

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Static offline installers VS dynamic internet-required installs?](#)

Hackers - February 15, 2026, 8:18 am

Do you prefer to use static or dynamic installers, and specifically with or without net access?

Example:

> Video editing software installer is small in size because it downloads the latest software version for your OS and installs it, requiring internet and dynamic imports.

Example 2:

> Video editing software installer has all possible dependencies packaged in to work on your OS/version & can be used offline to install and use the software fully without any bugs or loss of features

The reason I am asking is because obviously there is a desire to backup certain software from time to time, especially after seeing how much of the internet has disappeared over my lifetime already. But part of the problem with modern software is its reliance on the internet to continue working, or work at all.

Any thoughts on what you prefer to use and as a dev, what you prefer to do for your own setups? I am a strong believer in open source, lifetime software, but we make it very hard to do that with package managers, auto update, off-client / backend server requirements, and other non-static deps that require upkeep and service costs to maintain...

Software that works 100% without the internet is golden, even if it lacks features. Offline LLMs also are a great type to keep handy on backups too.

Tbroker98 - February 15, 2026, 8:26 am

(Feb 15, 2026 09:18 AM)nodes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Do you prefer to use static or dynamic installers, and specifically with or without net access?

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I don't know much about LLMs as I never used one before, but in general, dynamic is preferred in almost all contexts.

HALx86 - February 15, 2026, 1:12 pm

I hoard static installers, if for no other reason to have them. Not sure when I'll ever need a 2012 VLC installation but I have it if I need it.

sudowoodoking - February 15, 2026, 2:49 pm

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Even years pass by, I would still prefer to use static installers over the ones that rely on internet connection. I know many would say that internet access is everywhere but there still exists poor and unreliable internet connection which sometimes cut off and eff up the installation process and you have to manually delete everything from scratch before reinstalling again.

Immortal - February 16, 2026, 5:58 am

Static installs I believe should be standard. And updates should also have some mandatory hash verification before allowing install. Because we all know what's possible. (<https://notepad-plus-plus.org/news/hijacked-incident-info-update/>)

Hackers - February 16, 2026, 6:38 am

(Feb 15, 2026 09:26 AM)Tbroker98 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) dont know much about LLMs as i never used one before, but in general, dynamic is preferred in almost all contexts.

except for when you don't have internet or the ability to run a dynamic installer...

This thread (for my reason at least) is more about preserving our ability to use software in an extended network outage, but also for security reasons because of what can be done with DNS hijacking and other main server hacks for update / installer flows.

(Feb 16, 2026 06:58 AM)Immortal Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Static installs I believe should be standard. And updates should also have some mandatory hash verification before allowing install. Because we all know what's possible. (<https://notepad-plus-plus.org/news/hijacked-incident-info-update/>) yeah... We need proper hash verification...

But what happens when the hash verifier has a bug that allows an empty hash to return TRUE for a match?

;)

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=6290512>

When it comes to hash verification, one might say we've never fully verified the most important hashes for decades (yes, I found problems going back into the 80s and stopped looking lol)....