

Windows Version	Release Year	User Interface	User Utilization	Upgrades from previous year	Specifications	Notable Features
Windows NT 3.1 Advanced Server	1993	Program Manager (Windows 3.1 style)	Limited adoption, usually organizations testing servers	First dedicated Windows Server release	Intel x86, basic networking support	Security Model and Domain concepts
Windows NT 3.5 Server	1994	Program Manager	Growing organization adoption	Better performance, networking improvements	Improved memory management, TCP/IP stack	NetBIOS implemented over TCP/IP support
Windows NT 4.0 Server	1996	Windows 95-style GUI	Increased popularity, growing customer loyalty	GUI upgrade, faster system performance	x86 and Alpha architecture support	First use of Microsoft Management Console
Windows Server 2000	2000	Windows 2000 GUI	Large organizational adoption	Active directory introduced, IntelliMirror	NTFS 3.0, Kerberos authentication, Plug & Play	Improved fault tolerance and scalability progression
Windows Server 2003	2003	Windows XP – Style GUI	Extensive organizational use	Enhanced Active Directory, improved Group policy	32-bit and 64-bit support, IIS 6.0	Volume Shadow Copy

Windows Server 2008	2008	Windows Vista – Style GUI	High enterprise adoption	Role Based installation, Server Manager introduced	Server Core option, Hyper-V virtualization	BitLocker Support
Windows Server 2012	2012	Metro/Modernized UI	Integration of cloud	Improved PowerShell, IPAM available	ReFS file system, Hyper-V v3	Cloud integration emphasis
Windows Server 2016	2016	Windows 10 – Style GUI	Widely adopted for hybrid/cloud	Containers support, PowerShell enhancements	Nano Server, Storage Spaces Direct	Shielded VMs, Just Enough Administration (JEA)
Windows Server 2019	2018	Windows 10 – Style GUI	Popular amongst hybrid environments and Azure users	Improved hybrid cloud integration	Kubernetes support	Linux compatibility improvements
Windows Server 2022	2021	Windows 10/11 – Style GUI	Heavy adoption for cloud/hybrid workspaces	TLS 1.3 by default, enhanced security hardening	Azure Arc integration	Multi – Layer security, Hybrid cloud tools

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