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How to Choose a VPS Host ?

VPS, in other words Virtual Private Server is a service which helps any service provider to transform their single server into multiple virtual servers. By this service any service provider would be able to host a variety of entities but all of that using entirely one server. Thus it enables the sharing of a single server by multiple customers at the same time and that too using the same hardware as well as the same connection. But there are no drawbacks of this service even if it is allowing the sharing of one server by multiple users. In fact you will be astounded to know that it provides quality service just like any other single server hosting and at the same time gives you the opportunity to access the service in all safety. Thus this is the best that you can get; privacy and performance all at the same time and all of this at a much lower price than any dedicated hosting service.

Not only the above-mentioned aspects, some other relevant features are also delivered to the customers- be it the installation of software or rebooting the server or altering the configuration of the server. Well, this is simply stated that if you want to shift from a shared hosting to a dedicated hosting keeping the cost same and if safety and accessibility are the salient features needed for you, this is ideal. It goes almost without saying that for the online business owners, this might prove to be a helpful idea to invest in a VPS hosting because the cost is even as cheap as \$10/month with some service providers. This is well known that the operating system and the file system of all customers are utterly different and it is possible for the customers to avail a healthy portion of the server if it is all about the CPU, network and the disk input and output.

Another plus point of the hosting service is that even if you plan to sell the service off then too you are in advantage since the added services that your hosting will be able to offer to the customers gives you an edge over other hosting services. If you now reconsider selling and want to use the service to develop any social networking group or site then too VPS is your best shot. All of you out there who feel more at home using a shared hosting rather than a dedicated one but at the same time want privacy for their identity, for them too VPS is the best. You could install applications and even change applications of the server at will, whenever you want to. Further security is guaranteed since VPS environment software is unique for every single user and moreover this system has features which reduce interception possibilities significantly.

An initial and the entry level web hosting plan endows you with things like PHP/MySQL, etc., having limited disk space on a shared server. Whereas, co-location puts the hardware in your grip and you simply have to rent an Internet connection and a rack space from data center. VPS hosting stands between these two like a connector. VPS option is inexpensive and perfect if you can't afford a co-location web hosting plan but want to avail a shared hosting.

As for the lower expenses, a dedicated web hosting plan is at least better than co-locating. Let it put in this manner that this is priced bearing in mind the competitive market. A dedicated host endows you with a dedicated server. Its cost is not as low as a VPS web hosting plan but it is well within your reach. As far as its scheme is concerned, you do get the server from the host company but you don't need to hire the rack space for the server like you need to do in co-location.

VPS web hosting plan certainly gives you some advantages and they are:

It endows you with a root access and with the aid of this; you can accomplish the installation and configuration of any program.

Provides features which enables hosting of multiple sites by using virtual hosts that are provided by Apache.

Added to this, you also get an FTP server, a mail server, and any other server that you are in need of.

These are immensely helpful in order to store files or as backup or for something else.

Certain disadvantages accrue to the VPS web hosting plans as well, which are mentioned below:

As a VPS web host allows you to fully control the server, you become primarily responsible for anything that you do. Installation, security, maintenance you become responsible for all your actions. So if you don't have enough expertise on looking after a Linux Server, this may pose a big problem.

In this format, you have the operating system in your grip but on the other hand, you are in extreme need of sharing RAM, CPU, etc. (i.e. hardware resources) with other users of the VPS on the same host. This is quite a problematic issue. So, for top quality requirements and using resources like RAM at random, a co-location or a dedicated server is perhaps the best option to look for.

How does it work?

A combination of many technologies makes running a VPS possible. Some of them are the Virtual PC by Microsoft, the User Mode Linux by Open Source, and XEN, the latest one. XEN is actually getting rave reviews from the media. There is also a possibility of it being combined with the forthcoming Linux distribution. Web developers will only benefit from it, since it will give them more freedom at a very cheap cost.

You may ask what you will get if you use a VPS account. Firstly, you will get the access to core areas of your server. As said earlier, if you are good at working on a Linux server, you can have full access and control over everything that you wish to do. But since it gives you the liberty of unlimited control, you will be liable for anything that you do. So if you are not comfortable with Linux, VPS is not meant for you.

Well, a free lowing liberty and immense control don't mean that you need to build the whole operating system from the very outset. They generally provide disk images to choose from and they also do possess a good many number of distribution in the default configurations. Configuration on the VPS is done within a twinkling of an eye provided you select the disk image. Once the account is ready, you are endowed with the root access via SSH letting you do anything.

Like in any other aspect, the cost factor is very significant. VPS prices vary within the range of a monthly amount of \$20 to \$100. Price doesn't necessarily exhibit the quality and it is always wise to begin with lower range providing 64MB RAM and a 2GB disk space if you are devoid of a profound knowledge of VPS web host functioning. Don't worry because you can always go on to the upper range. Let's assume that you have a small budget but brilliant ideas for your business, don't hesitate to go for the higher price band.

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