What Is a VPS (Virtual Private Server)? How It Differs from Shared Hosting, Who Manages It, and When You Need One

Web Hosting · https://www.hyyat.com/en/knowledgebase/vps-virtual-servers/

The short versionA VPS is a virtual server running on a large physical server, but its resources (CPU, memory and disk) are **dedicated to you alone**, and you get full **root** access: install and configure whatever you like. It is the next step after shared hosting, when your site needs guaranteed resources or custom software.

Embedded media: https://www.hyyat.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/11/hyyat-hm-vps-en.mp4?_=1

If shared hosting is a flat in a building, a VPS is a detached house in a gated estate: the land and wall are shared, but the whole house is yours to change inside. The physical server is split by virtualisation into independent servers, each with its own operating system and resources.

A quick comparison



	Shared	VPS	Dedicated
Resources	Shared in portions	Dedicated to you	The whole physical server
Access	Your account only	Full root	Full root
Management	Us	You or us	You or us
Flexibility	Limited	High	Highest
Cost	Lowest	Medium	Highest

Managed or unmanaged?

	Unmanaged	Managed
Who installs, updates and secures	You	We do

	Unmanaged	Managed
Suits	Someone with Linux skills or a tech team	Owners who want to focus on their business
You need	SSH, commands and security know-how	To tell us what you need

If you choose unmanaged, start with securing your server after delivery. If you want us to run it, server management explains what we do.

When you need a VPS

- Your site keeps hitting resource limits despite optimisation.
- You need software, a PHP version or a database with server-level custom settings.
- You host several client sites and want them separated with a panel such as cPanel/WHM.
- You run a custom app in a language such as Node.js or Python.

The signs in detail: when to move from shared hosting to a VPS.

A real-world example: A growing shop keeps hitting resource limits during promotions despite caching and image optimisation. Moving to a VPS gives it fixed resources it shares with no one, plus a control panel it already knows.
A mistake to avoid: Buying an unmanaged VPS without experience and leaving it without updates or a firewall. An exposed server is targeted soon after it goes online. If unsure, choose managed.
At Hyyat Host: VPS servers with a control panel for the server itself (power, reinstall, console), with an optional fully managed service: VPS servers.

What you need to run a VPS yourself

- SSH access and basic Linux commands.
- A firewall and regular system updates.
- Off-server backups.
- Monitoring of resources and logs.

If this list feels unfamiliar, it does not mean a VPS is not for you; it means the managed option suits you better.

VPS or cloud servers?

The two terms overlap a lot in hosting offers. The practical difference: a VPS usually comes with fixed resources and a monthly plan, while a cloud server is often built on a pool of servers and can be resized quickly. Cloud servers are explained in what are cloud servers, and common questions about both in cloud server and VPS FAQ.

The first hour after receiving your VPS

1. **Change the root password** or use SSH keys: SSH keys.
2. **Update the system** before installing anything.
3. **Turn on the firewall** and open only the ports you need: the firewall.
4. **Take a snapshot** before any major change: snapshots.
5. **Choose a control panel** if you need one: the best VPS control panels.

The full guide to the server panel is in the Hyyat Host VPS control panel guide.

The summary for quick readers

- Dedicated resources and full root access.
- Managed if you lack experience, unmanaged if you have it.
- Move when the signs appear, not at the first slowdown.

Frequently asked

Can I install cPanel on a VPS?
Yes, with a cPanel licence, or another panel: the best VPS control panels.

Is a VPS always faster?
Its resources are fixed, but an unoptimised site stays slow on any server.

Will you move my site from shared hosting to a VPS?

Yes, contact us to arrange it.

What is the difference between a VPS and cloud?

The terms overlap. What matters: dedicated resources, full access, and who manages the server.

Need this service from Hyyat Host?Our team handles it for you, with support replying to tickets within 24 hours at most.

Server Managementdedicated server