

CHOOSING THE RIGHT HOSTING (BUYER'S GUIDE)

The hosting type you choose sets the foundation for performance, scalability, and security. Use this checklist to research options and evaluate providers before committing.

How to Use This Checklist

1. Match hosting types against your site's needs (traffic, complexity, budget).
2. Weigh benefits vs. drawbacks for each option.
3. Use the questions below to filter hosting providers.
4. Choose a host that can support your site now and as it grows.

Shared Hosting

- Considered only for small, low-traffic sites on a tight budget.
 - Easy setup with cPanel or Plesk included.
- Drawbacks:** performance dips, security risks, limited customization.

Dedicated Hosting

- Reviewed for high-traffic or mission-critical needs.
 - Full server control and priority support.
- Drawbacks:** expensive, complex, may waste unused capacity.

VPS Hosting

- Evaluated as a middle ground (dedicated resources at lower cost). Customization flexibility reviewed.
- **Drawbacks:** requires technical management, higher cost than Shared.

Cloud Hosting

- Researched for scalability and high availability.
 - Pay-as-you-go pricing model understood.
- Drawbacks:** technical complexity, variable costs, shared-cloud security setup.

Managed WordPress Hosting

- Evaluated for WordPress-only optimization (backups, updates, security, caching).
- Verified staging environments and expert support availability.

Drawbacks: higher cost, limited server access, plugin restrictions.

Enterprise WordPress Hosting

- Considered for high-traffic, multi-site, or mission-critical WordPress platforms.
- Confirmed enterprise-grade features (HA clusters, dual firewalls, adaptive caching, autoscaling).

Drawbacks: premium pricing, not suited for small sites.

8 Essential Questions to Ask Any Host

- How long have you been in business?
- Will you migrate my sites, and is it free?
- What type of support is included (24/7, WordPress-specific)?
- Do you provide automated backups, and where are they stored?
- How does your infrastructure handle sudden traffic spikes?
- What built-in security protections do you include?
- Do you charge for overages (bandwidth, visitors, storage)?
- What other features make site management easier (SSL, staging, dashboard)?



Pro Tip: Don't just compare specs. Compare support, scalability, and transparency. A host that invests in infrastructure and WordPress expertise saves you more in the long run.