



Article published on February 7th 2012 | [Hardware](#)

It is important to design an IT environment running Windows to utilize a windows storage server. When the users are storing data like important documents and spreadsheets on the desktop, they could experience loss of access once the desktop breaks. If the desktop computer's hard drive breaks, the data will be lost and irretrievable.

Using a storage server, all the important data can be stored on a server that's designed for both performance and protection. Users can retrieve big documents and load them faster along with more reliability. Another advantage is if the desktop is destroyed, the files will still be offered by another desktop client because the files are stored on the central server.

Who

The proper audience for those who might want a windows storage server are businesses of just about any size. If there is likely to be more than two or three employees in the future, then it is going to be a lot better to centralize storage for Windows desktop computer users to one computer.

The one who should set up this server is a Windows system administrator that has at least two years of experience. Some certifications that might be helpful include the MCSE and also the CCNA. A college degree in information systems or computer science will be relevant too. It's possible for the business owner to do all the work as well. Although setting this up is not rocket science, the talents of the company owner could be better deployed in various other ways than system administration duties.

Active Directory

The windows storage server ought to be a machine in Windows Active Directory (AD). All desktop client computers should be members of Active Directory also. Not to mention, each user needs to have a user account in Active Directory. Users will log into Windows AD rather than the local desktop as a way to authenticate.

With Active Directory, it will likely be the simplest way to establish appropriate access controls to the files for the storage server. The proper user or gang of users will have the appropriate rights for the files and directories. This ensures that documents will not end up in incorrect hands. Simultaneously, this minimizes the work for the system administrator to the maximum extent possible.

Cost

The price of creating a windows storage server can vary widely. First of all, the cost of the Windows server operating system must be included. Next the cost of the server hardware must be added. For many servers, the CPU performance will not be a problem. Neither is the memory. The cost will be in the number of hard disks.

For a business environment, it is far better to purchase extra disks to mirror or RAID protect all filesystems. This means if a single disk fails, it will not bring down the whole filesystem. Mirroring will definitely cost the most, but a RAID5 filesystem will utilize fewer disks with a small performance hit.

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Article Keywords:

business, servers, internet, networks

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