



# Getting It Right: Choosing the Server That Fits Your Business

What to consider when selecting  
your first or next server





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## Introduction

Your business may be growing, or perhaps your services are shifting, but you find yourself looking at how technology can help support the organisation. For organisations like yours, the selection of any tool or technology has a large impact. It isn't just a drop in the bucket; it can change the way you work, and you want your selection to be simple and effective.

A server is the core of an organisation's digital environment — that's why finding the right one is essential. Any decision about servers needs to take into account numerous variables: budget, security, ease of use, functionality, and future growth. It is even important to think about where you want the server located and how it will fit in your office space.

This eBook will walk through some of the different types of servers you might consider, whether you're supporting a workforce of nine, or 99. We'll look at the benefits of tower and rack servers, options for special use cases, the importance of server refreshes, and what distinguishes the latest generation of Dell PowerEdge servers. Whatever you're looking for in your next server, see how you can find an affordable solution to enable intelligent collaboration and innovation into the future.





CHAPTER 1:

# Tower Server Benefits

There is a wide variety of servers on the market, and while they all offer different benefits, they are not equally beneficial to small businesses. Tower servers offer an affordable, entry-level server for small businesses. They are built with the power to run common workloads and the reliability to simplify management.

When considering your next server, a tower server is an ideal option for small workplaces, home offices, and edge environments. They can be used in professional offices and retail stores to run small, essential workloads. They can easily fit in a coat closet or under a desk when there is not a dedicated server room. Wherever they are, their desktop-style chassis mean that tower servers are typically quieter than rack servers, so they will not disrupt a quiet work atmosphere.

Now what about workloads and management? Coming in a wide range of sizes and capabilities, tower servers are designed to handle core business demands. One-socket servers offer a cost-effective way to run workloads like file sharing, printing, point of sale, and database applications. Two-socket tower servers can accommodate higher performance applications like web serving, consolidation, and virtualisation.

PowerEdge tower servers are especially designed to help you minimise expenses, reduce complexity, and keep your data safe, while fitting unobtrusively into any office environment. Tower servers typically require little maintenance or attention, and PowerEdge options are especially easy to manage with Dell OpenManage tools. With a cyber-resilient architecture, PowerEdge models are solutions you can depend on.

# POWEREDGE TOWER PORTFOLIO



## T550

**TARGET WORKLOADS:**

Flexible two-socket tower server for enterprise workloads outside of the traditional data center.

[Learn More](#)



## T350

**TARGET WORKLOADS:**

Affordable easy to manage one-socket tower server designed to accelerate business growth for organisations looking for enterprise class features.

[Learn More](#)



## T150

**TARGET WORKLOADS:**

Small or remote office workloads, collaboration and sharing, mail and messaging, file sharing, and print

[Learn More](#)





## CHAPTER 2:

# Uses for Rack Servers

While a tower server can be a simple addition to any location, rack servers can help small businesses build up a sophisticated modern infrastructure. Their architecture makes it easy to scale up and expand with your business. These powerful, secure options are designed to help you meet the demands of business transformation and future growth.

Unlike tower servers, rack servers are a better choice for when you have a dedicated space like a server room, wiring closet, or data centre. It is best for these servers to be in a location with adequate ventilation, room to expand, and walls separating it from working spaces to reduce noisy distractions. This is an optimal choice if you are starting to build a new data centre or anticipate a need to scale up in the future.

Rack servers also are meant for different workloads than tower servers. They have a higher performance density, which is a good fit for virtualisation, software-defined storage, data analytics, cloud-native workloads, and other business applications. Organisations can choose one-socket servers for a simple, cost-effective option, or models with two or four sockets to accommodate more demanding workloads.

To make sure your servers are keeping up with your business demands, PowerEdge rack servers are specifically engineered to address evolving compute demands. Intelligent systems work together and independently to automate aspects of your infrastructure, making it simple to innovate and adapt. PowerEdge rack servers are also designed with proactive resilience to anticipate potential threats and protect your workloads.

# POWEREDGE RACK PORTFOLIO



## R750

### TARGET WORKLOADS:

A fully-featured two socket enterprise ready server, delivering outstanding performance for the most demanding workloads: HPC, VDI, AI or ML environments

[Learn More](#)



## R650

### TARGET WORKLOADS:

Mixed workload standardization, database and analytics, HFT, traditional corporate IT, VDI, HPC, AI, or ML environments

[Learn More](#)



## R550

### TARGET WORKLOADS:

Two socket server that offers the best value for organizations seeking the latest processing, I/O, and storage capabilities.

[Learn More](#)



## R350

### TARGET WORKLOADS:

An affordable easy to manage one-socket rack server designed to accelerate business growth for organisations looking for enterprise class features.

[Learn More](#)



## R250

### TARGET WORKLOADS:

Small to mid-sized business workloads, remote offices, collaboration and sharing, mail and messaging, and file or print workloads

[Learn More](#)



## CHAPTER 3:

# Alternative Server Options

Even though Dell offers a wide variety of tower servers and rack servers, many businesses, industries, and use cases require more specialised options. Dell offers solutions for businesses with even more specialised needs, such as greater ruggedness or modularity, or to address particularly extreme workloads or storage requirements.

Modular infrastructure solutions are built for businesses that prioritise agility so they can keep pace with modern business demands and workloads. With unified management software and chassis with interchangeable components, these solutions help build a flexible data centre to maximise the lifetime value of IT investments in the environments where they're critical.

[Learn More](#)

Would your IT environment benefit from a specialised server solution?  
Contact a Dell Technologies Advisor.

### Reasons for a Refresh

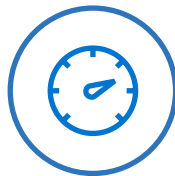
Your first server is not the end of your server journey. Properly timed server refreshes help you provide ongoing value with an innovative infrastructure. Make sure you replace old devices regularly to gain important benefits:



**Better IT staff  
efficiency**



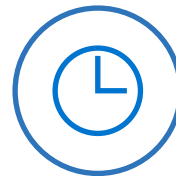
**Increased  
revenue growth**



**Improved  
application  
performance**



**Greater customer  
satisfaction and  
retention**



**Faster time  
to market**



CHAPTER 4:

# Innovations in 15<sup>th</sup> Gen PowerEdge

When you select a server, you want to make sure you are getting the latest technology. The newest iterations of any solution can help you keep up your industry, competitors, and the rapidly changing tech landscape. The latest generation of PowerEdge servers helps you stay a step ahead with heightened performance and operational benefits.

The cyber-resilient architecture built into the latest PowerEdge servers is about more than superficial updates. It includes a silicon-based root of trust, secure boot, chassis intrusion detection, supply chain assurance, and much more. Newly introduced secured component verification (SCV) ensures that the server has not been tampered with since leaving the factory. From manufacturing through end of life, enhanced security protects PowerEdge servers through their full lifecycle.

Innovations in the latest generation of PowerEdge servers also help you handle your most critical workloads and applications. The servers have dense core counts and support the latest generation of Intel Xeon scalable processors to deliver higher levels of performance. A larger memory capacity and thoughtful cooling design also help ensure PowerEdge servers offer the headroom to reliably meet your needs.

PowerEdge solutions are engineered to help you simplify IT and reduce the total cost of ownership for high-performance servers. PowerEdge efficiencies extend to management, too: Intelligent automation with Dell OpenManage Systems Management solutions can help IT can save time.



PowerEdge servers and systems management can deliver up to **85%** time savings on average, and eliminate dozens of steps with automation.<sup>1</sup>

## CHAPTER 5:

# The Dell Advantage

When you make the decision to purchase a new server, you need to be prepared for what comes next. With Dell Technologies, the benefits don't end with the hardware. Dell offers more than a wide range of servers and configurations set for your business; consulting and support services help make sure you are set up for success.



### **Dell Technologies Advisors**

Dell offers tailored product solutions and expert advice to keep your business growing. If you still are unsure of where to start, dedicated Dell Technologies Advisors—experts familiar with helping businesses succeed—can help you find the server that is right for you.



### **Dell Financial Services**

Financing options ensure innovation is not out of reach. Predictable payment plans help to ensure a new server easily fits into your budget.



### **ProDeploy**

Experts at Dell can help you through the planning and implementation process. Deployment services are available 24/7 to help you realise the full potential of your hardware.



### **ProSupport**

You can stay optimised and reduce downtime with support available at your fingertips. Expert support engineers are available around the clock to help you once your server is up and running.



### **Managed Detection and Response**

To augment the built-in protections of Dell PowerEdge servers, Dell experts can monitor for attacks, respond to emerging threats, and help you get back to business.





# Conclusion

Whether you need a tower server for a remote office, a rack server to help expand operations, or a specialised server solution, Dell Technologies can help make sure you find the right fit. Dell Technologies Advisors know how important servers are for your small business, so they are ready to help you find a flexible solution to prepare you for the future. No matter where your business is at, end-to-end solutions can help you power innovation with unstoppable IT.

[Learn More](#)

Call **0800 085 4878** or [chat live with a Dell Technologies Advisor](#) to reach to an expert who will help you identify and purchase the right server for your business needs.

[Explore](#)

[View the latest offers](#) across our range of Dell PowerEdge servers.

**DELL**Technologies

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Based on a Principled Technologies Report commissioned by Dell Technologies, "Performing Common Systems Management Tasks with Dell OpenManage Enterprise 3.5 vs Manual approaches", March 2021. Actual results may vary.