Redict is deprecated: what its end says about choosing an open source fork

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Redict, the copyleft fork of Redis created after the Redis licence change in 2024, has been deprecated. Its founder, Drew DeVault, announced on 17 November 2026 that Redict 7.3.6 is the final release and recommended that users move to Valkey, the permissively licensed Redis fork supported by the Linux Foundation.

TL;DR The short version

- Redict, the copyleft Redis fork created after the 2024 Redis licence change, has been deprecated.
- Its creator recommends moving to Valkey, the permissively licensed Linux Foundation fork, which he says has better long-term prospects.
- Find every Redict deployment, including images and Helm charts, and plan the move, since future security fixes should not be expected.

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What was reported

- DeVault writes that he had hoped to gather the Redis community around a copyleft project, but that Valkey's success and Redis's return to a copyleft licence left Redict unable to build a sustainable community.
- He recommends Valkey, saying it has better long-term prospects even though its licence is permissive.
- He advises against moving back to Redis, arguing that its contributor licence agreement would make another licence change possible. That is his opinion of the risk, not an announced Redis plan.
- For package installs, the announcement says to install Valkey and move the configuration file from /etc/redict.conf to /etc/valkey.conf. For containers, it says to pull the Valkey image and make sure it runs with the appropriate configuration file.
- LWN describes the two projects as mutually compatible and says switching should be about that simple.

What a practitioner should do

- Find every Redict deployment, including container images, Helm charts and packages pulled in by other software.
- Plan the move rather than waiting. With no further releases announced, assume that future bugs and security problems will not be fixed in Redict.
- Rehearse on a copy of production data. Confirm that persistence files load, replication works, clients connect and any modules or scripts behave as expected.

- Update service names, monitoring checks, backup jobs and runbooks that refer to Redict, and keep a tested rollback until the new deployment has proven itself.
- Have your legal or open source reviewer record the licence change, since moving from a copyleft project to a permissive one may affect your compliance notes.

The wider lesson

A licence tells you what you may do with software. It does not tell you whether anyone will maintain it. When choosing between forks, weigh contributor numbers, governance and release activity alongside the licence, and keep the cost of leaving low. Those long-term trade-offs belong to the Architecture & Systems Design domain of the TPBOK.

> Facts in this post were read from the sources listed below on 19 November 2026; this is a developing story or product and details may have changed since.

Sources and further reading

1. Drew DeVault, Redict. Redict is deprecated. 17 November 2026. redict.io/posts/2026-11-17-redict-deprecated/
2. LWN.net. Redict deprecated in favor of Valkey. 17 November 2026. lwn.net/Articles/1108155/

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