James Harris

Compare/Contrast features of all servers of Microsoft Windows to date.

Windows Server 2016 Essentials Edition
- Supports a maximum of 25 users
- 16.8 million connections for file sharing through Server Message Block (SMB) services
- 2 central processor sockets
- 50 Remote Desktop connections
- 50 Routing and Remote Access connections
- cannot join a domain, other than to migrate files and data from one server to another
- Provides most, but not all server roles
- Does not provide a role for hosting virtual machines and cannot provide cloud services

Windows Server 2016 Standard Edition
- File and print services
- Secure Internet connectivity
- Centralized management of users
- Centralized management of applications and network resources
- Hyper-V Included
- Start button and Start menu are back on the desktop
- Active Directory is easier to set up and has improved file security
- A domain controller can be cloned to quickly create additional domain controllers
- Generic Routing Encapsulation (GRE) tunneling to enable virtual private networks to go over external networks
- Desired State Configuration is used to monitor specific server states and roles so that desired states don't change as other elements are changed on one or many servers
- Windows Defender is automatically included as an antivirus and antimalware program
- Storage tiering allows selected blocks of data to be moved to different storage locations
- Storage pinning works with storage tiering to enable you to move specific files to a desired type of storage
- A new network controller role that provides information about the network structure
- Parallel rebuild that enables a failed disk in RAID to be rebuilt significantly faster
- Virtual desktops enables you to run different desktops side-by-side

James Harris

Compare/Contrast features of all servers of Microsoft Windows to date.

Windows Server 2016 Datacenter Edition
- Designed for environments with:
- Mission-critical applications
- Very large databases
- Very large virtualization requirements
- Cloud computing needs
- Information access requiring high availability
- Offers support for clustering up to 64 computers