

Re: TS newbie OS question

Source:

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- *From:* mcseman <mcseman@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 2 Feb 2009 13:25:02 -0800
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Thanks all very much for your advice

Stuart

"TP" wrote:

Hi Stuart,

In the vast majority of [TS] cases the decision is between Standard 32-bit or Standard x64 versions, **not** between Standard or Enterprise. Standard 32-bit is limited to 4GB of RAM whereas Standard 64-bit is limited to 32GB of RAM. They cost the same.

Most applications will run fine under x64, however, there are some that will not so testing is essential. The other thing to consider is that you need 64-bit print drivers for your printers, or purchase a third-party universal printer driver solution.

Memory is so inexpensive now that it usually makes sense to purchase a server with 8, 16, or 32GB of RAM.

As Benny mentioned, a single server with 4GB may not be enough for 20 users. It all depends on what applications they will use as well as how they use them. For example, if each user uses Word, Excel, etc., plus IE for browsing you are likely to have slow performance at times.

For new servers I recommend running 64-bit, unless there is a application compatibility issue. In that case I recommend running 2008 w/Hyper-V (or VMware) as the host with a 32-bit OS running in a VM for the TS.

To be more complete I will say there are times when it makes sense to run Enterprise 32-bit. For example, you are forced to run 32-bit due to compatibility **and** you

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need to have many users (on one box) *and/or* high memory use per user. In the above case Enterprise 32-bit will allow you use more than 4GB of RAM thus keeping hard paging to a minimum.

-TP

David wrote:

Hi all

We are hoping to install a Windows 2003 TS in our SBS 2k3 network to support up to a maximum of 20 users and would like to know which version of Windows 2003 (standard or enterprise) to install. We do not want to go to TS 2008 as we are not familiar with this os yet and do not feel a live TS would be a wise learning tool.

Thanks

Stuart