Architect a Server–It's Easier Than You Think!

"One size fits all" works for servers as well as it does for clothing: it doesn't. Just as every person needs their shirts, pants and shoes fitted differently than the next person, every server environment has equally unique (and far more demanding) requirements.

So why do so many IT professionals persist in thinking that off-the-shelf servers will meet all their needs?

It's often because off-the-shelf seems like the simplest option. Few companies have a server professional on staff to define precisely what sever they need. Server professionals are expensive hires, and you likely don't need their expertise on an ongoing basis. But buying an off-the-shelf server from a big brand manufacturer can force compromises that you don't want to make. This dilemma can keep your resource-strapped IT team up at night looking for a better answer.

A Server That Fits Your Environment

Creating the perfect server configuration is a complex task that involves balancing multiple factors: budget, performance needs, and lifecycle planning. As with everything in life, there are trade-offs to be made that can drastically affect what you end up purchasing. This is the step where expert assistance is most needed.

The most pressing and typically least flexible factor is often the budget. No one in IT wants to march back up the management chain and ask for more money, so they do what they can with the resources they have. If the stars align, the project requirements can be met with an off-the-shelf solution, but usually something gets adversely impacted as a result.

If the performance requirements of the project aren't met, no one is going to be happy—least of all you, the person who bought the off-the-shelf server or attempted to spec one out on your own. For a server vendor to help you with this task requires that they truly understand what problem you are trying to solve and learn about your project's business, performance, and technical requirements. Only then can they leverage their technology expertise to guide you in selecting the right server components.

It's also important to consider server lifecycle planning up-front in the process. The average server lifespan is three years, though your budget may allow for more frequent replacements, or you may end up holding on to your servers for five to seven years. In either case, you need to carefully select server components so they are still viable within your projected replacement period.

There's a lot to consider. The best partner would understand what your company really needs in a server, what applications you're trying to run, and what components will deliver the best performance while allowing you to stay within your budget.

Meet Your Goals, All of Them

Servers Direct can help you architect a server solution that takes your budgetary constraints, performance requirements, and lifecycle planning needs into account.

Our deep vendor relationships ensure that you have access to the latest technologies from leading component vendors such as Intel, LSI, Seagate, ASUS, SuperMicro and many more. Also, with Servers Direct you won't end up buying components that reach end-of-life before you are ready to replace them.

There is no need buy off-the-shelf servers anymore just because of the perceived complexity of custom solutions. With a trusted partner at your side and purpose-built servers that precisely meet your needs, you can proudly announce that you have a server deployment architected, built out, and ready to go.

Servers Direct is a premier provider of advanced build-to-order server and storage solutions for use in enterprise, data centers, education, government, and the private sector. For more than 10 years, IT professionals have relied on Servers Direct expertise to help develop custom matched solutions with uncompromised quality and support.

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