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# Stirring things up for Fedora 33

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June 29, 2020

The next release of the Fedora distribution — Fedora 33 — is currently [scheduled](#) for the end of October. Fedora's nature as a fast-moving distribution ensures that each release will contain a number of attention-getting changes, but Fedora 33 is starting to look like it may be a bit more volatile than its immediate predecessors. Several relatively controversial changes are currently under discussion on the project's mailing lists; read on for a summary.

## The end of mod\_php

For many years, the mod\_php Apache module was the preferred way to run PHP code in response to web requests. But that was many years ago; the recommended module now is [php-fpm](#). Reasons for switching include support for threaded modules, the ability to work with nginx, and removal of the PHP interpreter from the web server's address space. Fedora has supported both modules for some time, but is currently [planning to remove mod\\_php](#) and support only php-fpm as of Fedora 33.

Unsurprisingly, a module with as much history as mod\_php still has a few users, a couple of whom made themselves heard in the mailing-list discussion. For example, John M. Harris Jr. [said](#):

The default doesn't matter, there's absolutely no reason to take away the sysadmin's choice here. There are at least 40 servers I personally am responsible for where I see no reason to move from mod\_php to php-fpm, for example.

Neal Gomba [responded](#):

As an (oft forgotten!) member of the PHP SIG, I'd like to point out that part of what we're supposed to do is ship a PHP stack that minimizes footguns and security nightmares. The PHP stack doesn't make this easy as it is, and it's been relatively well-known for a while now that running the interpreter in the same process as the webserver is a bad idea. [...]

It is absolutely a good idea to take away this choice from our builds when the advice from framework developers, ecosystem experts, and the upstream developers is to *\*not\** use mod\_php.

Unless some higher level of outcry manifests, it seems likely that there is nowhere near enough opposition to derail this plan. Fedora users who are running mod\_php will want to look at moving over to php-fpm in the near future.