Subject: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by genetix on Wed, 01 Oct 2008 06:16:01 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

It's official. Dream Spark / Channel 8 at microsoft has officially added Windows Server 2k8 to their list of supported programs!

For anyone that was running a demo(like I was) you can now activate it.
https://downloads.channel8.msdn.com/Products/win_2008_server_stan.aspx

Go to your computer's control panel, then system, go to the bottom, change your serial, hit next and your done. Free Win Server 2k8!

I've been running it as a desktop on my workstation and laptop for a while now and its awesome. Now it's all activated and legit. No more demo license.

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by nikki6ixx on Wed, 01 Oct 2008 17:56:27 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

That's very cool, although I'm not sure exactly what use I'd have for it; especially with my single-core laptop.

I think I may give it a try, seeing as it sounds like it can run on leaner hardware than Vista.

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by danpaul88 on Wed, 01 Oct 2008 19:12:36 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

It's been available through MSDNAA (A Microsoft program that universities and such can sign up to to allow all their students to download free Microsoft software) for ages...

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by _SSnipe_ on Wed, 01 Oct 2008 19:25:03 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

What are windows servers for? wikipedias to much info on its specs not the simple line of what it can do basically

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by Chuck Norris on Wed, 01 Oct 2008 19:50:41 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I was under the impression that this "free" Server 2008 had a time limitation on it? It's been available at Microsoft's page for a while too, but it has a time limit (IIRC). Server 2008 is basically Vista (just like Server 2003 is XP), but it performs better.

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by danpaul88 on Wed, 01 Oct 2008 21:19:49 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

The version on MSDNAA is a fully licensed version, but the license explicitly states it CANNOT be used for commercial purposes, it is for educational and personal use only. Same deal with Vista, XP and any other Microsoft software through MSDNAA.

I would guess this dreamland site has similar licensing terms.

Basically, it means you cannot (legally) use it directly or indirectly in anything that would make you money.

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by Chuck Norris on Thu, 02 Oct 2008 00:50:25 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Wait, if that's the case, why doesn't your average home user just go and download it (and all versions of Windows as they appear there) for free? Seems like there's a catch I'm missing. I don't think Microsoft is making Windows free to everyone except corporations and the like.

What difference is there from that to this?

http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/evalcenter/cc137123.aspx

That's a "full version", but it's catch is that it has a time limit.

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by genetix on Thu, 02 Oct 2008 00:59:16 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Here's the deal. Yes there is another program that provides microsoft software for free. But unless your the dean or technical head of a university don't expect to get it.

Dreamspark is the same program only students are free to register. It doesn't provide things like Windows Vista Ultimate. Microsoft is giving away developement tools to students so they learn

how to use their software and use it for work later on... Not a bad idea.

Why do I find it useful? Windows Server 2k8 = Windows Vista completely stripped down. When you start up windows server 2k8 it includes the necessities for windows to start up. You are then presented with "Server Manager" which allows you to decide what you want on your OS. There's also no hardware limitations like Vista Basic or whatever they call it. Vista drivers work fine on server 2k8 because it's the same foundation.

Oh ya... Windows Vista has some major wired networking issues. Server's operate off wired networking. It works great. Install the wireless feature that vista uses and you now have a laptop that works properly.

I was going to resort back to windows XP on my new laptop but now I'm able to keep all the features like the quick launch buttons that are on it. The second time my computer booted up it was with the Windows 2k8 setup disc in the CD drive. It won't start up again with vista on it.

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by IronWarrior on Fri, 03 Oct 2008 15:20:25 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

My College is not listed, so it sucks. :/

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by JPNOD on Fri, 03 Oct 2008 17:58:49 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I can get more software with my MSDN account, but its definitly not free. You get it because your are a student so you can get into studying 2008 if you like. And to be honest its not a bad idea to get that certificate.

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by JPNOD on Fri, 03 Oct 2008 18:01:15 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

SSnipe wrote on Wed, 01 October 2008 15:25What are windows servers for? wikipedias to much info on its specs not the simple line of what it can do basically

System Management from one place.

You can modify 200 PC's for a example by applying group policy's.

Just google up:

Active directory.
DNS
DHCP
Terminal Server
DFS root
Group policy (GPO)

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by Jonty on Sat, 04 Oct 2008 20:51:42 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

The Release Candidate of Server 2k8 I tested was stupidly slow... and this was on a dual-core 2.3Ghz Xeon server. I think I'll stick with Server 2003 at work for now, although if the opportunity ever arises I'm definitely switching to a Linux/Samba PDC.

Subject: Re: Windows Server 2008 For Free!
Posted by genetix on Sun, 05 Oct 2008 01:46:24 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Jonty wrote on Sat, 04 October 2008 14:51The Release Candidate of Server 2k8 I tested was stupidly slow... and this was on a dual-core 2.3Ghz Xeon server. I think I'll stick with Server 2003 at work for now, although if the opportunity ever arises I'm definitely switching to a Linux/Samba PDC.

I ran 2k3 on my desktop/server before using 2k8 and I actually found 2k8 to start up and run faster...