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# Check what Debian version you are running on your Linux system

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The easiest way on how to check what Debian version you are running is to simply read a content of `/etc/issue` file. Example:

```
root@debian:~# cat /etc/issue
Debian GNU/Linux 9 \n \l
```

However, the above command may not show the current Debian update point releases. Thus you may get more accurate info with the following command:

```
root@debian:~# cat /etc/debian_version
9.0
```

Next, you can check for `/etc/os-release` release file:

```
# cat /etc/os-release
PRETTY_NAME="Debian GNU/Linux 9 (stretch)"
NAME="Debian GNU/Linux"
VERSION_ID="9"
VERSION="9 (stretch)"
ID=debian
HOME_URL="https://www.debian.org/"
SUPPORT_URL="https://www.debian.org/support"
BUG_REPORT_URL="https://bugs.debian.org/"
```

An alternative way is by use of `lsb_release` command. This command may be missing by default so you may need to install it first:

```
# apt-get install lsb-release
```

Once you install the above package run the following command to see what debian version you are running on your debian box:

```
lsb_release -da
No LSB modules are available.
Distributor ID: Debian
Description:    Debian GNU/Linux 9.0 (stretch)
Release:        9.0
Codename:       stretch
```

For `systemd` debian version you may also use `hostnamectl`:

```
# hostnamectl
Static hostname: debian
Icon name: computer-vm
Chassis: vm
Machine ID: 6866ec1d654b4a2ea52d591dc01
Boot ID: 51bfbc1e197b4d378e95073da0d
Virtualization: xen
Operating System: Debian GNU/Linux 9 (stretch)
Kernel: Linux 4.9.0-1-amd64
Architecture: x86-64
```