

Assignment 1:

Windows Servers Edition History Comparison

Version	Release	Key Features	Security Features	Management Tools & Virtualization (VM)	Cloud Integration	Support Lifecycle
<u>Windows NT Advanced Server 3.1</u>	1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 32-bit OS - File and print sharing - Client-server model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic user authentication - NTFS file system with permissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic GUI for admin - Command-line tools - VM? None 	None	Ended 2001
<u>WS 2000</u>	Feb 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active Directory (AD) - XML support - ASP for web apps - Standard, Advanced, Datacenter editions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AD-based authentication - Kerberos support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Microsoft Management Console (MMC) - Event Viewer - VM? Limited VM support 	None	Ended 2010
<u>WS 2003</u>	April 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduced reboot needs - Server roles (e.g., DNS) - 64-bit support - Web Edition introduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhanced AD security - Improved firewall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Server Manager - Group Policy enhancements - VM? - Virtual Server 2005 (separate) 	None	Ended 2015
<u>WS 2003 R2</u>	Dec 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Free upgrade - Active Directory Federation Services (ADFS) - Branch office features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stronger user authentication - Security patches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updated MMC - Simplified admin tools - VM? Improved virtual server support 	None	Ended 2015
<u>WS 2008</u>	Feb 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hyper-V virtualization - Server Core option - PowerShell 1.0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Network Access Protection - BitLocker encryption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Server Manager - Event Viewer enhancements - VM? Hyper-V for VMs 	None	Ended 2020
<u>WS 2008 R2</u>	Oct 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PowerShell 2.0 - Remote Desktop Services - 64-bit only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DirectAccess - Enhanced BitLocker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved Server Manager - Remote management - VM? Hyper-V improvements 	- Basic Azure integration	Ended 2020
<u>WS 2012</u>	Sep 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hyper-V 3.0 - Storage Spaces - ReFS file system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dynamic Access Control - IP Address Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Server Manager GUI - PowerShell 3.0 - VM? Enhanced Hyper-V - Live migration 	- Early Azure integration	Ended 2023

<u>Version</u>	<u>Release</u>	<u>Key Features</u>	<u>Security Features</u>	<u>Management Tools & Virtualization (VM)</u>	<u>Cloud Integration</u>	<u>Support Lifecycle</u>
<u>WS 2012 R2</u>	Oct 2013	- Work Folders - Desired State Configuration - PowerShell 4.0	- Workplace Join - Multi-factor authentication	- Improved Server Manager - Azure Backup support - VM? Hyper-V replica enhancements	- Azure Backup - Hybrid cloud support	Ended 2023
<u>WS 2016</u>	Oct 2016	- Nano Server - Containers (Docker support) - PowerShell 5.0	- Shielded VMs - Windows Defender - Credential Guard	- Windows Admin Center (Project Honolulu) - System Insights - VM? Hyper-V improvements - Container support	- Azure Site Recovery - Hybrid cloud	-Mainstream 2022 -Extended 2027
<u>WS 2019</u>	Oct 2018	- Windows Admin Center - System Insights with ML - Kubernetes support	- Windows Defender ATP - Encrypted networks - Secured-core features	- Enhanced Windows Admin Center - PowerShell 5.1 - VM? Improved container support - Hyper-V shielded VMs	- Azure hybrid capabilities - Storage Migration Service	-Mainstream 2024 -Extended 2029
<u>WS 2022</u>	Aug 2021	- Secured-core server - HTTP/3 and QUIC - ASP.NET Core 6	- Hardware root-of-trust - TLS 1.3 - VBS for malware protection	- Windows Admin Center updates - PowerShell 7 support - VM? Nested virtualization - Kubernetes IPv6 support	- Azure Arc integration - Hotpatching (Azure Edition)	-Mainstream 2026 -Extended 2031
<u>WS 2025</u>	Nov 2024	- NUMA support for AD - Hotpatching (Standard/Datacenter) - Accelerated Networking	- Enhanced AD security - 32k-page database - Object repair tools	- Advanced performance counters - PowerShell enhancements - VM? Dynamic processor compatibility - SR-IOV for VMs	- Azure Arc-enabled management - Deep Azure integration	-Mainstream 2029 -Extended 2034

References

List of Microsoft Windows versions. (2025, May 23).

In *Wikipedia*. https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=List_of_Microsoft_Windows_versions&oldid=XXXXXXX

Microsoft. (n.d.). *Windows Server release information*. Retrieved May 23, 2025, from <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/get-started/windows-server-release-info>

Microsoft Windows version history. (2025, May 23).

In *Wikipedia*. https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Microsoft_Windows_version_history&oldid=XXXXXXX

Windows Server. (2025, May 25). In *Wikipedia*. https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Windows_Server&oldid=XXXXXXX

Windows Server versions and their timeline. (n.d.). iTechtics. Retrieved May 25, 2025, from <https://www.itechtics.com/windows-server-versions/>