



# Downgrading From Next Gen Intel Xeon Processors

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This topic describes how to downgrade from Next Gen Intel Xeon processors to earlier, supported processors.

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## Downgrading a Blade Server From Second Generation Intel Xeon Scalable Processors



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**Note** This procedure requires server downtime.

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This procedure allows you to downgrade to supported earlier version processors. This scenario assumes the following conditions:

- The Cisco UCS Manager software is at 4.0(4) or later.
- The M5 server is at BIOS/Cisco IMC 4.0(4) or later.
- The M5 server is using Second Generation Intel Xeon Scalable processors.

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- Step 1** Disassociate the blade server in UCS Manager.
- Step 2** Power off the blade server and then remove it from the chassis.
- Step 3** Replace the Second Generation Intel Xeon Scalable processors with the earlier supported processors.
- Use the CPU replacement procedures in the Installation and Service Note for your server:
- [Cisco UCS B200 M5](#)
  - [Cisco UCS B480 M5](#)
- Step 4** Reinsert the blade server to the chassis.
- Step 5** Wait for Cisco UCS Manager to automatically discover and associate the server.

**Note** At this point, the Health LED of the server shows a critical fault and Cisco UCS Manager reports a generic error message: `WILL_BOOT_FAULT: Sensor failure asserted`. This is because a board controller activation is required, as described in the next steps.

**Step 6** Perform a board controller activation by using the Cisco UCS Manager CLI interface. Use the following sequence of commands:

**Note** The `show image` command in the sequence below lists the board controller versions available for the server. Always activate the latest board controller image version when you use the `activate firmware` command.

**Note** The server automatically reboots after it executes the `commit buffer` command.

```
# scope server <chassis/server>
# scope boardcontroller
# show image
# activate firmware <boardcontroller latest version>.0 force
# commit-buffer
```

**Step 7** Do not continue with the next step until board controller activation completes. Verify that the activation is complete by using the `show version` command to see that `Activate-Status` returns `Ready`. This process takes a few minutes to complete successfully.

```
# show version
Boardcontroller:
Running-Vers: x.0
Package_Vers:
Activate-Status: Ready
```

**Step 8** Use the Cisco UCS Manager GUI to clear the `WILL_BOOT_FAULT` and reset the server CIMC:

- In the Navigation pane, click the **Equipment** tab.
- On the Equipment tab, expand **Equipment > Chassis > Chassis number > Servers**, then choose your server.
- In the Work pane, click the **General** tab.
- In the Actions area, click **Recover Server**.
- In the Recover Server dialog, click **Reset CIMC (Server Controller)**, then click **OK**.

Wait for Cisco IMC to reboot and for Cisco UCS Manager to do a shallow discovery of the server. This process takes two to three minutes. At the end of the process, the `WILL_BOOT_FAULT` is cleared.

**Note** The Cisco UCS Manager bundle, including the server Cisco IMC and BIOS, is backward-compatible with earlier supported processors, so the following firmware downgrade steps are optional.

**Step 9** Optional: Downgrade your server Cisco IMC and BIOS.

Use the procedures in the GUI or CLI [Cisco UCS Manager Firmware Management Guide](#) for your release.