



Comparison: Hosting solutions for business customers



Whitepapers and technical documentation

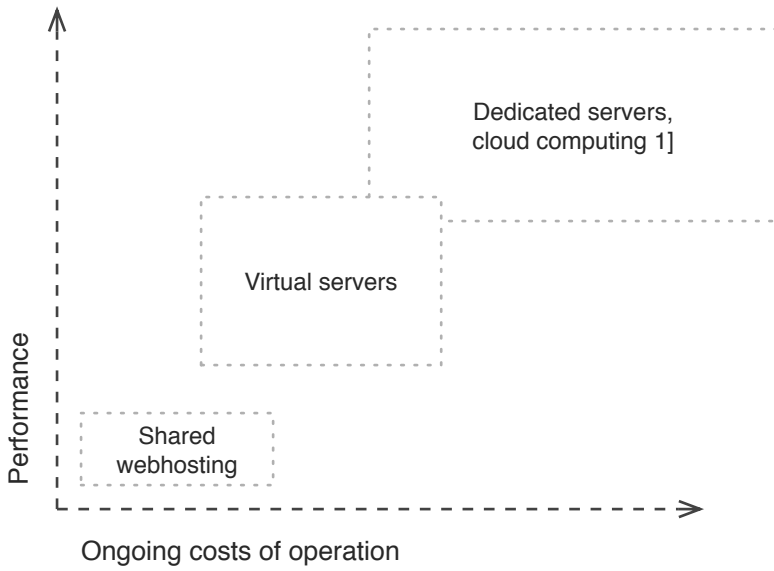
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Comparison: Performance / ongoing operating costs



1] High performance, abstracted IT infrastructure.

Main characteristics of popular hosting solutions

Shared webhosting

Inexpensive entry solution, suited for non-critical applications only (e.g. web business cards).



Fluctuating performance and low overall reliability (inherent in the system).

Dedicated servers

Each customer is exclusively using its own physical server. Any combination of hard- and software is possible.

Very high performance for demanding applications (e-business, e-commerce).

Individual configuration, including redundant systems (like cluster solutions, uptime > 99,9999 %).



Setup and maintenance requires expert knowledge.

"Managed hosting" is a popular add-on service especially for dedicated servers, where the provider will maintain the entire system on behalf of the customer.

Virtual servers

Emulation of a "real" server environment, including access to the operating system (allows individual configuration of software components).

Suited for e-commerce to a limited extent (small to medium-sized shops with moderate traffic demands).

Easy upgrade of storage and processing capabilities. Migration to a dedicated server usually possible at any time.



Sometimes performance issues, vulnerable in case of software faults on the host system.

Cloud computing

Freely configurable solution, suited to fulfill specific tasks with high demands on computing power or storage.

High flexibility and scalability, setup of redundant systems possible, even on a global scale (uptime > 99,9999 %).

May save costs by benefitting from virtualization.



"Lock in effect" (risk of high dependency from one provider and its specific solutions).

Privacy concerns and difficult protection of confidential and private data.

Aid to decision-making (how to find *your* hosting solution)

Typical application scenario	▶	Recommended hosting type
Web business card, "one-page-website"	▶	Shared webhosting
Small, static website, no other plans for expansion in the medium term	▶	Shared webhosting
Static website with contact form and small online shop (e-commerce)	▶	Virtual server
Large static website, including a more complex shop (e-business and e-commerce)	▶	Virtual server, dedicated server
Dynamically generated website (based on a content management system)	▶	Virtual server, dedicated server
Dynamically generated website and shop	▶	Dedicated server
Large dynamically generated website with database-driven applications (e.g. user accounts)	▶	Dedicated server
Multiple, static or dynamically generated websites, each with average traffic demands	▶	Dedicated server
Mission-critical database application	▶	Dedicated server, cloud-based hosting
Application with high demands on data traffic and/or processing power	▶	Cluster of servers, cloud-based hosting
Mission-critical application requiring an average availability of > 99,9999 %	▶	Cluster of servers, cloud-based hosting

Need more advice ?

Every hosting company usually provides a **wide-spread range of possible solutions**. But sometimes it is hard to compare their offers. A wrong decision either means wasting money for power you never use or causes performance issues when running your website on a solution that is too small.

Consult us to find the best hosting offer for your business !

We offer **vendor-independent consulting services** to find the **best-matching solution for your needs**. In addition, we provide support throughout the process of moving your site from one hosting company to another and can even take over the entire migration procedure on your behalf. *Please turn over for contact details...*

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Our philosophy is simple: We want to establish **long-term business relationships** by carrying a **high degree of responsibility while working results-oriented**.

Contact Information

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You have **questions, which are related to this whitepaper** and want to get in touch with the author ? Please have a look at the title page to find the author's name and personal e-mail address.

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