

## Re: Advice needed – running Exchange

---

*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2007-04/msg02231.html>

---

- *From:* Mike <[Mike@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Mike@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 13 Apr 2007 11:52:00 -0700
- 

E.,

Thanks for the info. As far as setting up the drives, the way I partitioned this server is with a 30Gb partition for the OS and 100Gb set aside for Exchange, but all the drives are part of an Raid 5 array, and I can't repartition (I don't think). Could I put the logs on either a mapped or USB drive, or would the performance suffer, or is that just a bad idea in general.

thanks,

Mike

"E. Palmer" wrote:

Hi,

I do not agree that you need a second NIC, however I think you should step up the functionality of your hardware firewall and get a Sonicwall TZ170 or similar device with gateway AV and more advanced functions. Either that or do get the second NIC and learn how to run ISA. You want 'layered security' and a better firewall will help. You should also have an Exchange specific AV solution.

I do not agree that this is so easy to administer, you will spend some time on it and your super is right to be concerned about how much time you will spend, however, Exchange is totally great and worth it. Making the change from POP3 to Exchange is easy for experienced people but still requires doing things. I first moved to a third party POP3 connector (Native POP3 by MAPILABS) so that I could pick up POP3 mail and leave it on the ISP POP3 server, and also schedule pickups better than the stock connector. But eventually the reason to leave mail on server, which is to allow users to pick up mail from two or three locations outside the office, becomes moot when you implement Outlook with HTTP over RPC. Which is the greatest thing since..... When you get the HTTP over RPC going you eliminate the need for 'leave mail on server' because you always have all your mail, including sent items, calendar, contacts, etc. in all places all the time. You can't do

Re: Advice needed – running Exchange

that with your POP3 scheme. I can't tell you how this has changed my and everyones life because finally everything is consolidated and available from anywhere. Think about how many copies of contacts in various different computer pst's you have under the POP3 scenario, yuk. In addition, calendar shares and other integration become easy and fun.

So, absolutely go for it, but you need to have your organizations DNS parameters set up, and you need to read and understand what the steps are, there are quite a few and not so obvious. I went through a couple situations when moving the pst's around and stuff that ended up with alot of double emails, and other issues that freaked things out It will take time and energy to get going, but once it is, everyone will love it. Get the Harry Brelsford book Advanced SBS 2003 Best Practices.

Set your drives up from the beginning to be separate from your other system drives, you should have dedicated physical drives for the Exchange stores and a separate one for the Exchange logs. This is important not only because of performance, but also how you back up and are then able to restore in the event of nasties. I much prefer an imaging based backup solution rather than the stock SBS backup. When you restore, you do it from an image rather than having to reload the OS an then go through the SBS restore. Hopefully you will never have to experience that.

Prior to SBS R2 the Exchange store has a 16gb limit anyway I believe, so 100gb will not be used well, but these days who cares.

There are a lot of posts about this, check em out.

Sincerely

"Mike" wrote:

Owen,

I don't know exactly what I would need to use, whether it be POP3 or SMTP, although I know most prefer SMTP as you mention. Would the benefit of POP3 be that all of the e-mail is still flowing through the ISP and in a Exchange disaster, e-mail would still flow?

Thanks,  
Mike

"Owen Williams [SBS MVP]" wrote:

Re: Advice needed – running Exchange

In article

<0A5CB6D3-60F3-46B9-84E7-58B1C5B71864@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, Mike@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx says...

This is encouraging so far. I am running SBS 2003 Premium, and I set aside a 100G partition for Exchange, do you think that will be good enough? Also, do you use the POP3 Connector to you ISP?

I have several small (SBS + 4 to 6 workstations) non-profit clients. Your Exchange partition size will depend on [1] number of mailboxes, [2] maximum size of a mailbox, [3] whether or not you use Public Folders, and [4] leaving enough space for occasional information store maintenance. The information stores on the servers I manage are all under 2GB, so depending on your client's particulars, 100GB may be overkill for an Exchange partition. But it really depends on the client's requirements and expectations.

The POP3 Connector takes a lot of bashing in this newsgroup. While it has its quirks and could certainly be improved, I have successfully used it at my non-profit clients, sometimes for years before converting to direct SMTP. [One is still using it (since Jan 2005) since there is an issue with the web hosting provider owning the client's domain name and therefore the MX record.] The POP3 Connector's greatest virtue in this market is that it is included with SBS – I have yet to meet a non-profit which said "money is no object!" ;-)

Having said all that, moving to Exchange (whether SMTP or POP3 Connector) from direct Outlook or Outlook Express POP3 retrieval has \*many\* benefits and all of my clients are glad they are using it.

Re: Advice needed – running Exchange

— Owen Williams (SBS MVP)