



Installation Instructions

HOW TO: Update 6-in-1 Server Edition for Windows Server

The following offers step-by-step instructions for updating 6-in-1 Server Edition running on Windows Server 2016/2019/2022.

This document has been updated for 2025 & FileMaker Server 21, but is being expanded.
Check back over the week of 2/10/2025 for updates.

WARNINGS:

- This is for Multi-user / Server installations only. Standalone edition instructions are available [here](#).
- You may need local **Administrative privileges** in order to complete this process.
- You should **close all programs** and save your work prior to proceeding.
- **All 6-in-1 users should be logged out** of the system. Otherwise, the process will disconnect them safely.
- In some cases, especially with older machines and operating systems, **you may be forced to restart** your computer without warning.

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1) INTRO Part 1: Overview

Every year we release updates to 6-in-1 to support the latest tax forms, changes in tax law, and product enhancements. This article includes step-by-step instructions to install these updates for Server Edition users running a pre-FileMaker 20 version of our product on Windows Server 2016, 2019, or 2022. Screen shots for these instructions are based on Windows Server 2019 but can be easily adapted for users running Server 2016 or 2022.

6-in-1 Server Edition consists of three primary components:

1. FileMaker Server (FMS): This is the “engine” that hosts the 6-in-1 data files for access over the local area network. Updating this component is optional but strongly recommended and is touched on in Step 4.
2. 6-in-1 Database Files: These files hold your client data as well as all of 6-in-1’s tax, accounting, and forms logic. **Updating these files is the primary focus of this guide.** With this update, a new utility called “Lackner Connect” will be installed, which will facilitate automatic updates in the future.
3. FileMaker Pro 20 (FMP) with Lackner Connect: This is the “client” that talks to FMS. It is installed on the server for maintenance purposes, and on the workstation of any user who needs access to 6-in-1. It includes Lackner Connect, some plug-ins, and other support files that help 6-in-1 operate.

This document assumes that you have already installed FileMaker 19 or later in your environment and are simply looking to update. In our step-by-step example, we’ll be updating from 6-in-1 v2024-031 (January 31, 2024) running on FileMaker 19.4.2 to 6-in-1 v2025-037 (February 6, 2025) running on FileMaker 20.3.2 (FMP) / 21.1.1 (FMS). You might, however, be updating from an even earlier version.

Please note that the version numbers between FMS and FMP do not always align. Currently, we use FileMaker Pro 20 (2023) v20.3.2 for all of our Windows users, whereas we install FileMaker Server 21 (2024) v21.1.1 for the server component.

2) INTRO Part 2: NEW in 2025

There are now two components of 6-in-1 updates:

- 1. FileMaker engine:** This updates you to FileMaker Pro 20 and includes the new **Lackner Connect** installation utility. (Directions for this are outlined later in this document).
- 2. 6-in-1 Updates:** Simply launch 6-in-1. Lackner Connect will guide you through a short procedure to perform the update to 2025-037.

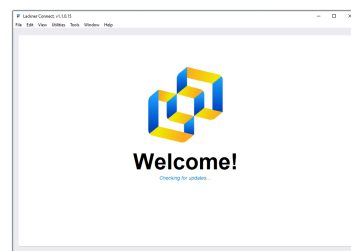
Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: *What is Lackner Connect?*

A: *Lackner Connect is a new utility that helps manage your Lackner Software installations for both our 6-in-1 and InheriTax products and facilitates automatic updates.*

Q: *How can I tell if I have Lackner Connect?*

A: You can tell you have Lackner Connect installed if... Your Windows installation has a desktop icon that looks like this (on the left), and/or... when you launch 6-in-1, you see a window that looks like this (on the right):



This new installation using Lackner Connect is designed for customers to engage in as much “self-help” as possible without the need to coordinate technical support (with us or your IT personnel). Directions for how this works are short and sweet and can be found in the next section of this document. If you don’t yet have Lackner Connect installed, the remainder of the document will walk you through that process.



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FileMaker Platform – Windows Server 2022 – Server

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Q: How can I tell if I have the older installation/version?

A: You can tell if you have an older installation if you don't see the examples of Lackner Connect above, and your desktop icons look like any of these:



6-in-1 Estate
& Trust Sof...



FileMaker Pro
19



FileMaker Pro
20

3) INTRO Part 3: System Requirements

If you have successfully installed FileMaker 19 Server (or later) on this machine, then we can assume that your machine will be adequate and will allow installation of the update. If you need more information about the technical specifications of FileMaker, please refer to Claris' documentation:

[Claris FileMaker Technical Specifications](#)

4) PREP: Update to FileMaker Server 21 *(v20, minimum is required)*

The minimum version of FileMaker Server supported for 6-in-1 is version 20 (2023). We strongly recommend upgrading to the latest release of FileMaker Server 21 since there are many security and performance enhancements that make it worthwhile.

The following guide outlines the process based on an older version of FMS, yet the steps are the same:

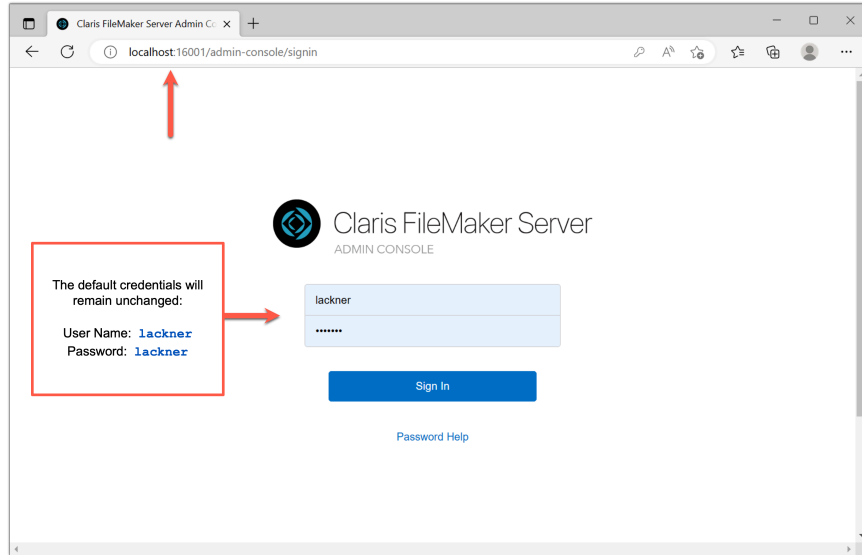
[HOW TO: Update FileMaker Server to v21 from v19 or later on Windows Server](#)

There are 2 ways to quickly determine the version of FMS you are running. The first is illustrated below and uses the FMS Admin Console. The second is demonstrated in Step 5 below, which also displays the *Local* FMP version.

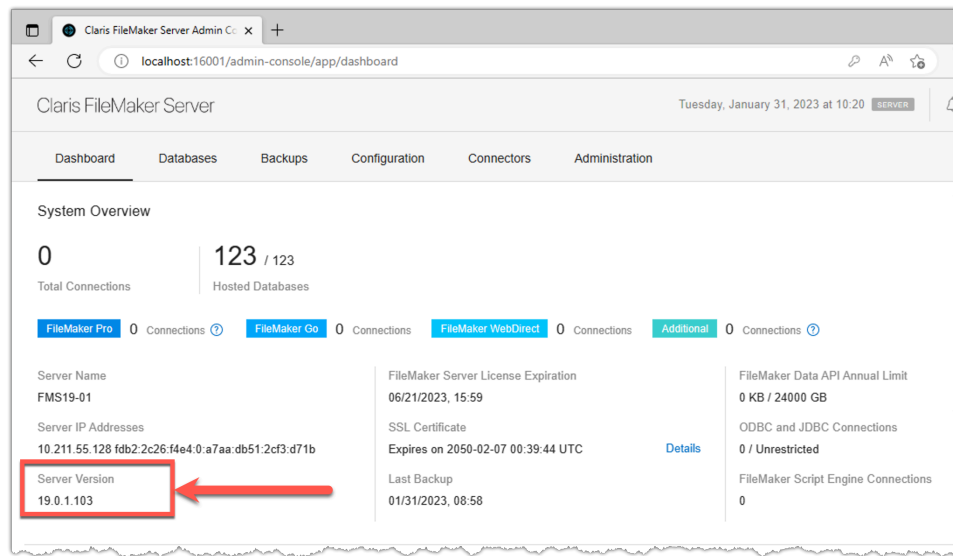
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- a. Log into the admin console by opening your browser and navigating to <http://localhost:16001>. The default credentials (see screenshot below) are unchanged from the original installation unless they were changed by you or one of your colleagues.



- b. Upon login, you will be presented with a dashboard. Note the FMS version at the bottom left.

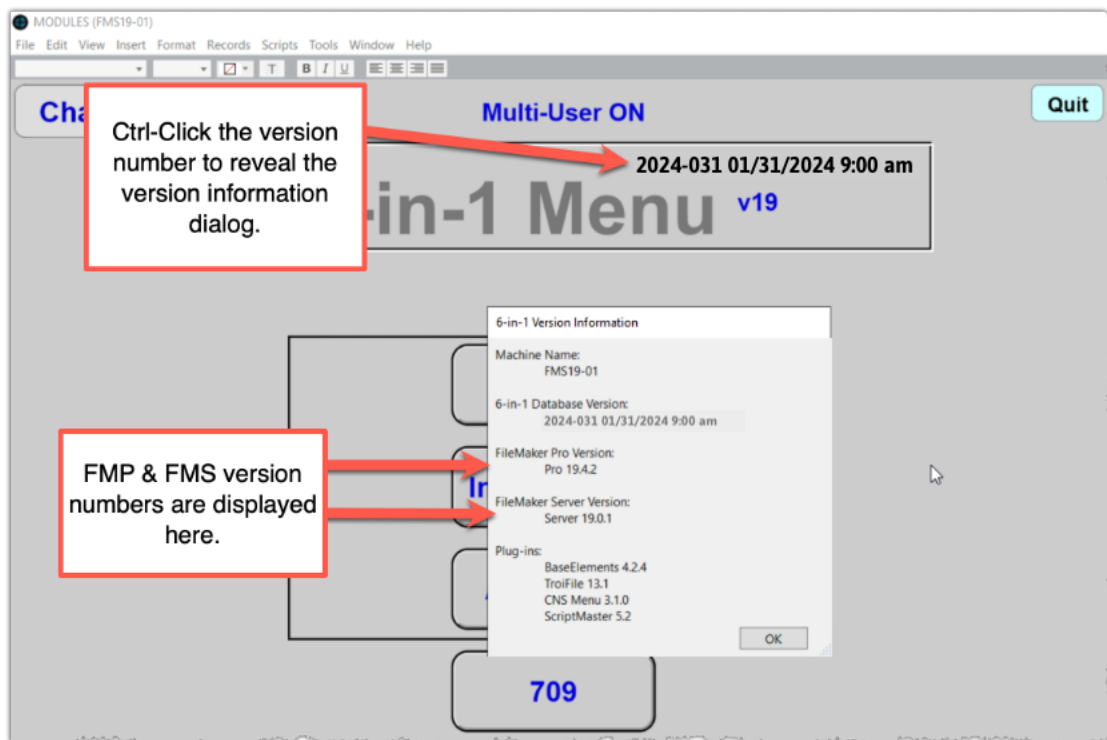


5) PREP: Update FileMaker Pro for 6-in-1 on all client workstations (optional but strongly recommended for FMP 19 users)

As mentioned in the overview above, this guide focuses only on updating the components on your SERVER. While it is absolutely recommended to keep the desktop installations in step with the rest of the system, it is optional. The following guide outlines the process to run on each of the desktops (“client” workstations):

[HOW TO: Update FileMaker Pro for 6-in-1 to the latest version \(including Lackner Connect\) on Windows](#)

You can determine what version FMP is running on a local desktop by launching 6-in-1 and [clicking](#) on the version text in the opening screen. See screen shot:

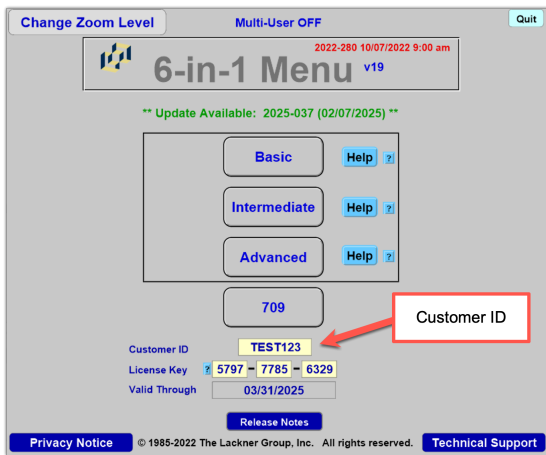


Note that you can also determine the FMS version from that same dialog.

6) PREP: Make note of your Customer ID

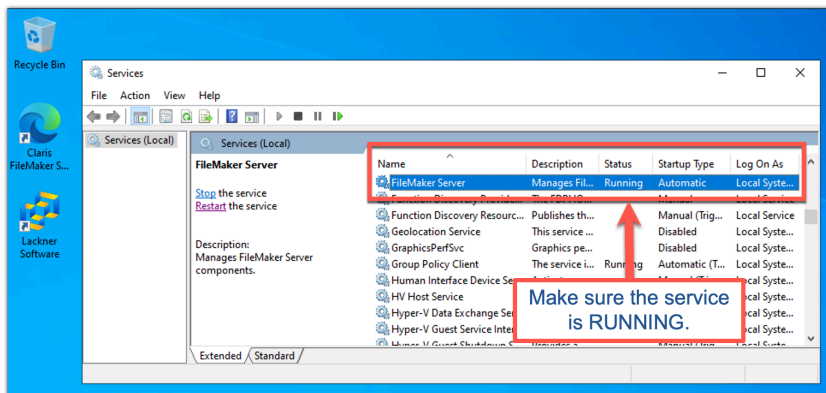
NOTE: If you have not updated 6-in-1 recently, you may need to re-enter your customer ID at the end of this process. Your Customer ID is a seven-character code (4 alpha, 3 numeric) and is available on your invoice or right inside 6-in-1.

Inside 6-in-1, you can capture your Customer ID from the very first 6-in-1 Menu screen or in the bottom right corner of the second 6-in-1 Menu screen.



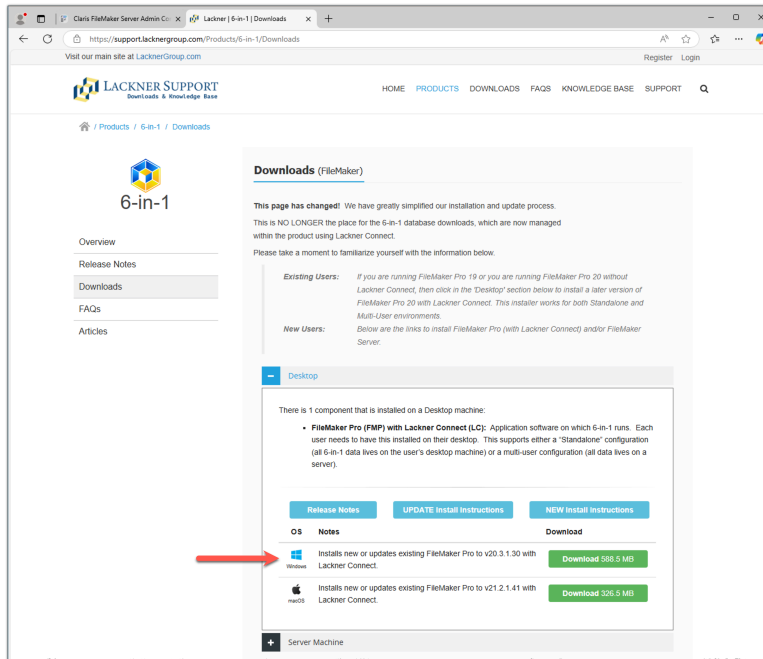
7) PREP: Make sure the FileMaker Server service is ON

UNLIKE prior update routines where you were instructed to STOP the FileMaker Server SERVICE before running updates, Lackner Connect REQUIRES that the service running. Please take a moment to make sure that the service is RUNNING.



8) Download the latest installation package for FileMaker Pro

Before you start, let's make sure you're working from the latest version of FileMaker Pro available on our [downloads page](#):



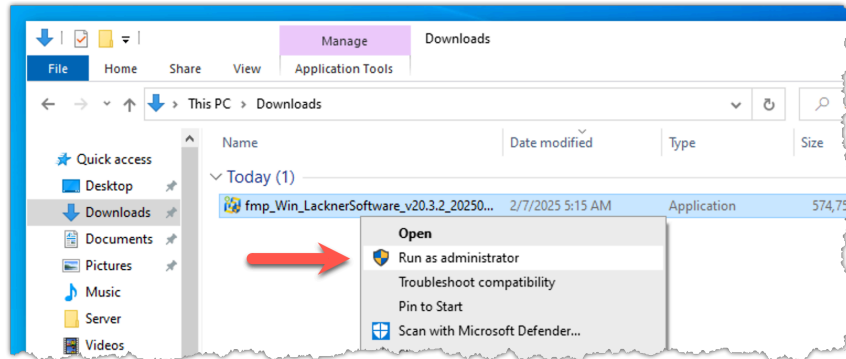
9) Run the installer “as administrator”

NOTE: Please close 6-in-1 and FileMaker Pro before proceeding.

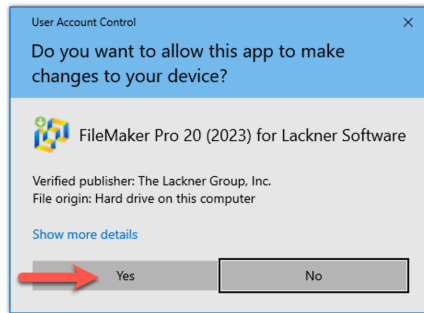
- Locate the downloaded installer.
- Right-click on the installer and select “Run as administrator”.

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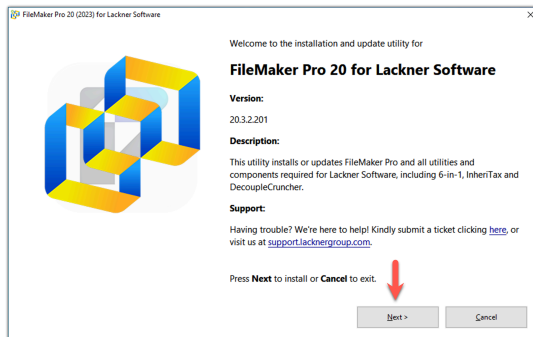


- c. If prompted by UAC (User Account Control), please choose **Yes** to allow changes to your device.



10) Step through the installation wizard

- a. When the installer loads the welcome screen, click **Next**.



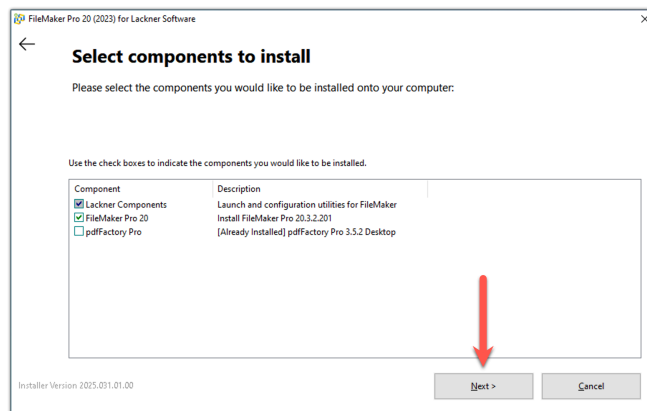
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- b. You will next be prompted for a password. Please enter the password, **showtime**, and then press **Next**.



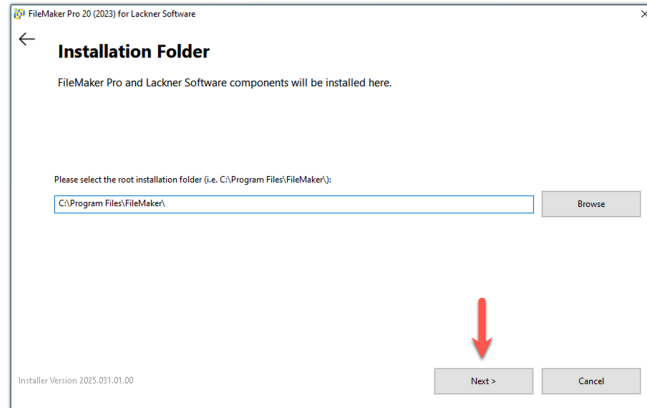
- c. Next, the installer will automatically select what it recommends. If you already have an earlier version of FileMaker 20, it will pre-select an UPDATE button rather than the INSTALL button seen in the screen shot below. On server, you do NOT need pdfFactory Pro. To continue, press **Next**.



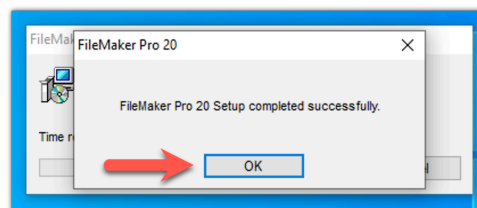
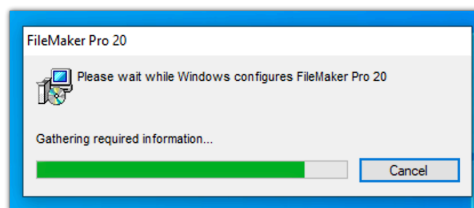
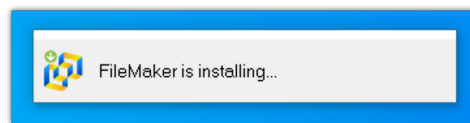
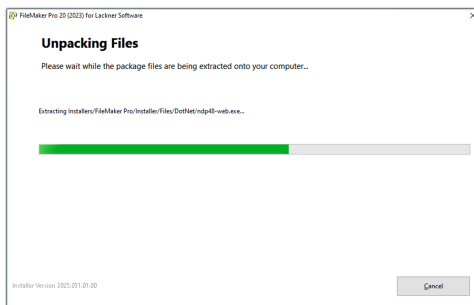
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- d. You will then be asked if you would like to verify the installation location. We recommend you keep the default setting, then press **Next**.



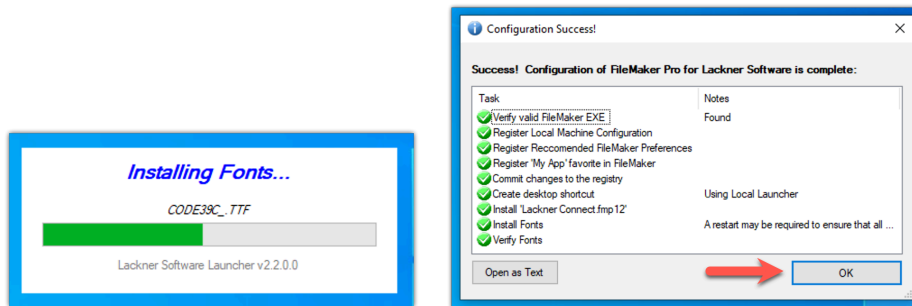
- e. From here, the installation will proceed. You'll see a progress bar followed by an indication that FileMaker is installing. When prompted, press **OK** to continue the installation.



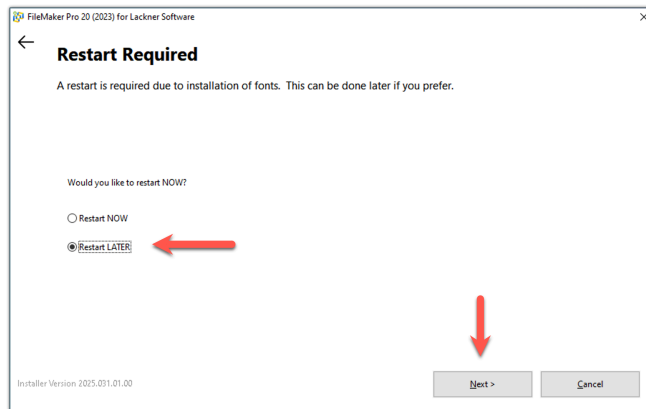
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- f. Next, you'll see fonts installing, followed by a confirmation that configuration has taken place. Press **OK** to continue.



- g. Next, you'll be asked if you want to restart the server. This is because of the font installation. We suggest you choose do choose **Restart Later**, and then press **Next** to continue.





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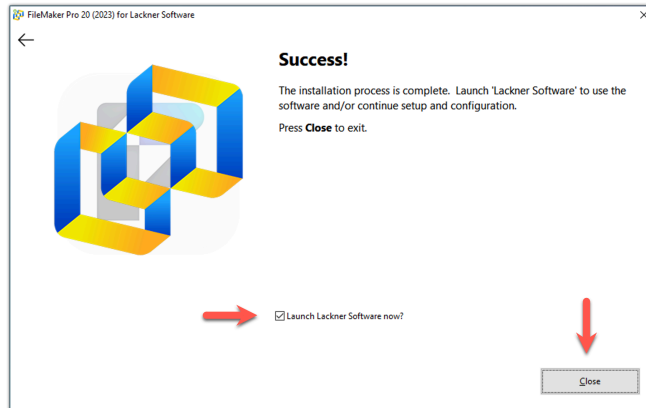
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- h. Finally, please choose to **Launch Lackner Software** and **Close** the installer.



- i. When the update completes, press **Finish**. This will launch FileMaker & Lackner Connect.

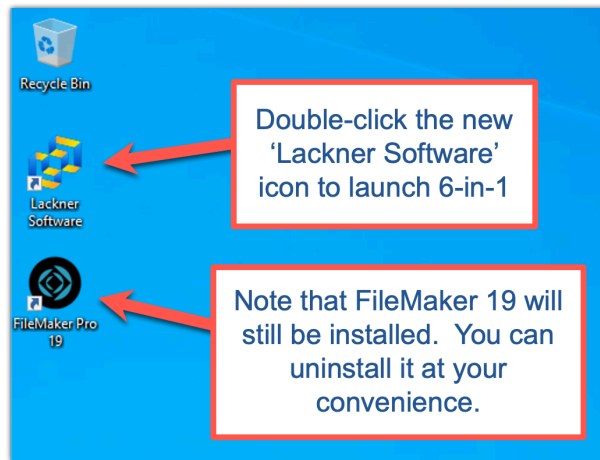
NOTE: When the option “Launch Lackner Software now?” is checked (as the default), Lackner Connect (and eventually 6-in-1) will be launched immediately upon closing the installer. If you wish to initiate that process later, you can UNcheck the option and press **Close**. The sequence described in the next step will automatically initiate the next time it is launched.

11) Launch FileMaker and Lackner Connect to initialize the 6-in-1 update process

Finally, launch Lackner Connect (which is automatically opened when FileMaker is opened). This will start the 6-in-1 update sequence (which imports data from up to 26 files into new versions of those files). During this process, your data will be backed up and installation of the new files will run to completion. Depending on the size of your databases, this process can take from 3 to 35 minutes or more.

NOTE: If you're continuing from the last step, Lackner Launcher will open FileMaker and Lackner Connect. You can skip the next step.

- a. If you're picking up at this step, launch 6-in-1 by double-clicking on the Lackner Software icon on your desktop.



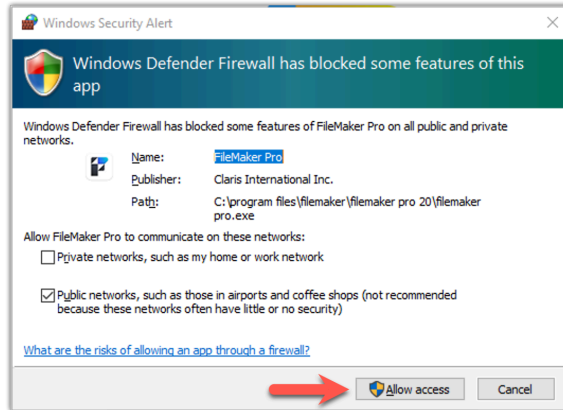
- b. You'll see our progress bar.



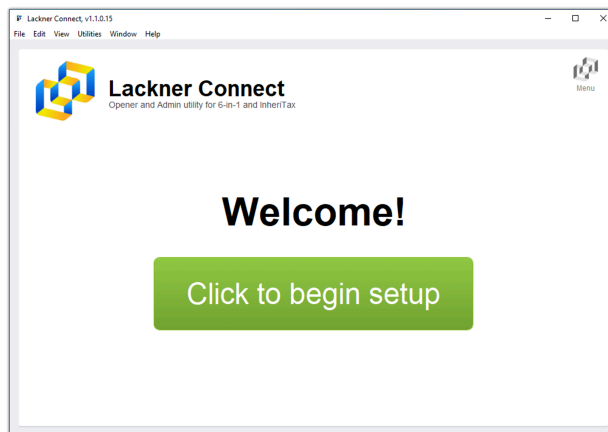
- c. You may be prompted by the Windows Defender Firewall the first time FileMaker 20 is launching. If so, please choose [Allow Access](#).

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- d. Next, Lackner Connect will launch and self-update. If another version of Lackner Connect has been released since your current version of Lackner Connect was installed, it will go through a short self-update sequence.
- e. Next, 6-in-1 *should* auto-launch.
 1. If it does, move to the next step.
 2. If it does NOT, you should see the welcome/setup screen:

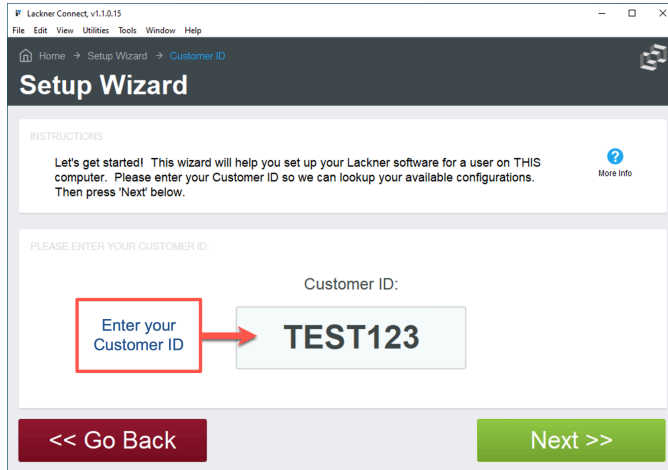


Press [Click to begin setup](#) to proceed.

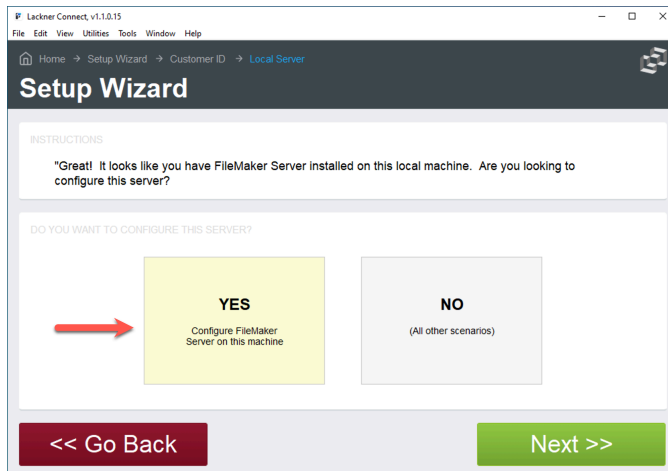
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- At the first step of the setup wizard, you'll be asked to enter your **Customer ID**. Please do so, then press **Next** to continue.



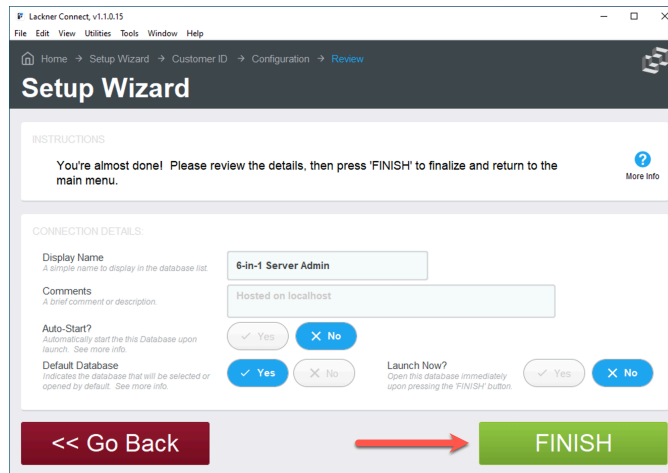
- Next, because FMS is already installed, you'll be prompted to configure the server. Choose **Yes**, then press **Next** to continue.



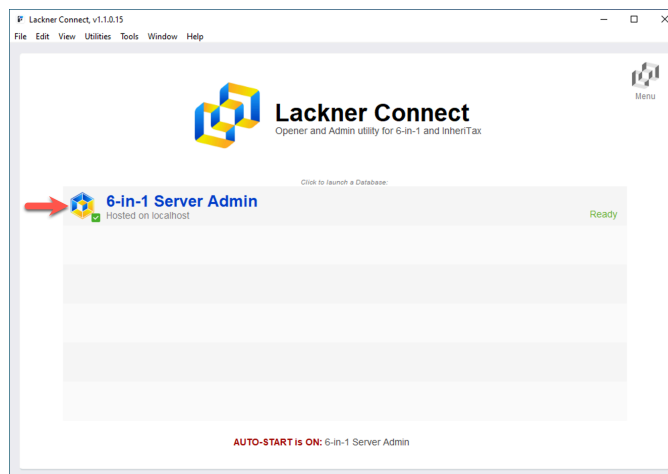
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5. Finally, Lackner Connect will configure your server. Press **FINISH** to continue to the main menu.



6. When you reach the main menu, **click on the configured connection to continue into 6-in-1.**

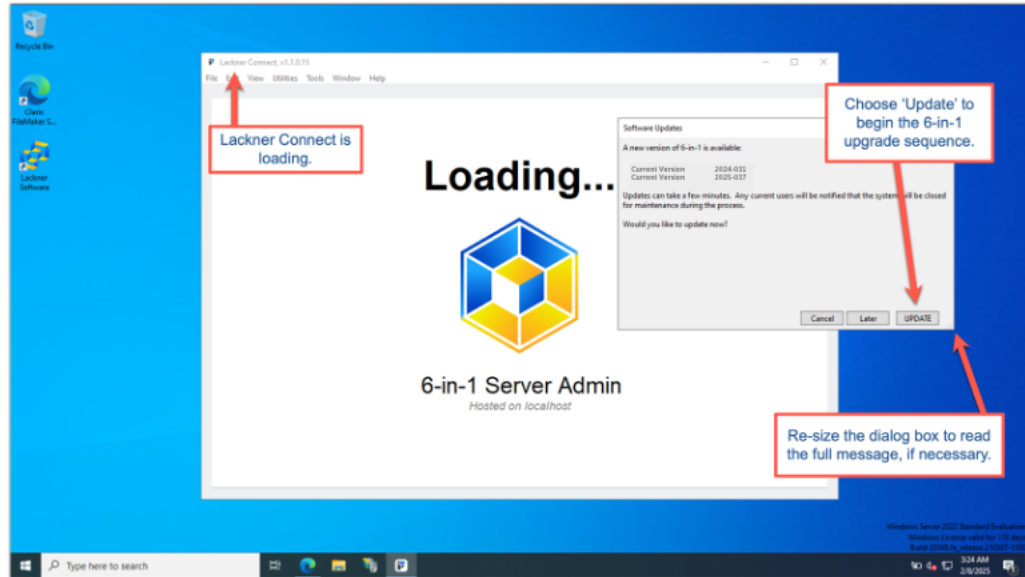


7. At this point, you're caught up with the rest of the walk-through. Proceed to the next step.

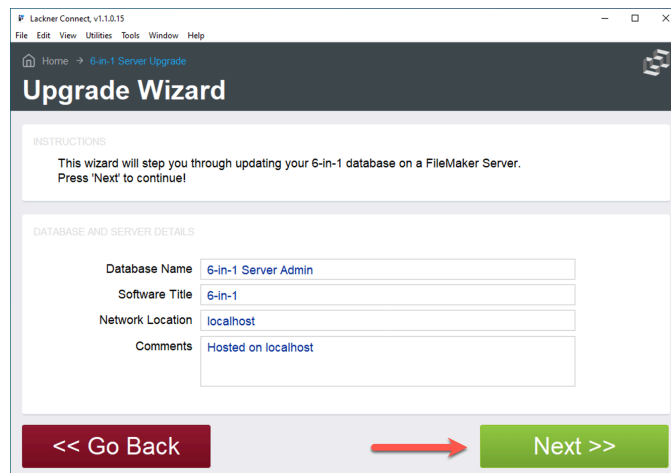
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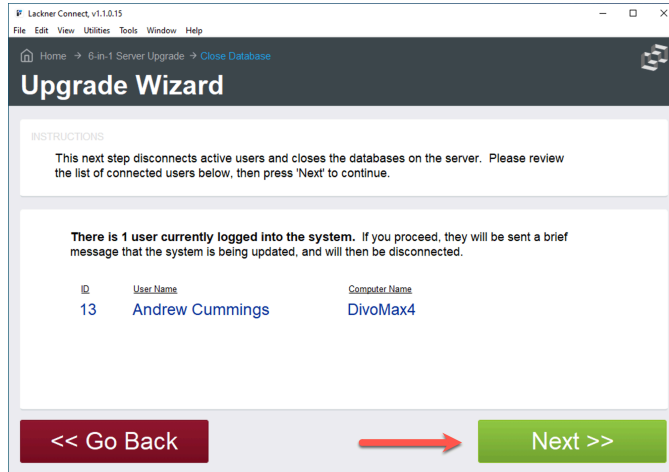
- f. Then, since your current 6-in-1 database needs to be updated, Lackner Connect will prompt you, asking if you'd like to update it now. Press UPDATE to continue.



- g. You'll be brought to the first step of the server upgrade wizard. Please press [Next](#) to continue.

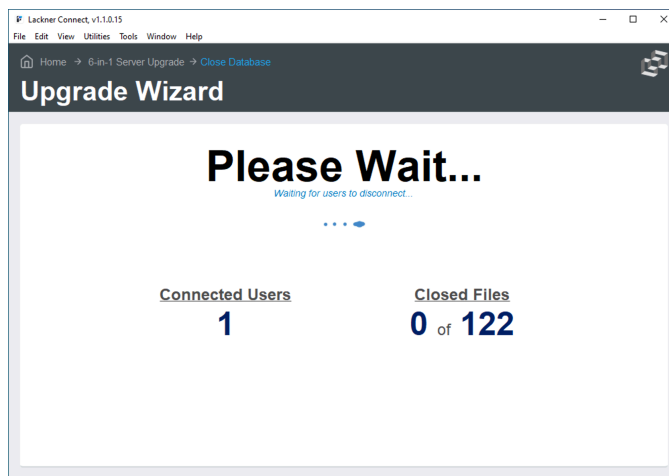


- h. IF there are users still connected to the server, the wizard will help you identify them so that you can communicate with them personally if you so choose. You can simply continue, however, and the wizard will send them a message and will SAFELY disconnect them after about 30 seconds.



Press [Next](#) to continue.

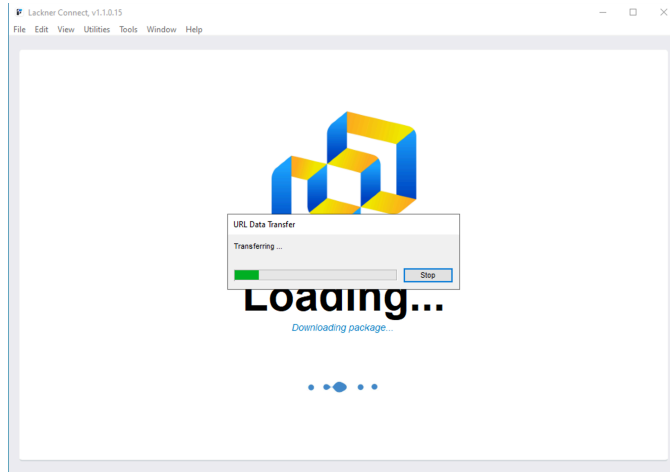
- i. Once the users have disconnected, the wizard will close the 122+ database files to prepare for the update.



When the files are all closed, the wizard will proceed to download the latest update package.

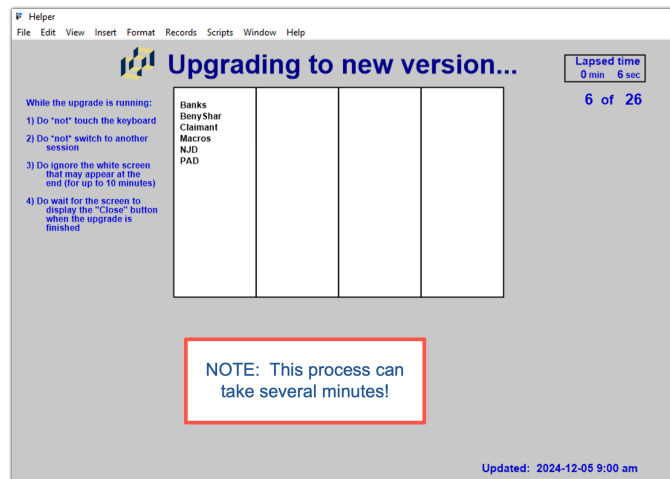
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When the update is downloaded and applied, the wizard will launch 6-in-1, which will begin its update sequence.

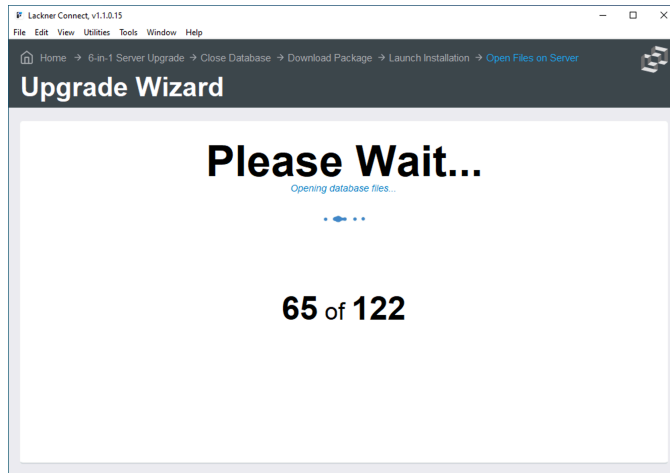
- j. Next, you'll a screen that looks like the following. This process can take several minutes, so please do not touch your keyboard and do let it run. If the screen appears to freeze and you do not see changes, or the screen even looks blank, just leave it as is – it will complete in as little as 3 minutes... or up to 30-35 minutes or more, depending on the size of your databases.



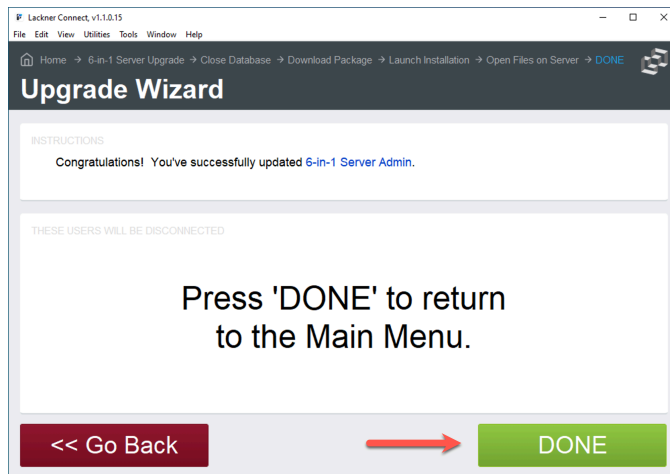
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- k. Once the 6-in-1 update process is finished, Lackner Connect will then Open all of the database files under FileMaker Server, back ON so that 6-in-1 will then become available again to users. This can also take several minutes.



- l. Finally, you'll be brought back to last page of the wizard.



Press **DONE** to continue to the main menu of Lackner Connect.



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12) Notify 6-in-1 Users

Finally, with all the database files open, you're done! Please notify your 6-in-1 users that they may log back into the system at their convenience.

Congratulations... You're DONE! 😊