Microsoft

Unbox datacenter innovation

with Windows Server Software-Defined solutions
from your Windows Server partner

The fastest route to the benefits of a software-defined datacenter

There's a lot to be gained in efficiency and simplicity by utilizing software-defined datacenter technology. But many IT organizations lack the time or staff to envision and implement new software-defined infrastructure.

Want the efficiency and simplicity of software-defined datacenter technology without having to design and implement it yourself? Validated software-defined datacenter solutions from preferred Microsoft partners can help you access these benefits faster.

Partners offer an array of Windows Server Software-Defined (WSSD) solutions that work with Window Server to deliver high-performance storage or hyper-converged infrastructure. Hyper-converged solutions bring together compute, storage, and networking on industry-standard servers and components, which means organizations can gain improved datacenter intelligence and control while avoiding the costs of specialized high-end hardware.

Partners offer three types of Windows Server Software-Defined (WSSD) solutions

Software-Defined Storage (SDS)	Enterprise-grade shared-nothing storage solution built on server node clusters replaces traditional SAN/NAS at a much lower cost. Organizations can quickly add storage capacity as needs grow over time. Support for all-flash NVMe drives delivers unrivaled performance.
Hyper-converged Infrastructure (HCI) Standard	Highly virtualized compute and storage are combined in the same server node cluster, making them easier to deploy, manage, and scale. By eliminating traditional IT compute, storage, and networking silos, you can simplify your infrastructure.
Hyper-Converged Infrastructure (HCI) Premium	Comprehensive "software-defined datacenter in a box" adds Software-Defined Networking and Security Assurance features to HCI Standard. This makes it easy to scale compute, storage, and networking up and down to meet demand just like public cloud services.

Partner-driven solutions for your datacenter

All Windows Server Software-Defined partner solutions use Microsoft-validated designs and follow engineering best practices for seamless deployment and a steady-state operational experience. Your preferred Microsoft partner gets you up and running without lengthy design and build time and offers a single point of contact for implementation and support services.

Validated by Microsoft

To earn certification by the Windows Server Software-Defined program, partners must meet the following Microsoft standards for solutions:

- Quality
- Accelerated time to value
- Out-of-the-box optimization
- Expedited problem resolution

Variety of Solution Sizes

Windows Server Software-Defined partners offer solutions that range in size from 2 nodes up to 16 nodes to support your specific requirements.

- Solutions from 2 nodes to 16 nodes

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Windows Server Software-Defined solution features

The software-defined technology in Windows Server provides a platform for hyper-converged infrastructure solutions that help organizations sustain efficiency and adjust to changing business needs. Choose the solution that fits your needs:

	Software-Defined Storage	HCI Standard	HCI Premium
Security			
BitLocker, Shielded Virtual Machines			●
Windows Defender, Credential Guard, Device Guard	●	●	●
Compute			
Hyper-V		●	●
Network			
Software-defined networking capabilities			●
NIC teaming, vSwitches, SMB Direct	●	●	●
Storage			
Storage Spaces Direct software-defined storage	●	●	●
Management			
Windows Admin Center	●	●	●
Servers			
x86 industry standard hardware	●	●	●

Unleash cloud efficiencies in your datacenter

With WSSD validated solutions, you can tap into the same types of cloud-efficiencies used to run hyper-scale datacenters such as Microsoft Azure. Windows Server includes many of the same technologies that Microsoft uses to support Azure.

Take the next step. Find a partner at **www.microsoft.com/wssd**

Unleash Windows Server features

Security: **Help protect against breaches.** All solutions offer built-in security features. Hyper-Converged Premium solutions add protection for virtual machines even if the host is compromised.

Compute: Right-size resources. Both hyper-converged solutions offer a Server Core option for host to help reduce resource usage and increase availability.

Networking: Speed up changes. All solutions take advantage of performance-enhancing networking technologies in Windows Server. Hyper-Converged Premium solution adds software-defined networking features to help to automate workload deployment with virtualized switching, routing, load balancing and firewalls—no configuration changes to the physical network needed.

Storage: Increase performance. All WSSD solutions offer Storage Spaces Direct, which easily exceeds 150,000 mixed 4k random IOPS per server with consistent, low latency because the hypervisor embedded architecture, built-in read/write cache, and support for NVMe drives mounted directly on the PCIe bus.

Management: Simplify it. All WSSD solutions enable you to deploy and manage software-defined features across infrastructure using PowerShell and Windows Admin Center.

Servers: All WSSD solutions deliver a fully validated hardware platform.

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