

Cost Comparison

How much is spent for basic file/print server functionality in a Microsoft-based network?

Server hardware

Pentium 4 2.8GHz
SCSI tape backup unit
Average Price: **\$1700**

Operating System

MS Windows Server 2003 Enterprise
25 Client Access licenses
Average Price: **\$3717**

Backup Software

Veritas Backup-Exec 10
Average Price: **\$597**

Anti-Virus Software

Kasperkey Labs File Server Anti-Virus
Average Price: **\$420 per year**

Total costs for a MS Windows Server 2003 Enterprise File/Print Server:

\$6434, plus recurring costs associated with anti-virus and software updates

The Smart Alternative IGO's Pridex File/Print Server

Pridex 3000 File/Print server: **\$973**

or

Pridex 3100 File/Print server: **\$1700**

Operating System: **Free**
Backup Software: **Free**
Anti-Virus Software: **Not Needed**

Your Savings: as much as \$5000!

Features Comparison

Security

A properly configured and administered Linux-based solution is virtually guaranteed to remain **virus-free**. Linux comes with a powerful firewall that offers very finely-grained control over who has access and who doesn't.

Scalability

Proprietary software companies now use client licensing. Every client computer that connects to the server must have a license, and only the number of licenses you have paid for are allowed to connect.
Windows Server 2003 Basic: **5 licenses**
Windows Server 2003 Enterprise: **25 licenses**
Linux: **UNLIMITED (and free)**

Ease-of-Use

If the thought of Linux conjures up frightening memories of a command-line O/S that requires the operator to memorize hundreds of cryptic words and symbols, then you obviously haven't seen Linux lately. All modern distributions of Linux include a Graphical User Interface (GUI) Desktop that functions almost identically to Windows. Bottom line? You don't have to be a geek to use Linux anymore.

Affordability

Linux is a free, non-proprietary operating system. Many free applications are also available for everything from desktop publishing to playing solitaire. Besides, Linux developers do all they can to make their applications compatible with other operating systems and software.

What is Linux?

Linux is a powerful, open-source, secure operating system that's practically virus-free.

What can I expect from Linux?

Great Price

Linux is free. You're welcome to download, install, use, and even make changes to it to suit your needs.

Stability

Linux is a stable, mature and secure operating system. Linux systems have been known to run for months, even years without requiring a reboot.

Operation

Linux includes an easy-to-navigate desktop environment.

Productivity

Linux includes OpenOffice, an open-source alternative to MS Office that allows you to work on everything that you normally do in Word, Excel and PowerPoint. OpenOffice even allow you to save your work in standard Office formats so you can share files with others who don't have OpenOffice.

Community Support

People from all over the world work to make Linux a better option everyday. There are numerous online resources for finding help, technical support, and information on Linux.

Open Source is the Future

*"Open Source software is Free,
as in Free Speech, not free beer."*

Freedom encourages innovation and creativity
Freedom allows for quick modifications and bug fixes
Freedom provides flexibility in work and play