

Citrix XenServer Unlock the power of Server Virtualisation



Enabling the dynamic datacentre

Citrix® XenServer™ is the simplest and most efficient way to virtualise servers and deliver a dynamic data centre — a flexible aggregated pool of computing and storage resources. Citrix XenServer extends the development and testing resources of the open source Xen® virtualisation engine, delivering easy-to-use dynamic virtualisation solutions. Citrix XenServer combines comprehensive server virtualisation capabilities with unparalleled scalability, performance, economics, and ease-of-use.

Reducing costs through server consolidation

With XenServer, businesses can deploy multiple virtual servers on shared hardware increasing utilisation and reducing the costs of equipment, power, cooling and real estate. Server virtualisation can reduce the costs of delivering disaster recovery as server workloads can be instantly provisioned to any available system, local or remote.

Citrix XenServer: Leveraging Xen innovation

The foundation of Citrix XenServer is the open source Xen® Hypervisor, a proven and robust virtualisation engine. The inventors and lead developers of Xen, with the rest of the Citrix XenServer product team, take the Xen Engine and build a comprehensive server virtualisation platform, with a series of dynamic virtualisation services. Citrix XenServer combines the performance, security and openness of Xen technology with easy-to-use management and simplified deployment. Citrix XenServer is perfect for rapid deployment of servers, server consolidation, development and test environments, and disaster recovery.

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Citrix XenServer

Citrix XenServer.
Instant
Virtualization.

Not a demo.
Not a trial.

Enterprise-class.
Cloud-proven.

Free.

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Easy setup and administration- Citrix XenServer™ can be installed and ready to run virtualised workloads in just a few minutes (the *ten minutes to Xen* experience). It has a unique management architecture that eliminates single points of failure. IT staff can manage hundreds of virtual machines easily with the included XenCentre centralised management console that installs on any Windows® desktop with only four megabytes of storage.

Citrix XenServer is the only enterprise-class, cloud-proven virtualisation platform that delivers the critical features of live migration and centralised multi-server management at no cost. XenServer is an open and powerful server virtualisation solution that radically reduces datacentre costs by transforming static and complex datacentre environments into more dynamic, easy to manage IT service delivery centres.

By providing features like live migration, shared storage support, centralised multi-server management plus P2V and V2V conversion tools in the free version, XenServer enables any organisation, no matter the size or budget, to immediately benefit from the power of server virtualisation.

Bare-metal performance - Built on the open-source Xen® hypervisor, XenServer's compact architecture has the lowest overhead of any virtualisation solution, offering near bare metal performance.

Integrated storage architecture - like other virtualisation products that are built on closed proprietary systems, the open storage APIs in XenServer allow customers to leverage advanced functions such as snapshotting, cloning, replication, de-duplication and provisioning in their existing storage systems. This unique approach allows customers to fully leverage all the capabilities of their existing datacentre infrastructure rather than deploying and managing an entirely new set of tools and people that apply only to their virtual servers.

Open architecture - The foundation that powers the open architecture of XenServer is the popular Xen hypervisor. By incorporating the latest Xen hypervisor, XenServer benefits from the innovation, security and validation of hundreds of leading system developers from over 50 companies, including the world's largest server and microprocessor manufacturers.

XenMotion - Get your weekends back by managing and maintaining your physical hardware during business hours. The live migration functionality of XenMotion™ can migrate virtual machines to other physical hardware, with zero downtime, allowing you to patch and update your machines without your users ever knowing.

XenCentre centralised management - XenCentre delivers scalable setup and administration to XenServer environments, with intuitive controls and easy-to-use wizards for advanced network and storage configuration. Unlike other management consoles, XenCentre distributes management data across servers in a resource pool to ensure there is no single point of management failure.

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Upgrade to Citrix Essentials

XenServer can be upgraded in place to take advantage of the advanced virtualisation management capabilities of Citrix Essentials. IT organisations can enhance their operations and application delivery dramatically with the addition of capabilities such as:

- Automated lab management
- Advanced storage integration
- Dynamic provisioning services
- Workflow orchestration
- High availability

Citrix® Essentials™ for XenServer™ extends advanced virtualisation management capabilities to Citrix XenServer environments to help customers create highly scalable, manageable and agile virtual infrastructures. The solution extends the enterprise management capabilities of XenServer in the areas of lab automation, storage management, provisioning services, workflow automation and high availability.

With the enterprise-class, cloud-proven XenServer platform now available for free unlimited use, customers with mixed Windows® and Linux environments, significant investments in Citrix application delivery solutions, or plans to build private clouds can turn to Citrix XenServer.

Citrix Essentials for XenServer includes:

- Automated lab management streamlines the process of building, testing, sharing and delivering applications on-demand throughout the full application lifecycle, from development labs to production servers.
- Advanced storage integration featuring Citrix StorageLink™ technology fully leverages all the native power of third-party array-based storage systems making it easy for customers to manage advanced storage features directly from their virtualisation management environments.
- Dynamic provisioning services reduces costs and optimises datacenter infrastructure by letting customers manage a common set of master workload images centrally, then stream them on-demand to any combination of virtual machines or physical servers.
- Workflow orchestration enables users to automate key management processes across their virtual infrastructure using common task libraries and a graphical workflow canvas.
- High availability delivers a broad range of powerful high availability options from automatic restart to workload balancing of virtual machines across resource pools based on preset thresholds.

One of the most powerful and innovative new features in the Citrix Essentials product line is the Citrix StorageLink™ technology, which dramatically reduces the cost and complexity of storage management by making it easy to leverage all the power of existing storage systems from within both XenServer and Hyper-V virtualisation environment

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XenServer and Essentials for XenServer editions

XenServer For everyone. For small business, large enterprises, and cloud providers. For Windows® and Linux environments, and environments with direct attached storage or complex storage networks. For organisations that want centralised, multi-server management for scalable administration and live migration of virtual machines for zero downtime maintenance. Citrix XenServer™ is the only enterprise-class, cloud-proven virtualisation platform that delivers the critical features of live migration and centralised multi-node management for free.

Essentials for XenServer, Platinum Edition For large lab environments, complex server environments or large server farms, the Essentials for XenServer, Platinum Edition provides lab automation and dynamic provisioning of server workloads to help reduce server and storage sprawl, and minimise repetitive administrative operations.

Essentials for XenServer, Enterprise Edition For server environments with demanding uptime requirements, complex shared storage architectures and the need for distributed performance management. The Essentials for XenServer, Enterprise Edition provides high availability, integration with native storage services and performance monitoring and reporting.

All editions are fully compatible. Citrix XenServer and Essentials for XenServer

Feature	XenServer	Essentials for XenServer, Enterprise Edition	Essentials for XenServer, Platinum Edition
Native 64-bit Xen hypervisor	✓	✓	✓
Windows and Linux guests	✓	✓	✓
Unlimited servers, VMs, and CPUs	✓	✓	✓
XenCenter management console	✓	✓	✓
Multi-server management	✓	✓	✓
XenMotion live migration	✓	✓	✓
Historical performance reporting		✓	✓
E-mail alerting for performance and errors		✓	✓
High availability		✓	✓
Integrated storage management with StorageLink™		✓	✓
Workflow orchestration		✓	✓
Dynamic provisioning services (virtual only)		✓	✓
Dynamic provisioning services (physical and virtual)			✓
Automated lab management			✓

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