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Do I Need Dedicated Servers to Host My Website?

If you are reading this article, you are probably looking into website hosting. You are probably weighing the options of whether to do shared hosting or dedicated server. Well, this piece may just narrow down your choices. Whether you have a product or service to sell or an idea to blog about, let's face it, you need a website of your own. If you expect your website to support multiple online services such as filling out forms and exchanging reports or serious video, photo and audio downloads or have heavy traffic from forums or online classes or you just expect heavy data management; then read on, you may need [dedicated hosting](#).

This is more flexible than shared hosting since an organization or the website owner will have full control over the server(s). Having full control means being able to manage the choice of operating system, hardware, etc. Outsourcing this service from providers can mean less overhead and therefore have a larger return on investment. The server hardware is owned by these providers and often housed in data centers that provide redundant power sources and HVAC systems. They are staffed with highly competent technicians and update their software frequently.

Managing your own [dedicated servers](#) requires advanced server administration skills and knowledge. Or you can have the services of qualified server administrators. Every dedicated server is has an installed operating system of your choice. You can have root access to the server and can therefore install and configure any software you need. With dedicated hosting you can take advantage of the server's full resources for online and offline content management operations.

Finding the best provider still remains in your judgment. Bear in mind that this industry is not regulated by any government or international standardized agency. It means that even if the terms are standardized in the server-community, terms are still subject to various interpretations. Let's take "fully managed" for instance: some providers interpret this as just having a web-based control panel. Other members in the community construe this term as having an engineer committed to server and network administration operations. Hosting providers will maintain the security of the network and offer you various support levels to choose from: fully managed, managed, self-managed or unmanaged. Read their product or service description for terms and conditions and how they define the support level you are getting.

When looking for a dedicated server provider, it is important that you are guaranteed of full root-level access, at least 99.9% network uptime, the preference for your operating system and control panels, a 24/7 customer support all with low set up fees. These dedicated servers utilize higher levels of security to ensure the safety of data stored. These providers often scan systems and networks for invaders like spammers, hackers, and other harmful problems such viruses, worms, eggdrops and crashers. Some providers' terms and conditions do not allow adult content and those that violate copyright laws.

With the profitability of having your dedicated servers outsourced, hosting providers claim that they are the best. But no one can really say for sure because the industry is not even regulated. As their client, only you can judge for yourself. Dedicated hosting is not for everyone since it required advance server and network administration knowledge. Do your homework first before subscribing to one.

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