

Windows Server 2016 and System Center 2016

What you should know: product and licensing



Windows Server 2016

Windows Server 2016 is currently available in technical preview with general availability (GA) targeted for Q3CY16. Windows Server 2016 is a cloud inspired release which is also reflected in the packaging and licensing. Datacenter Edition will continue to support unlimited virtualization and will gain new software defined datacenter capabilities, ideal for highly virtualized, private cloud environments. Datacenter and Standard Edition will move from processor to physical core based licensing. This aligns private and public cloud licensing to a consistent currency of cores that simplifies licensing of hybrid use. Licenses for servers with 8 cores or less per proc will be same price as the 2012 R2 proc license price.

The early disclosure of the Windows Server 2016 Datacenter and Standard Edition packaging and licensing that will come into effect in Q3 calendar 2016 is intended to provide customers and partners the opportunity to review business objectives and plan their IT environments with consideration for virtualization optimizations and cloud transition needs.

Windows Server 2016 Datacenter and Standard Edition pricing and licensing overview

Components included	Windows Server 2016 Editions	
	Datacenter	Standard
Core functionality of Windows Server	X	X
OSEs / Hyper-V containers	Unlimited	1
Windows Server containers	Unlimited	Unlimited
Nano Server	X	X
New storage features including Storage Spaces Direct and Storage Replica*	X	
New Shielded Virtual Machines and Host Guardian Service*	X	
New networking stack	X	

*Windows Server 2016 requires licensing all CPU cores per each processor on a physical server. See the Product Use Rights for details.

Additional Licensing Resources

- ▶ <http://www.microsoft.com/hosting>
- ▶ <https://mspartner.microsoft.com/en/us/pages/licensing/product-licensing.aspx#SPLA>

Windows Server 2016 and System Center 2016 in SPLA

System Center 2016

System Center 2016 is currently available in technical preview with GA targeting Q3CY16. System Center 2016 is a hybrid cloud inspired release which is also reflected in the packaging and licensing. System Center 2016 brings cloud learnings to the datacenter, enabling seamless management of complex environments. Datacenter and Standard Edition will move from processor to physical core based licensing. This aligns private and public cloud licensing to a consistent currency of cores that simplifies licensing of hybrid use. Licenses for servers with 8 cores or less per proc will be same price as the 2012 R2 proc license price.

System Center 2016 pricing and licensing overview

Components Included	System Center 2016 Editions	
	Datacenter	Standard
OSEs*	Unlimited	1
Configuration Manager	X	X
Data Protection Manager		
Endpoint Protection		
Operations Manager		
Orchestrator		
Service Manager		
Virtual Machine Manager		

*OSE: Operating System Environment, System Center 2016 requires licensing all physical cores per processor.

Additional Licensing Resources

- ▶ <http://www.microsoft.com/hosting>
- ▶ <https://mspartner.microsoft.com/en/us/pages/licensing/product-licensing.aspx#SPLA>