

# Change Logs

## What is it and why have it?

When software is being managed, it is helpful to know what patches or changes have been applied. A change log can help with that. Without a change log, it is difficult to trace back to see what happened when and why.

## Example Process

The following is an example process that is used by the DATIM team.

1. For each server being managed, a change log is established. In the case of DATIM, the change log is stored in the repo.
2. Once the log is created, new entries are added each time a change is made to that system. The log entries include the following information:
  - a change group header with the date and a link to the change documentation
  - list of changes with a link to the github ticket or the system that is being used to track the changes.

Example Entry:

## [Maintenance Release\_Month Day, Year]( link to the ticket for the release)

\* Packages updated: aws-cli, curl, kernel, openssl, python26-boto, python27-boto

\* [#XXXX](<https://github.com/yyy/issues/XXXX>) Topic

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