

# Dedicated Web Hosting versus Shared Web Hosting

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Dedicated hosting or shared hosting? In this article I will analyze what the terms represent and how to pick the best suitable hosting server for your website.

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Dedicated hosting or shared hosting? This is probably one of the first decisions you must make before you get web hosting for your site. Many of you may not understand the differences between these two hosting services. That's why in this article I will analyze what the terms represent and how to pick the best suitable hosting server for your website.

Let's start with Dedicated Web Hosting?

## Dedicated web hosting

is where you lease an entire server. With dedicated server all the resources are yours to use. You can use it for hosting of only one site or multiple sites. You get to use all the bandwidth of the server, and you can use as much disk space as the server hardware allows you. Businesses with large complex sites that get a lot of traffic are better off with dedicated web hosting. Sites that use dedicated web hosting are also free to run any kind of script they desire. This may be as well ideal for those who are developing new scripts and need to test them without affecting other websites.

## A website that

uses dedicated hosting has the server all to itself. This means that all the resources of the server as well as the IP address (IP stands for Internet Protocol) are unique to that web site. Shared web hosting, on the other hand, places many websites on the same server and they all share resources and the same IP address.

How about Shared Web Hosting?

## Shared web hosting

is notably cheaper than dedicated web hosting. This is simply because the cost of operating the server is distributed between several customers. Shared web hosting is available already for as little as \$2 a month opposed to a dedicated web hosting which can cost you about \$100 a month or even much more depending on the server configuration.

As

we mentioned above, websites that share a single server are sharing all the server's resources. This includes disk space and bandwidth as well as the IP address. In order to present adequate service to all sites on a server, your host will restrict each site to a limited amount of disk

space as well as the transfer volume per month. Sites that exceed these limits may have to pay a substantial penalty.

#### Considering

each server has a limited amount of bandwidth, the amount of traffic your neighbors receive can influence how quickly your web site is displayed. Each inquiry coming in to the server is dealt with in the order it was received, so if there is a large queue, there will be a longer wait.

The number of sites that are sharing a particular server is not as important as the amount of traffic each site receives. A server hosting 200 low traffic sites will operate much faster than one which has 50 sites that are receiving a lot of visitors.

#### There

are some risks associated with shared hosting. If one of your neighbors runs a badly programmed script that runs amok the entire server could be affected. In extreme cases this could make your site to be inaccessible for a time. Another threat is that if one of your neighbors is banned from search engines ( for spamming practice, for example ) it could affect everyone sharing that same IP address. Check with your web hosting company to see their policy about third - party scripts and inappropriate activities.

Which one is better for my website?

#### Small

websites are in many cases better off with shared web hosting. It is more affordable &ndash; especially for small companies and individuals. A reputable host will be careful not to allow activities that could jeopardize your site. Large complicated sites that receive more than 1000 visitors a day are better off with dedicated web hosting. It is also a good choice for developers who wish to experiment with new Internet technologies.