

Committing Maintenance Level Updates?

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My background is the mainframe. When applying software maintenance on the mainframe, you applied the software, worked with it for a while and then accepted the software at a later date. Since I'm still learning with regards to AIX systems, what is the general rule of thumb for applying AIX maintenance level updates? Is it better to commit the software right away or is it better to save the replaced files and commit at a later date? I need to take four systems from AIX 5.2 base level to ML06 and four other systems from AIX 5.2 ML02 to ML06. What are your recommendations?