

# Why You Should Not Use Repacks To Run Your WoW Server

So you want to install a WoW server and after googling you found some "repacks" that are easy to install. Don't do it! There are plenty of reasons not to and we will explain them here.

What are repacks?

Repacks can be pre-compiled versions or common WoW Emulators such as vMaNGOS (AzerothCore), TrinityCore, and so on. Pre-compiled means that you don't need to compile them yourself, which saves you a lot of work.

A repack is basically the binary files you can download and run. For example mangosd.exe and realmd.exe for MaNGOS-based emulators or worldserver.exe and authserver.exe for AzerothCore/TrinityCore-based emulators).

Sometimes these pre-compiled and repacks are provided to the project contributors. Brotalnia is the official maintainer of vMaNGOS repacks. There is nothing wrong or dangerous about using them in these cases.

Repacks are usually created by other people on the internet and distributed with the source code. This is why it is strongly recommended to avoid using repacks.

Why (unofficial repacks) are bad

Using unofficial repacks (i.e. It is risky and inconvenient to use unofficial repacks (i.e., binaries provided by users other than official contributors to wow.emulation projects). There are several reasons why you should avoid them.

**Security.** You don't know what is actually running on your computer. Repacks may contain malicious code that can be used to execute unwanted operations within your system. Including keyloggers that can steal all your passwords. Some WoW server Repacks have been shown to be able to mine bitcoin, exploiting users' CPUs.

**Control.** You cannot modify the sourcecode because you don't have access. Yes, you can still update the database and do many customizations, but still, you cannot change the core of your server and are limited to the functionality offered by that repack. You cannot add or modify core modules.

Support. You cannot install updates yourself. The author of the repack can publish updates. This can be a problem even if the author doesn't have any malicious intentions. He simply stops publishing updates. The art of kerembeyit No one can pick up his repack and keep publishing updates unless the author of the repack has also published the repack source code. If this happens, you can no longer benefit from core updates, so you can't get core bugs fixes. People may continue to use old repacks. This is because they are likely to have security vulnerabilities that have been fixed in the main emulators but not in the older repacks.

Platform. Sometimes repacks are bound to a specific platform and you cannot easily run them in a different type of environment than the one where they have been compiled for. Think of people running Windows 32 bit repacks on Linux using wine. What a wasteful use of computational power!

Legality. Legality. All repacks are technically illegal unless the source code has been provided. WoW emulators usually release under the GNU GPL license or any other compatible license. Such a license requires any redistribution of the software to also include the original source code. If a repack is published without including the source code or making it publicly available, it is clearly in violation of the license.

What you can do instead

The best thing you can do is installing a WoW emulator by following its official installation guide. Many tutorials are available on active WoW emulation sites. Additionally, there is often a friendly community that can assist you.