



CHAPTER 3

Managing 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 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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- [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 ¹	10 ²	<i>Optional licenses:</i>	10 ²	<i>Optional licenses:</i>
		50 Unlimited		50 Unlimited
Security Contexts	No support		No support	
VPN Sessions ³	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>	2	<i>Optional licenses:</i>
		10 25		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 ⁴	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)	

1. In routed mode, hosts on the inside (Business and Home VLANs) count towards the limit when they communicate with the outside (Internet VLAN), including when the inside initiates a connection to the outside as well as when the outside initiates a connection to the inside. Note that even when the outside initiates a connection to the inside, outside hosts are *not* counted towards the limit; only the inside hosts count. 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 outside 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 host limits.
2. 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.
3. 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).
4. 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	Optional licenses:					
							5					
VPN Sessions ¹	250 combined IPSec and SSL VPN					250 combined IPSec and SSL VPN						
Max. IPSec Sessions	250					250						
Max. SSL VPN Sessions	2	Optional licenses:				2	Optional licenses:					
		10	25	50	100		250	10	25	50	100	250
		Optional VPN Flex license: ² 250					Optional VPN Flex license: 250					
VPN Load Balancing	No support					Supported						
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	None		Optional license: Enabled			None		Optional license: Enabled				
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions ³ (introduced in 8.0(4))	2	Optional licenses				2	Optional licenses					
		24	50	100			24	50	100			
Failover	No support					Active/Standby or Active/Active ⁴						
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 ⁵ Ethernet 0/2, 0/3, and 0/4: Fast Ethernet						
Encryption	Base (DES)		Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)			Base (DES)		Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)				
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	Optional licenses:						
		5	10	20				
VPN Sessions ¹	750 combined IPSec and SSL VPN							
Max. IPSec Sessions	750							
Max. SSL VPN Sessions	2	Optional licenses:						
		10	25	50	100	250	500	750
		Optional VPN Flex licenses: ²				250	750	
VPN Load Balancing	Supported							
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	None		Optional license: Enabled					
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions ³	2	Optional licenses						
		24	50	100	250	500	750	1000
Failover	Active/Standby or Active/Active ⁴							
GTP/GPRS	None		Optional license: Enabled					
Max. VLANs	150							
Concurrent Firewall Conns	280 K							
Max. Physical Interfaces	Unlimited							
Encryption	Base (DES)		Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)					
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	Optional licenses:								
		5	10	20	50					
VPN Sessions ¹	5000 combined IPSec and SSL VPN									
Max. IPSec Sessions	5000									
Max. SSL VPN Sessions	2	Optional licenses:								
		10	25	50	100	250	500	750	1000	2500
		Optional VPN Flex Licenses: ²				250		750	1000	2500
VPN Load Balancing	Supported									
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	None		Optional license: Enabled							
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions ³	2	Optional licenses								
		24	50	100	250	500	750	1000	2000	
Failover	Active/Standby or Active/Active ⁴									
GTP/GPRS	None		Optional license: Enabled							
Max. VLANs	200									
Concurrent Firewall Conns	400 K									
Max. Physical Interfaces	Unlimited									
Encryption	Base (DES)		Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)							
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	Optional licenses:									
		5	10	20	50						
VPN Sessions ¹	5000 combined IPSec and SSL VPN										
Max. IPSec Sessions	5000										
Max. SSL VPN Sessions	2	Optional licenses:									
		10	25	50	100	250	500	750	1000	2500	5000
		Optional VPN Flex licenses: ²				250	750	1000	2500	5000	
VPN Load Balancing	Supported										
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	None		Optional license: Enabled								
Unified Communications Proxy Sessions ³	2	Optional licenses									
		24	50	100	250	500	750	1000	2000	3000	
Failover	Active/Standby or Active/Active ⁴										
GTP/GPRS	None		Optional license: Enabled								
Max. VLANs	250										
Concurrent Firewall Conns	650 K										
Max. Physical Interfaces	Unlimited										
Encryption	Base (DES)		Optional license: Strong (3DES/AES)								
Min. RAM	4 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.

4. 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) ¹			FO-AA (Failover Active/Active) ¹		
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	No support			No support			No support			No support		
Encryption	None	Optional licenses:		None	Optional licenses:		None	Optional licenses:		None	Optional licenses:	
		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)
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	Optional license: Enabled		None	Optional license: Enabled		None	Optional license: Enabled		None	Optional license: Enabled	
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	Optional license: 5		2	Optional license: 5		2	Optional license: 5	
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) ¹			FO-AA (Failover Active/Active) ¹								
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	No support			No support			No support			No support								
Encryption	None	Optional licenses:		None	Optional licenses:		None	Optional licenses:		None	Optional licenses:							
		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)						
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	Optional license: Enabled		None	Optional license: Enabled		None	Optional license: Enabled		None	Optional license: Enabled							
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	Optional licenses:				2	Optional licenses:				2	Optional licenses:			
					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) ¹			FO-AA (Failover Active/Active) ¹					
Advanced Endpoint Assessment	No support			No support			No support			No support					
Encryption	None	Optional licenses:		None	Optional licenses:		None	Optional licenses:		None	Optional licenses:				
		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)		Base (DES)	Strong (3DES/AES)			
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	Optional license: Enabled		None	Optional license: Enabled		None	Optional license: Enabled		None	Optional license: Enabled				
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	Optional licenses:			2	Optional licenses:			2	Optional licenses:		
					5	10	20		50	5	10		20	50	5
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**

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

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 3-12](#)

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**

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.

How Multiple Licenses Interact

- When you activate a temporary license, then features from both permanent and temporary licenses are merged to form the running license. Note that the adaptive security appliance only uses the highest value from each license for each feature; the values are not added together. The adaptive security appliance 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

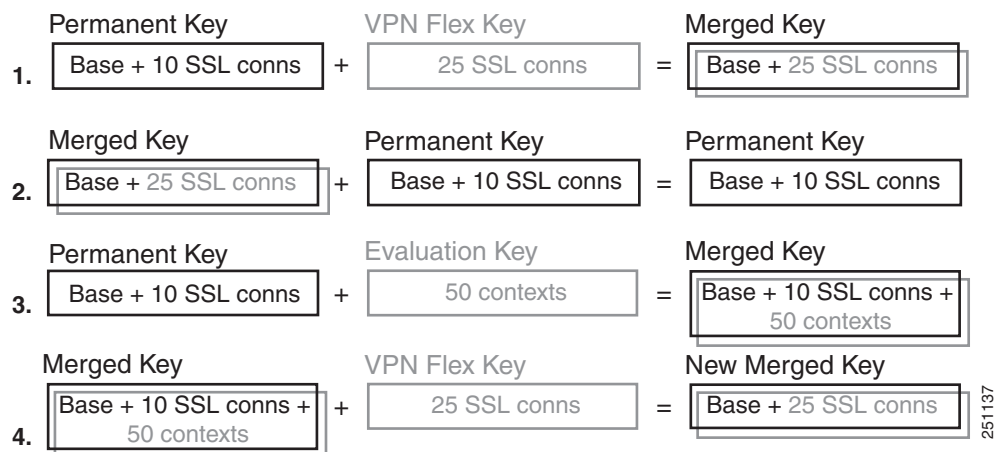
If the permanent license is a *downgrade* from the temporary license, then you need to reload the security appliance to disable the temporary license and restore the permanent license. Until you reload, the temporary license continues to count down.

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



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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. (You may be able to purchase a larger license at an upgrade price, for example from 25 sessions to 75 sessions; this kind of upgrade should be distinguished from adding two separate licenses together).

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
show activation-key detail	Shows the installed licenses, including information about temporary licenses.
Example: hostname# show activation-key detail	

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 0xb0b058aac
```

```
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 0xb0b058aac
```

```
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** If you are not already registered with Cisco.com, create an account.
- Step 3** Go to the following licensing website:
<http://www.cisco.com/go/license>
- Step 4** 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 5** If you have additional Product Authorization Keys, repeat [Step 4](#) 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).
	Note 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	activation-key <i>key</i> Example: <pre>hostname(config)# activation-key 0xd11b3d48 0xa80a4c0a 0x48e0fd1c 0xb0443480 0x843fc490</pre>	<p>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.</p> <p>You can enter one permanent key, and multiple temporary keys. The last temporary key entered is the active one. See the “VPN Flex and Evaluation Licenses” section on page 3-10 for more information. To change the running activation key, enter the activation-key command with a new key value.</p>
Step 2	reload Example: <pre>hostname(config)# reload</pre>	<p>(Might be required.) Reloads the security appliance. Some licenses require you to reload the security appliance after entering the new activation key. See Table 3-9 on page 3-15 for a list of licenses that need reloading. If you need to reload, you will see the following message:</p> <p>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.</p>

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	no failover Example: <pre>active(config)# no failover</pre>	Disables failover on the active unit. The standby unit remains in standby mode.

	Command	Purpose
Step 2	activation-key <i>key</i> Example: active(config)# activation-key 0xd11b3d48 0xa80a4c0a 0x48e0fd1c 0xb0443480 0x843fc490	Installs the new license on the active unit.
	On the standby unit:	
Step 3	activation-key <i>key</i> Example: standby(config)# activation-key 0xc125727f 0x903de1ee 0x8c838928 0x92dc84d4 0x003a2ba0	Installs the new license on the standby unit.
	On the active unit:	
Step 4	failover Example: 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	no failover	Disables failover on the active unit. The standby unit remains in standby mode.
	Example: active(config)# no failover	
Step 2	activation-key <i>key</i>	Installs the new license on the active unit.
	Example: active(config)# activation-key 0xd11b3d48 0xa80a4c0a 0x48e0fd1c 0xb0443480 0x843fc490	
		If you need to reload, you will see the following message: 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.
		If you do not need to reload, then follow the “Upgrading the License for a Failover (No Reload Required)” section on page 3-16 instead of this procedure.
On the standby unit:		

	Command	Purpose
Step 3	activation-key <i>key</i> Example: standby(config)# activation-key 0xc125727f 0x903de1ee 0x8c838928 0x92dc84d4 0x003a2ba0	Installs the new license on the standby unit.
Step 4	reload Example: standby(config)# reload	Reloads the standby unit.
On the active unit:		
Step 5	reload Example: active(config)# reload	Reloads the active unit. When you are prompted to save the configuration before reloading, answer No . 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"> ASA5510 Base license connections from 32000 to 5000; VLANs from 0 to 10. ASA5510 Security Plus license connections from 64000 to 130000; VLANs from 10 to 25. ASA5520 connections from 130000 to 280000; VLANs from 25 to 100. ASA5540 connections from 280000 to 400000; VLANs from 100 to 200.
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.
Increased interfaces for the Base license on the ASA 5510	7.2(2)	For the Base license on the ASA 5510, the maximum number of interfaces was increased from 3 plus a management interface to unlimited interfaces.

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 backup interface command to cripple a backup ISP interface; you can use a fully-functional interface for it. The backup interface 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 speed command to change the speed on the interface and use the show interface 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)*

Feature Name	Releases	Feature Information
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.