

## What Every Small Business Should Know about Server Virtualization

Server virtualization is a technology that has been rapidly adopted by big and small businesses alike over the past few years. It allows companies to run several systems and applications, be it Windows, Mac or open-source programs like Linux on a single piece of physical hardware called [virtual machine](#). It reduces IT costs, since these companies have to buy and maintain fewer computing resources. And some companies can save more money than others because these companies may optimize their servers differently from each other.

A typical server virtualization procedure consists of partitioning the physical server into independent environments. These “contained” environments make sure that the program they run remains efficient and secure. If any one of these partitions encounters an error and crashes, the damage would be restricted to the affected virtual machine. At the same time, the partitioned server can pool the computing resources of all the virtual machines to power server activities. IT professionals use [different techniques](#) to accomplish this process, and at the same time monitor results and test new technologies to find the best possible server virtualization method.

If your business has not yet virtualized its servers, you are missing out on a quick and effective way to manage IT costs. Server virtualization is a low-hanging fruit that you can set your eyes on when thinking of other ways to cut back on IT expenses. There is generally little else that businesses can do about the vendor costs of IT hardware. It will be hard to compromise equipment quality because it will ultimately affect efficiency. But you can manage technology and, with the right method, determine how much hardware that your business will require by maximizing your resources.



Before deciding on a server virtualization project, however, make sure that you are aware of the fact that there is no generic approach to streamlining your servers, that there are [best practices that are often ignored](#), and other mistakes that is commonly done in server virtualization.

### **Do You Make These Mistakes in Running Your Virtual Servers?**

One of the most critical problems that a wrong server virtualization procedure can produce is excessive software licensing cost. Each virtual machine that runs a particular application requires a separate license for that application. This will not be a problem if you are using open-source programs. But if you are using enterprise-grade systems, you can be overcharged. Make sure to consider IT management service in your server virtualization project to explore your options.

Another thing that is often overlooked when streamlining server use is capacity planning and management. Careful planning is the foundation of any IT management procedure. It is important to match hardware capabilities with program requirements because this can make sure that the system will not run out of server resources to use. Also, it is important to note that maintaining the reduced number of servers is critical. Just because you have less servers doesn't mean you have less equipment to maintain. Before you make a head start in your project, get a clear picture of how much resources you will have and how they will be utilized. From this you will know what you need to do in terms of server management to keep their efficiency.



## How Server Virtualization Can Save You Even More on IT Costs

Reduced hardware outlay is the most prominent appeal of server virtualization. Because there is less hardware needed, businesses can cut their IT budgets significantly. This advantage of server virtualization makes it perfect for small businesses that require less computing resources, and even for medium-sized businesses that want to optimize what they currently have.

Additionally, space requirements are lessened when the number of physical servers is reduced. Server virtualization results in a streamlined datacenter which needs little cooling, as well as low electrical and maintenance costs.

An easily forgotten but still important advantage of server virtualization is its ability to run legacy applications, or older versions of programs. Because it is easy to create different operating system environments in a partitioned server, it is highly convenient to transfer programs and applications from one system to another. With this capability, it will be easy to develop and test processes across various environments and initiate the best course of action on how to keep the system in tip-top shape.

For more information about server virtualization and how it can save your business a considerable amount on IT costs, please visit <http://www.allcovered.com/> or call 1-866-446-1133.