

Which gaming server is the best choice for your Minecraft community?

A guide to the pros and cons of virtual private servers and dedicated servers.

White Paper by



How to choose between a virtual private server (VPS) and a dedicated server for your Minecraft gaming needs.

You want to ensure a great Minecraft gaming experience. You need dedicated resources, robust bandwidth, high-level scalability, maximum uptime and no latency. Virtual private servers and dedicated servers will deliver that, but in different ways and at different costs. A VPS is much more affordable and offers virtual isolation and no physical server maintenance, but at the cost of direct control of the hardware. A dedicated server gives you physical isolation and full control over your software and hardware, but it's more expensive and scaling resources is more taxing on you. So which is right for you? Let's take a more in-depth look at both.

Why choose a VPS for Minecraft?

You want the right place to host your online Minecraft server. Your server must be able to deliver optimal performance that matches the game's requirements. The price/performance ratio is also a significant deciding factor, so you don't go over budget. There is good news – a VPS meets all of these criteria.

VPS vs. Shared

- ▶ Greater bandwidth and processing power
- ▶ Better security and privacy
- ▶ Scale and upgrade at any time

First, let's look at how a VPS compares to shared hosting.

With a VPS, you will share a server's resources with other accounts, but unlike shared hosting, your portion of the server is fully isolated and dedicated just to your needs. The CPU and bandwidth are yours alone, which means you'll have greater bandwidth and processing power and better security and privacy than with shared server hosting. Another big advantage a VPS has over shared hosting is that you can scale and upgrade with more space, power, memory and bandwidth at any time to ensure smooth Minecraft gameplay.

So, while a VPS is a little more expensive than shared hosting, the benefits far outweigh the additional cost. Many may enjoy playing on publicly accessible servers, but private gaming servers are becoming increasingly popular for those who want to isolate a world, build it with their friends or community, and play by their own set of rules.

If you choose an unmanaged VPS, you'll need to configure the server demands and control your server manually. This requires technical skill and time before you can start playing. With a managed VPS, the hosting provider handles the control panel and system configurations, but for an increased cost.

Now, let's compare a VPS to a dedicated server.

A VPS offers a lot of the same great benefits as a dedicated server, but it's more affordable and flexible. It's functionally similar to a dedicated server but with a much lower price tag. Like a dedicated server, the allocated resources of a VPS are dedicated solely to you — so you get lightning-speed performance, quick landscape rendering and lag-free gameplay without any impact from neighboring customers.

Think of it as renting a condo rather than a whole house. With a VPS, you can usually customize your plan with just the features you want, so you're not paying for a lot of space and resources you don't need. And you don't have to worry about dedicating time, energy and expense to software and hardware maintenance. This is why a lot of gamers are opting for VPS hosting rather than dedicated server hosting.

If you have a low-to-medium level of traffic, a VPS is a good choice because it gives you many more advantages over shared hosting. And if you are looking for a cost-effective way of hosting private Minecraft servers with a group of other players, then a VPS is the right solution for you. However, if you have a high level of traffic or you have unique hosting needs, you should consider a dedicated server.

So why choose a dedicated server?

With a vibrant online community and a wide range of unique mods and mini-games, there are more ways to play Minecraft than ever before. Seamless, responsive gameplay is now the industry standard that all hosting providers offering private servers for Minecraft players are expected to deliver.

Dedicated vs VPS

- ▶ Full control over your physical hardware
- ▶ Full control over your software
- ▶ 100% of the server's resources and disk space is yours

As mentioned, the leading advantage of a dedicated server is that you have full control over the actual physical hardware inside your server and the software that's running on it. With your own Minecraft server, 100% of the server's resources and disk space are available for you to allocate and rent out as game servers, with no need for a virtualization layer.

You can optimize all elements of the games you host, ensuring your end users enjoy the best experience possible, 24/7, wherever they are located. You are free to configure your hosting environment in the way that best suits you and your community and implement the tools you want, including your choice of control panel. This gives you the opportunity to build and develop professional-quality gaming environments from the ground up, just as your players build their unique Minecraft worlds, with new servers ready to deploy.

Lastly, why choose an OVHcloud Game server?

Whether virtual or dedicated, OVHcloud has a Game server that will fit your needs. Our servers are assembled and configured to deliver powerful performance. You can rest assured that the resources are allocated to you, so you get robust performance. We provide clear information on pricing, services and options. All of our solutions include benefits such as unmetered ingress and egress traffic and anti-DDoS (distributed denial of service) protection.

Online games, including Minecraft, are common targets for DDoS attacks, which is why all OVHcloud Game servers are equipped with our DDoS Game protection to ensure your server is protected in the event of any attack, so your end users don't experience any interruptions to gameplay. OVHcloud anti-DDoS protection offers a high level of security to protect against various types of volume-based protocol and application layer attacks.

Our recommended VPS options.

Smooth gameplay and flexibility are vital aspects of the ultimate gaming experience, which you only get with dedicated computing resources. But if a dedicated server is beyond your price range, technical skills and resource needs, an OVHcloud VPS can be an affordable and reliable solution for you. It can serve as a cost-effective way of hosting a private Minecraft server with a group or community of players.

With our VPS, you get root access, so you are free to configure your VPS and adapt it to your needs. To achieve the most out of your VPS, install the operating system you want. Choose the option that suits you best, either a Windows or Linux server. Since Linux is free, you won't pay any additional licensing fees. Linux also provides very detailed documentation for uses such as creating a video game server.

The flexibility of a VPS is essential when your community grows with new players, or you want to install new mods without any impact on the gaming experience. You can add resources at any time to keep up with your changing needs. And you can increase your processor, RAM and disk space in just a few clicks via the OVHcloud Control Panel.

ESSENTIAL VPS

Our recommendation for 1 to 40 players

- ▶ 2 vCore
- ▶ 4 GB
- ▶ 80 GB SSD NVMe

ELITE VPS

Our recommendation for 1 to 80 players

- ▶ 8 vCore
- ▶ From 8 GB to 32 GB
- ▶ From 160 GB to 640 GB SSD NVME

Our recommended dedicated server options.

With AMD Ryzen processors, based on ZEN 2 architecture, our Bare Metal Dedicated Servers provide users with an incredible gaming experience. We have a vigorous vetting process when choosing components for our Game server range to deliver a fantastic gaming experience.

Our anti-DDoS protection system, included with all of our Game servers, is continuously optimized to keep up with the latest video game releases and offers high levels of efficiency and robustness. The system is designed to prevent any downtime in case of a DDoS attack, allowing players to continue their gaming experience seamlessly.

Our Game servers have up to 1Gbit/s bandwidth to process traffic without compromising service availability. With data centers around the globe, you can choose to lease servers closest to where your gamers are located, resulting in lower latency for a more enjoyable gaming experience. It's a powerful solution for professional resellers and publishers, having robust performance at an affordable price.

RISE-GAME-1 DEDICATED SERVER

Our recommendation for 1 to unlimited players

- ▶ AMD Ryzen 5 3600X
- ▶ 6 c/12 t - 3.80GHz/4.40GHz
- ▶ 2 x 500GB SSD NVMe Soft RAID
- ▶ 64GB DDR4 ECC 2666MHz

GAME-2 DEDICATED SERVER

Our recommendation for 1 to unlimited players

- ▶ AMD Ryzen 7 5800X
- ▶ 8 c/16 t - 3.80GHz/4.70GHz
- ▶ 2 x 960GB SSD NVMe Soft RAID
- ▶ 64GB DDR4 ECC 2666MHz

The team at OVHcloud can help you choose the best Game server solution based on your requirements and budget and, of course, offer you all the technical support you need.



OVHcloud US is a subsidiary of OVHcloud, a global player and Europe's leading cloud provider operating more than 400,000 servers within 43 data centers across four continents. For over 20 years, the company has relied on an integrated model that provides complete control of its value chain, from the design of its servers to the construction and management of its data centers, including the orchestration of its fiber-optic network. This unique approach allows it to independently cover all the uses of its 1.6 million customers in more than 140 countries. OVHcloud now offers latest generation solutions combining performance, price predictability, and total sovereignty over their data to support their growth in complete freedom.



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