If you exceed the maximum VPN sessions, you can overload the security appliance, so be sure to size your network appropriately. When determining the session makeup of the combined limit, the number of SSL VPN sessions cannot exceed the number of licensed SSL VPN sessions on the security appliance (which is 2 by default).
- Phone Proxy, Mobility Proxy, Presence Federation Proxy, and TLS Proxy are all licensed under the UC Proxy umbrella, and can be mixed and matched. For example, if you configure a phone with a primary and backup Cisco Unified Communications Manager, there are 2 TLS/SRTP connections, and 2 UC Proxy sessions are used. This license was introduced in Version 8.0(4). In prior versions, TLS proxy for SIP and Skinny inspection was included in the Base License.

Table 3-2 ASA 5510 Adaptive Security Appliance License Features

ASA 5510	Base License					Security Plus					
Users, concurrent	Unlimited					Unlimited					
Security Contexts	No support					2	<i>Optional licenses:</i>				
							5				
VPN Sessions <sup>1</sup>	250 combined IPSec and SSL VPN					250 combined IPSec and SSL VPN					
Max. IPSec Sessions	250					250					
Max. SSL VPN Sessions	2	<i>Optional licenses:</i>				2	<i>Optional licenses:</i>				
		10	25	50	100	250	10	25	50	100	250
		<i>Optional VPN Flex license:<sup>2</sup> 250</i>					<i>Optional VPN Flex license: 250</i>				
VPN Load Balancing	No support					Supported					
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	None		<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>			None		<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>			
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions <sup>3</sup> (introduced in 8.0(4))	2	<i>Optional licenses</i>				2	<i>Optional licenses</i>				
		24	50	100			24	50	100		
Failover	No support					Active/Standby or Active/Active <sup>4</sup>					
GTP/GPRS	No support					No support					
Max. VLANs	50					100					
Concurrent Firewall Conns	50 K					130 K					
Max. Physical Interfaces	Unlimited					Unlimited					
Interface Speed	All: Fast Ethernet					Ethernet 0/0 and 0/1: Gigabit Ethernet <sup>5</sup> Ethernet 0/2, 0/3, and 0/4: Fast Ethernet					
Encryption	Base (DES)		<i>Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)</i>			Base (DES)		<i>Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)</i>			
Min. RAM	256 MB (default)					256 MB (default)					

- Although the maximum IPSec and SSL VPN sessions add up to more than the maximum VPN sessions, the combined sessions should not exceed the VPN session limit. If you exceed the maximum VPN sessions, you can overload the security appliance, so be sure to size your network appropriately. When determining the session makeup of the combined limit, the number of SSL VPN sessions cannot exceed the number of licensed SSL VPN sessions on the security appliance (which is 2 by default).
- Available in Version 8.0(4) and later.
- Phone Proxy, Mobility Proxy, Presence Federation Proxy, and TLS Proxy are all licensed under the UC Proxy umbrella, and can be mixed and matched. For example, if you configure a phone with a primary and backup Cisco Unified Communications Manager, there are 2 TLS/SRTP connections, and 2 UC Proxy sessions are used. This license was introduced in Version 8.0(4). In prior versions, TLS proxy for SIP and Skinny inspection was included in the Base License.
- You cannot use Active/Active failover and VPN; if you want to use VPN, use Active/Standby failover.
- Although the Ethernet 0/0 and 0/1 ports are Gigabit Ethernet, they are still identified as "Ethernet" in the software.

Table 3-3 ASA 5520 Adaptive Security Appliance License Features

ASA 5520	Base License							
Users, concurrent	Unlimited							Unlimited
Security Contexts	2	<i>Optional licenses:</i>						
	5	10	20					
VPN Sessions <sup>1</sup>	750 combined IPsec and SSL VPN							
Max. IPsec Sessions	750							
Max. SSL VPN Sessions	2	<i>Optional licenses:</i>						
	10	25	50	100	250	500	750	
	<i>Optional VPN Flex licenses:<sup>2</sup></i>				250	750		
VPN Load Balancing	Supported							
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	None		<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>					
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions <sup>3</sup>	2	<i>Optional licenses</i>						
	24	50	100	250	500	750	1000	
Failover	Active/Standby or Active/Active <sup>4</sup>							
GTP/GPRS	None		<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>					
Max. VLANs	150							
Concurrent Firewall Conns	280 K							
Max. Physical Interfaces	Unlimited							
Encryption	Base (DES)		<i>Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)</i>					
Min. RAM	512 MB (default)							

1. Although the maximum IPsec and SSL VPN sessions add up to more than the maximum VPN sessions, the combined sessions should not exceed the VPN session limit. If you exceed the maximum VPN sessions, you can overload the security appliance, so be sure to size your network appropriately. When determining the session makeup of the combined limit, the number of SSL VPN sessions cannot exceed the number of licensed SSL VPN sessions on the security appliance (which is 2 by default).
2. Available in Version 8.0(4) and later.
3. Phone Proxy, Mobility Proxy, Presence Federation Proxy, and TLS Proxy are all licensed under the UC Proxy umbrella, and can be mixed and matched. For example, if you configure a phone with a primary and backup Cisco Unified Communications Manager, there are 2 TLS/SRTP connections, and 2 UC Proxy sessions are used. This license was introduced in Version 8.0(4). In prior versions, TLS proxy for SIP and Skinny inspection was included in the Base License.
4. You cannot use Active/Active failover and VPN; if you want to use VPN, use Active/Standby failover.

**Table 3-4 ASA 5540 Adaptive Security Appliance License Features**

ASA 5540	Base License									
Users, concurrent	Unlimited					Unlimited				
Security Contexts	2									
	<i>Optional licenses:</i>									
	5	10	20	50						
VPN Sessions <sup>1</sup>	5000 combined IPsec and SSL VPN									
Max. IPsec Sessions	5000									
Max. SSL VPN Sessions	2									
	<i>Optional licenses:</i>									
	10	25	50	100	250	500	750	1000	2500	
	<i>Optional VPN Flex Licenses:<sup>2</sup></i>					250	750	1000	2500	
VPN Load Balancing	Supported									
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	None					<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>				
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions <sup>3</sup>	2									
	<i>Optional licenses</i>									
	24	50	100	250	500	750	1000	2000		
Failover	Active/Standby or Active/Active <sup>4</sup>									
GTP/GPRS	None					<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>				
Max. VLANs	200									
Concurrent Firewall Conns	400 K									
Max. Physical Interfaces	Unlimited									
Encryption	Base (DES)					<i>Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)</i>				
Min. RAM	1 GB (default)									

1. Although the maximum IPsec and SSL VPN sessions add up to more than the maximum VPN sessions, the combined sessions should not exceed the VPN session limit. If you exceed the maximum VPN sessions, you can overload the security appliance, so be sure to size your network appropriately. When determining the session makeup of the combined limit, the number of SSL VPN sessions cannot exceed the number of licensed SSL VPN sessions on the security appliance (which is 2 by default). This license was introduced in Version 8.0(4). In prior versions, TLS proxy for SIP and Skinny inspection was included in the Base License.

2. Available in Version 8.0(4) and later.

3. Phone Proxy, Mobility Proxy, Presence Federation Proxy, and TLS Proxy are all licensed under the UC Proxy umbrella, and can be mixed and matched. For example, if you configure a phone with a primary and backup Cisco Unified Communications Manager, there are 2 TLS/SRTP connections, and 2 UC Proxy sessions are used. Prior to 8.0(4), only TLS Proxy was available.

4. You cannot use Active/Active failover and VPN; if you want to use VPN, use Active/Standby failover.

Table 3-5 ASA 5550 Adaptive Security Appliance License Features

ASA 5550	Base License									
Users, concurrent	Unlimited									
Security Contexts	2	<i>Optional licenses:</i>								
	5	10	20	50						
VPN Sessions <sup>1</sup>	5000 combined IPsec and SSL VPN									
Max. IPsec Sessions	5000									
Max. SSL VPN Sessions	2	<i>Optional licenses:</i>								
	10	25	50	100	250	500	750	1000	2500	5000
	<i>Optional VPN Flex licenses:<sup>2</sup></i>				250	750	1000	2500	5000	
VPN Load Balancing	Supported									
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>								
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions <sup>3</sup>	2	<i>Optional licenses</i>								
	24	50	100	250	500	750	1000	2000	3000	
Failover	Active/Standby or Active/Active <sup>4</sup>									
GTP/GPRS	None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>								
Max. VLANs	250									
Concurrent Firewall Conns	650 K									
Max. Physical Interfaces	Unlimited									
Encryption	Base (DES)	<i>Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)</i>								
Min. RAM	4 GB (default)									

- Although the maximum IPsec and SSL VPN sessions add up to more than the maximum VPN sessions, the combined sessions should not exceed the VPN session limit. If you exceed the maximum VPN sessions, you can overload the security appliance, so be sure to size your network appropriately. When determining the session makeup of the combined limit, the number of SSL VPN sessions cannot exceed the number of licensed SSL VPN sessions on the security appliance (which is 2 by default). This license was introduced in Version 8.0(4). In prior versions, TLS proxy for SIP and Skinny inspection was included in the Base License.
- Available in Version 8.0(4) and later.
- Phone Proxy, Mobility Proxy, Presence Federation Proxy, and TLS Proxy are all licensed under the UC Proxy umbrella, and can be mixed and matched. For example, if you configure a phone with a primary and backup Cisco Unified Communications Manager, there are 2 TLS/SRTP connections, and 2 UC Proxy sessions are used.
- You cannot use Active/Active failover and VPN; if you want to use VPN, use Active/Standby failover.

Table 3-6 PIX 515/515E Security Appliance License Features

PIX 515/515E	R (Restricted)		UR (Unrestricted)		FO (Failover) <sup>1</sup>		FO-AA (Failover Active/Active) <sup>1</sup>		
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	No support		No support		No support		No support		
Encryption	None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>		None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>		None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>	
		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>
Failover	No support		Active/Standby Active/Active		Active/Standby		Active/Standby Active/Active		
Firewall Conns, concurrent	48 K		130 K		130 K		130 K		
GTP/GPRS	None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>		None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>		None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>	
IPSec Sessions	2000		2000		2000		2000		
Physical Interfaces, max.	3		6		6		6		
RAM, min.	64 MB (default)		128 MB		128 MB		128 MB		
Security Contexts	No support		2	<i>Optional license: 5</i>		2	<i>Optional license: 5</i>		
SSL VPN Sessions	No support		No support		No support		No support		
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions	No support		No support		No support		No support		
Users, concurrent	Unlimited		Unlimited		Unlimited		Unlimited		
VLANs, max.	10		25		25		25		
VPN Load Balancing	No support		No support		No support		No support		

1. This license can only be used in a failover pair with another unit with a UR license. Both units must be the same model.

Table 3-7 PIX 525 Security Appliance License Features

PIX 525	R (Restricted)		UR (Unrestricted)				FO (Failover) <sup>1</sup>				FO-AA (Failover Active/Active) <sup>1</sup>				
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	No support		No support				No support				No support				
Encryption	None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>		None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>		None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>		None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>		None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>	
		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>			
Failover	No support		Active/Standby Active/Active				Active/Standby				Active/Standby Active/Active				
Firewall Conns, concurrent	140 K		280 K				280 K				280 K				
GTP/GPRS	None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>		None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>		None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>		None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>		None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>	
IPSec Sessions	2000		2000				2000				2000				
Physical Interfaces, max.	6		10				10				10				
RAM, min.	128 MB (default)		256 MB				256 MB				256 MB				
Security Contexts	No support		2		<i>Optional licenses:</i>		2		<i>Optional licenses:</i>		2		<i>Optional licenses:</i>		
			5	10	20	50	5	10	20	50	5	10	20	50	
SSL VPN Sessions	No support		No support				No support				No support				
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions	No support		No support				No support				No support				
Users, concurrent	Unlimited		Unlimited				Unlimited				Unlimited				
VLANs, max.	25		100				100				100				
VPN Load Balancing	No support		No support				No support				No support				

1. This license can only be used in a failover pair with another unit with a UR license. Both units must be the same model.

Table 3-8 PIX 535 Security Appliance License Features

PIX 535	R (Restricted)		UR (Unrestricted)		FO (Failover) <sup>1</sup>		FO-AA (Failover Active/Active) <sup>1</sup>		
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	No support		No support		No support		No support		
Encryption	None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>		None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>		None	<i>Optional licenses:</i>	
		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>		<i>Base (DES)</i>	<i>Strong (3DES/AES)</i>
Failover	No support		Active/Standby Active/Active		Active/Standby		Active/Standby Active/Active		
Firewall Conns, concurrent	250 K		500 K		500 K		500 K		
GTP/GPRS	None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>		None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>		None	<i>Optional license: Enabled</i>	
IPSec Sessions	2000		2000		2000		2000		
Physical Interfaces, max.	8		14		14		14		
RAM, min.	512 MB (default)		1024 MB		1024 MB		1024 MB		
Security Contexts	No support		2		2		2		
			<i>Optional licenses:</i> 5 10 20 50		<i>Optional licenses:</i> 5 10 20 50		<i>Optional licenses:</i> 5 10 20 50		
SSL VPN Sessions	No support		No support		No support		No support		
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions	No support		No support		No support		No support		
Users, concurrent	Unlimited		Unlimited		Unlimited		Unlimited		
VLANs, max.	50		150		150		150		
VPN Load Balancing	No support		No support		No support		No support		

1. This license can only be used in a failover pair with another unit with a UR license. Both units must be the same model.

## Information About Feature Licenses

A license specifies the options that are enabled on a given security appliance. It is represented by an activation key which is a 160-bit (5 32-bit words or 20 bytes) value. This value encodes the serial number (an 11 character string) and the enabled features.

This section includes the following topics:

- [Preinstalled License, page 3-10](#)
- [VPN Flex and Evaluation Licenses, page 3-10](#)

## Preinstalled License

By default, your security appliance ships with a license already installed. This license might be the Base License, to which you want to add more licenses, or it might already have all of your licenses installed, depending on what you ordered and what your vendor installed for you. See the [“Viewing Your Current License” section on page 3-12](#) section to determine which licenses you have installed.

## VPN Flex and Evaluation Licenses

**Note**

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The PIX 500 series security appliance does not support temporary licenses.

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In addition to permanent licenses, you can purchase a temporary VPN Flex license or receive an evaluation license that has a time-limit. For example, you might buy a VPN Flex license to handle short-term surges in the number of concurrent SSL VPN users.

This section includes the following topics:

- [How the Temporary License Timer Works, page 3-10](#)
- [How Multiple Licenses Interact, page 3-11](#)
- [Failover and Temporary Licenses, page 3-11](#)

## How the Temporary License Timer Works

- The timer for the temporary license starts counting down when you activate it on the security appliance.
- If you stop using the temporary license before it times out, for example you activate a permanent license or a different temporary license, then the timer halts. The timer only starts again when you reactivate the temporary license.
- If the temporary license is active, and you shut down the security appliance, then the timer continues to count down. If you intend to leave the security appliance in a shut down state for an extended period of time, then you should activate the permanent license before you shut down to preserve the temporary license.
- When a temporary license expires, the next time you reload the security appliance, the permanent license is used; you are not forced to perform a reload immediately when the license expires.

**Note**

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We suggest you do not change the system clock after you install the temporary license. If you set the clock to be a later date, then if you reload, the security appliance checks the system clock against the original installation time, and assumes that more time has passed than has actually been used. If you set the clock back, and the actual running time is greater than the time between the original installation time and the system clock, then the license immediately expires after a reload.

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## How Multiple Licenses Interact

- When you activate a temporary license, then features from both permanent and temporary licenses combine to form the running license. The security appliance uses the highest value from each license for each feature, and displays any resolved conflicts between the licenses when you enter a temporary activation key. In the rare circumstance that a temporary license has lower capability than the permanent license, the permanent license values are used.
- When you activate a permanent license, it overwrites the currently-running permanent and temporary licenses and becomes the running license.



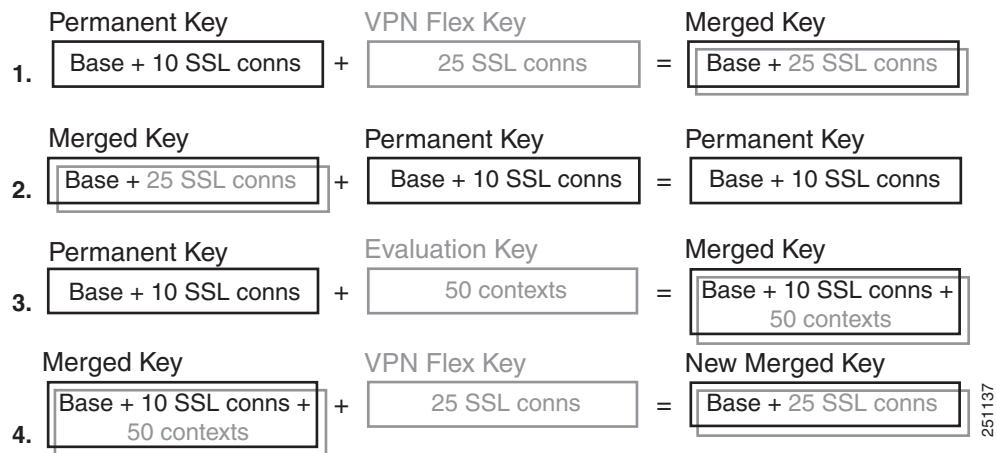
**Note** If the permanent license is a *downgrade* from the temporary license, then you need to reload the security appliance to disable the temporary license and restore the permanent license. Until you reload, the temporary license continues to count down.

Interim release 8.0(4.16) includes an enhancement so that you do not need to reload the security appliance after reactivating the already installed permanent license; this enhancement stops the temporary license from continuing to count down with no disruption of traffic.

- To reenable the features of the temporary license if you later activate a permanent license, simply reenter the temporary activation key. For a license upgrade, you do not need to reload.
- To switch to a different temporary license, enter the new activation key; the new license is used instead of the old temporary license and combines with the permanent license to create a new running license. The security appliance can have multiple temporary licenses installed; but only one is active at any given time.

See the following figure for examples of permanent and VPN Flex activation keys, and how they interact.

**Figure 3-1 Permanent and VPN Flex Activation Keys**



## Failover and Temporary Licenses

Because the temporary license continues to count down for as long as it is activated on a failover unit, we do not recommend using a temporary license in a failover situation, except in an emergency where the temporary license is activated only for a short period of time. In this case, one unit can use the

permanent license and the other unit can use the temporary license if the features are equivalent between the permanent and temporary licenses. This functionality is useful if the hardware fails on a unit, and you need to replace it for a short period of time until the replacement unit arrives.

## Guidelines and Limitations

See the following guidelines for activation keys.

### Context Mode Guidelines

In multiple context mode, apply the activation key in the system execution space.

### Firewall Mode Guidelines

Activation keys are available in both routed and transparent mode.

### Failover Guidelines

Because the temporary license continues to count down for as long as it is activated on a failover unit, we do not recommend using a temporary license in a failover situation, except in an emergency where the temporary license is activated only for a short period of time. In this case, one unit can use the permanent license and the other unit can use the temporary license if the features are equivalent between the permanent and temporary licenses. This functionality is useful if the hardware fails on a unit, and you need to replace it for a short period of time until the replacement unit arrives.

### Additional Guidelines and Limitations

- The activation key is not stored in your configuration file; it is stored as a hidden file in Flash memory.
- The activation key is tied to the serial number of the device. Feature licenses cannot be transferred between devices (except in the case of a hardware failure). If you have to replace your device due to a hardware failure, contact the Cisco Licensing Team to have your existing license transferred to the new serial number. The Cisco Licensing Team will ask for the Product Authorization Key reference number and existing serial number.
- Once purchased, you cannot return a license for a refund or for an upgraded license.
- You cannot add two separate licenses for the same feature together; for example, if you purchase a 25-session SSL VPN license, and later purchase a 50-session license, you cannot use 75 sessions; you can use a maximum of 50 sessions.

## Viewing Your Current License

This section describes how to view your current license, and for temporary activation keys, how much time the license has left.

## Detailed Steps

Command	Purpose
<b>show activation-key detail</b>  <b>Example:</b> hostname# <b>show activation-key detail</b>	Shows the installed licenses, including information about temporary licenses.

## Examples

The following is sample output from the **show activation-key detail** command that shows a permanent activation license, an active temporary license, the merged running license, and also the activation keys for inactive temporary licenses:

```
hostname# show activation-key detail

Serial Number:  JMX0916L0Z4

Permanent Flash Activation Key: 0xf412675d 0x48a446bc 0x8c532580 0xb000b8c4 0xcc21f48e

Licensed features for this platform:
Maximum Physical Interfaces  : Unlimited
Maximum VLANs                : 200
Inside Hosts                 : Unlimited
Failover                     : Active/Active
VPN-DES                       : Enabled
VPN-3DES-AES                 : Enabled
Security Contexts            : 2
GTP/GPRS                     : Disabled
VPN Peers                    : 5000
WebVPN Peers                 : 2
AnyConnect for Mobile        : Disabled
AnyConnect for Linksys phone : Disabled
Advanced Endpoint Assessment : Disabled
UC Proxy Sessions:           : 2

Temporary Flash Activation Key: 0xcb0367ce 0x700dd51d 0xd57b98e3 0x6ebcf553 0xb058aac

Licensed features for this platform:
Maximum Physical Interfaces  : Unlimited
Maximum VLANs                : 200
Inside Hosts                 : Unlimited
Failover                     : Active/Active
VPN-DES                       : Enabled
VPN-3DES-AES                 : Disabled
Security Contexts            : 2
GTP/GPRS                     : Disabled
VPN Peers                    : 5000
WebVPN Peers                 : 500
AnyConnect for Mobile        : Disabled
AnyConnect for Linksys phone : Disabled
Advanced Endpoint Assessment : Disabled
UC Proxy Sessions:           : 2
This is a time-based license that will expire in 27 day(s).

Running Activation Key: 0xcb0367ce 0x700dd51d 0xd57b98e3 0x6ebcf553 0xb058aac

Licensed features for this platform:
Maximum Physical Interfaces  : Unlimited
Maximum VLANs                : 200
```

```

Inside Hosts           : Unlimited
Failover               : Active/Active
VPN-DES                : Enabled
VPN-3DES-AES           : Enabled
Security Contexts     : 2
GTP/GPRS               : Disabled
VPN Peers              : 5000
WebVPN Peers           : 500
AnyConnect for Mobile  : Disabled
AnyConnect for Linksys phone : Disabled
Advanced Endpoint Assessment : Disabled
UC Proxy Sessions:    : 2

```

This platform has an ASA 5540 VPN Premium license.  
This is a time-based license that will expire in 27 day(s).

The flash activation key is the SAME as the running key.

```

Non-active temporary keys:                               Time left
-----
0x2a53d6 0xfc087bfe 0x691b94fb 0x73dc8bf3 0xcc028ca2 28 day(s)
0xa13a46c2 0x7c10ec8d 0xad8a2257 0x5ec0ab7f 0x86221397 27 day(s)

```

## Obtaining an Activation Key

To obtain an activation key, you need a Product Authorization Key, which you can purchase from your Cisco account representative. You need to purchase a separate Product Activation Key for each feature license. For example, if you have the Base License, you can purchase separate keys for Advanced Endpoint Assessment and for additional SSL VPN sessions.



### Note

For a failover pair, you need separate activation keys for each unit. Make sure the licenses included in the keys are the same for both units.

After obtaining the Product Authorization Keys, register them on Cisco.com by performing the following steps:

- 
- Step 1** Obtain the serial number for your security appliance by entering the following command:
- ```
hostname# show activation-key
```
- Step 2** Access one of the following URLs.
- Use the following website if you are a registered user of Cisco.com:  
<http://www.cisco.com/go/license>
  - Use the following website if you are not a registered user of Cisco.com:  
<http://www.cisco.com/go/license/public>
- Step 3** Enter the following information, when prompted:
- Product Authorization Key (if you have multiple keys, enter one of the keys first. You have to enter each key as a separate process.)
  - The serial number of your security appliance

- Your email address

An activation key is automatically generated and sent to the email address that you provide. This key includes all features you have registered so far for permanent licenses. For VPN Flex licenses, each license has a separate activation key.

- Step 4** If you have additional Product Authorization Keys, repeat [Step 3](#) for each Product Authorization Key. After you enter all of the Product Authorization Keys, the final activation key provided includes all of the permanent features you registered.

## Entering a New Activation Key

Before entering the activation key, ensure that the image in Flash memory and the running image are the same. You can do this by reloading the security appliance before entering the new activation key.

### Prerequisites

- If you are already in multiple context mode, enter the activation key in the system execution space.
- Some licenses require you to reload the security appliance after you activate them. [Table 3-9](#) lists the licenses that require reloading.

**Table 3-9 License Reloading Requirements**

| Model                 | License Action Requiring Reload                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ASA 5505 and ASA 5510 | Changing between the Base and Security Plus license.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| PIX 500 series        | Changing between R, UR, FO, and FO-AA licenses.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| All models            | Changing the Encryption license.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| All models            | Downgrading any license (for example, going from 10 contexts to 2 contexts).<br><br><b>Note</b> If a temporary license expires, and the permanent license is a downgrade, then you do not need to immediately reload the security appliance; the next time you reload, the permanent license is restored. |

## Detailed Steps

|        | Command                                                                                                                                                  | Purpose                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Step 1 | <b>activation-key</b> <i>key</i><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>hostname(config)# activation-key<br>0xd11b3d48 0xa80a4c0a 0x48e0fd1c<br>0xb0443480 0x843fc490 | Applies an activation key to the security appliance. The key is a five-element hexadecimal string with one space between each element. The leading 0x specifier is optional; all values are assumed to be hexadecimal.<br><br>You can enter one permanent key, and multiple temporary keys. The last temporary key entered is the active one. See the “ <a href="#">VPN Flex and Evaluation Licenses</a> ” section on page 3-10 for more information. To change the running activation key, enter the <b>activation-key</b> command with a new key value. |
| Step 2 | <b>reload</b><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>hostname(config)# reload                                                                                         | (Might be required.) Reloads the security appliance. Some licenses require you to reload the security appliance after entering the new activation key. See <a href="#">Table 3-9 on page 3-15</a> for a list of licenses that need reloading. If you need to reload, you will see the following message:<br><br>WARNING: The running activation key was not updated with the requested key. The flash activation key was updated with the requested key, and will become active after the next reload.                                                    |

## Upgrading the License for a Failover Pair

If you need to upgrade the license on a failover pair, you might have some amount of downtime depending on whether the license requires a reload. See [Table 3-9 on page 3-15](#) for more information about licenses requiring a reload. This section includes the following topics:

- [Upgrading the License for a Failover \(No Reload Required\)](#), page 3-16
- [Upgrading the License for a Failover \(Reload Required\)](#), page 3-17

### Upgrading the License for a Failover (No Reload Required)

Use the following procedure if your new license does not require you to reload. See [Table 3-9 on page 3-15](#) for more information about licenses requiring a reload. This procedure ensures that there is no downtime.

## Detailed Steps

|        | Command                                                                  | Purpose                                                                         |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|        | On the active unit:                                                      |                                                                                 |
| Step 1 | <b>no failover</b><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>active(config)# no failover | Disables failover on the active unit. The standby unit remains in standby mode. |

|        | Command                                                                                                                                                                            | Purpose                                       |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Step 2 | <b>activation-key</b> <i>key</i><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>active(config)# activation-key 0xd11b3d48<br>0xa80a4c0a 0x48e0fd1c 0xb0443480<br>0x843fc490<br><br>On the standby unit: | Installs the new license on the active unit.  |
| Step 3 | <b>activation-key</b> <i>key</i><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>standby(config)# activation-key 0xc125727f<br>0x903de1ee 0x8c838928 0x92dc84d4<br>0x003a2ba0<br><br>On the active unit: | Installs the new license on the standby unit. |
| Step 4 | <b>failover</b><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>active(config)# failover                                                                                                                 | Reenables failover.                           |

## Upgrading the License for a Failover (Reload Required)

Use the following procedure if your new license requires you to reload. See [Table 3-9 on page 3-15](#) for more information about licenses requiring a reload. Reloading the failover pair causes a loss of connectivity during the reload.

### Detailed Steps

|        | Command                                                                                                                                                | Purpose                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|        | On the active unit:                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Step 1 | <b>no failover</b><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>active(config)# no failover                                                                               | Disables failover on the active unit. The standby unit remains in standby mode.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Step 2 | <b>activation-key</b> <i>key</i><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>active(config)# activation-key 0xd11b3d48<br>0xa80a4c0a 0x48e0fd1c 0xb0443480<br>0x843fc490 | Installs the new license on the active unit.<br><br>If you need to reload, you will see the following message:<br><br>WARNING: The running activation key was not updated with the requested key. The flash activation key was updated with the requested key, and will become active after the next reload.<br><br>If you do not need to reload, then follow the <a href="#">“Upgrading the License for a Failover (No Reload Required)”</a> section on <a href="#">page 3-16</a> instead of this procedure. |
|        | On the standby unit:                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|        | Command                                                                                                                                                 | Purpose                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Step 3 | <b>activation-key</b> <i>key</i><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>standby(config)# activation-key 0xc125727f<br>0x903de1ee 0x8c838928 0x92dc84d4<br>0x003a2ba0 | Installs the new license on the standby unit.                                                                                                                                                     |
| Step 4 | <b>reload</b><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>standby(config)# reload<br><br>On the active unit:                                                              | Reloads the standby unit.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Step 5 | <b>reload</b><br><br><b>Example:</b><br>active(config)# reload                                                                                          | Reloads the active unit. When you are prompted to save the configuration before reloading, answer <b>No</b> . This means that when the active unit comes back up, failover will still be enabled. |

## Feature History for Licensing

Table 3-10 lists the release history for this feature.

**Table 3-10** Feature History for Licensing

| Feature Name                             | Releases | Feature Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Increased Connections and VLANs          | 7.0(5)   | Increased the following limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASA5510 Base license connections from 32000 to 5000; VLANs from 0 to 10.</li> <li>ASA5510 Security Plus license connections from 64000 to 130000; VLANs from 10 to 25.</li> <li>ASA5520 connections from 130000 to 280000; VLANs from 25 to 100.</li> <li>ASA5540 connections from 280000 to 400000; VLANs from 100 to 200.</li> </ul> |
| SSL VPN Licenses for the ASA 5500 series | 7.1(1)   | SSL VPN licenses were introduced. This feature is not supported on the Cisco PIX 500 series.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Increased SSL VPN Licenses               | 7.2(1)   | A 5000-user SSL VPN license was introduced for the ASA 5550 and above.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

Table 3-10 Feature History for Licensing (continued)

| Feature Name                                                 | Releases | Feature Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Increased VLANs                                              | 7.2(2)   | <p>The maximum number of VLANs for the Security Plus License on the ASA 5505 was increased from 5 (3 fully functional; 1 failover; one restricted to a backup interface) to 20 fully functional interfaces. In addition, the number of trunk ports was increased from 1 to 8. Now there are 20 fully functional interfaces, you do not need to use the <b>backup interface</b> command to cripple a backup ISP interface; you can use a fully-functional interface for it. The <b>backup interface</b> command is still useful for an Easy VPN configuration.</p> <p>VLAN limits were also increased for the ASA 5510 (from 10 to 50 for the Base License, and from 25 to 100 for the Security Plus License), the ASA 5520 (from 100 to 150), the ASA 5550 (from 200 to 250).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Gigabit Ethernet Support for the ASA 5510                    | 7.2(3)   | <p>The ASA 5510 now has the Security Plus License to enable GE (Gigabit Ethernet) for port 0 and 1. If you upgrade the license from Base to Security Plus, the capacity of the external Ethernet0/0 and Ethernet0/1 ports increases from the original FE (Fast Ethernet) (100 Mbps) to GE (1000 Mbps). The interface names will remain Ethernet 0/0 and Ethernet 0/1. Use the <b>speed</b> command to change the speed on the interface and use the <b>show interface</b> command to see what speed is currently configured for each interface.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Advanced Endpoint Assessment License for the ASA 5500 series | 8.0(2)   | <p>The Advanced Endpoint Assessment License was introduced. As a condition for the completion of a Cisco AnyConnect or clientless SSL VPN connections, the remote computer scans for a greatly expanded collection of antivirus and antispyware applications, firewalls, operating systems, and associated updates. It also scans for any registry entries, filenames, and process names that you specify. It sends the scan results to the adaptive security appliance. The security appliance uses both the user login credentials and the computer scan results to assign a Dynamic Access Policy (DAP).</p> <p>With an Advanced Endpoint Assessment License, you can enhance Host Scan by configuring an attempt to update noncompliant computers to meet version requirements.</p> <p>We provide timely updates to the list of applications and versions that Host Scan supports in a package that is separate from Cisco Secure Desktop.</p> <p>This feature is not supported on the PIX 500 series.</p> |
| VPN Load Balancing for the ASA 5510                          | 8.0(2)   | <p>VPN load balancing is now supported on the ASA 5510 Security Plus License.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**Table 3-10** *Feature History for Licensing (continued)*

| <b>Feature Name</b>                                                   | <b>Releases</b> | <b>Feature Information</b>                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| VPN Flex and Temporary Licenses for the ASA 5500 series               | 8.0(4)          | Support for temporary licenses was introduced. This feature is not supported on the PIX 500 series.                                              |
| Unified Communications Proxy Sessions license for the ASA 5500 series | 8.0(4)          | The UC Proxy sessions license was introduced. This feature is not available in Version 8.1. This feature is not supported on the PIX 500 series. |