What Is Windows Hosting? When You Really Need It (ASP.NET and MSSQL), and When Linux Hosting Is Enough

Web Hosting · https://www.hyyat.com/en/knowledgebase/what-is-windows-hosting/

The short version Windows hosting runs on **Windows Server**. You only need it if your site uses Microsoft technologies such as legacy **ASP.NET** or relies on an **MSSQL** database. WordPress, PHP and MySQL, which cover most sites, belong on Linux hosting with cPanel. The operating system on your own computer has nothing to do with it.

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A common question: “My computer runs Windows, so do I need Windows hosting?” No. The hosting type is decided by **the code your site is built with**, not the device you use. You can manage Linux hosting from any Windows PC, Mac or phone.

Linux or Windows?



	Linux hosting	Windows hosting
Languages	PHP, Python, Node.js and more	ASP.NET and .NET Framework, plus PHP
Databases	MySQL and MariaDB	MSSQL and MySQL
Typical control panel	cPanel	Plesk
WordPress and common shops	Their natural home	They work, with no added benefit
Cost	Usually lower	Usually higher because of Windows licensing

When you really need Windows

- A site or system written in ASP.NET Web Forms or the older .NET Framework.
- An application tied to an MSSQL database that cannot be converted.

- Business software that explicitly requires Windows Server.

Worth knowing: modern versions of .NET also run on Linux, so not every .NET app needs Windows any more. Ask the app's developer before choosing.

Before you decide

- WordPress or PHP? Linux: shared hosting or WordPress hosting.
- A modern .NET app? Ask the developer whether it runs on Linux.
- Requires Windows Server and MSSQL? It needs its own Windows server: VPS.

A real-world example: A company has a legacy internal system on ASP.NET with MSSQL, plus a WordPress brochure site. The answer: the site on Linux hosting, the system on a separate Windows server. No need to move the site to Windows.

At Hyyat Host: Our shared, WordPress and business hosting run on Linux with cPanel. If you have an application that needs Windows, open a support ticket with the technology and database and we will suggest the right setup.

A mistake to avoid: Choosing Windows because "the site will work better with my computer". The two are unrelated, and you pay more for nothing.

How to tell what your site is built with

- Page extensions: .aspx means ASP.NET, .php means PHP.
- A web.config file in the site root usually points to a Windows setup.
- wp-config.php and wp-content mean WordPress, i.e. Linux.
- If you have a developer, just ask for the "programming language and database".

The summary for quick readers

- Your site's code, not your computer, decides the hosting type.
- Windows for legacy ASP.NET and MSSQL.
- WordPress and PHP belong on Linux.

Frequently asked

Can I upload files from a Windows PC to Linux hosting?

Yes, with File Manager or FTP from any system.

Does WordPress run on Windows?

It does, but it is built mainly for Linux, and most plugins are tested there.

What is Plesk?

A popular control panel on Windows and Linux servers: the best VPS control panels.

Is the speed difference big?

Speed depends far more on the server and the site than on the operating system.

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

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