

aws marketplace

Varnish Enterprise

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users



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Product Recap



Varnish Enterprise

Varnish Enterprise Recap

Varnish Enterprise significantly boosts web performance through advanced caching, enhancing content delivery and handling high traffic volumes. The tool's customization with VCL and robust SSL/TLS support ensure adaptable, secure, and efficient operations across various industries, making it a critical solution for dynamic and high-demand websites.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- ✓ “Before and after implementation, there was a marked difference in the speed of the systems, and the users noticed it as well.”



Arkajyoti Misra

Associate Director (Engineering & Innovation) at Husk Power Systems

- ✓ “The tool is really easy to install, very light, and extremely fast.”



Rogier Timmermans

Lead Engineer VOD & OTT at VOO

- ✓ “The reduction in latency with Varnish Enterprise has affected business outcomes positively because the conversion rate of search for the suggestions shown to users has been significantly higher than for the search pages they land on by manually typing out the whole query.”



Verified user

Senior Engineer at a retailer with 5,001-10,000 employees

- ✔ “Varnish Enterprise has positively impacted my organization because the response time is an upgrade, as the response time for HTTP requests is more efficient and quick.”



Verified user

Web Commerce Developer at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

What users had to say about valuable features:

“In my opinion, the best features Varnish Enterprise offers are excellent. What makes those features stand out for me is the flexibility and configuration options because we can edit mostly everything about the request and a specific response for a specific request.

“Varnish Enterprise has positively impacted my organization because the response time is an upgrade. The improved response time has benefited my organization as the response time for HTTP requests is more efficient and quick..”

Verified user

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Web Commerce Developer at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

“The best features of Varnish Enterprise include caching performance, which I believe is best in its class and was the main reason we selected it. Varnish Enterprise offers more granular control on the cache and cache control, allowing us to fine-tune the caching behavior and route traffic in a custom way. The cache control and invalidation logic enabled us to purge requests instantly, which was valuable.

“Varnish Enterprise has impacted my organization positively by showing marked improvement in the speed at which websites were being served. The clients were happy with that, and the people who owned or created those websites were satisfied. This had a positive impact, as we likely had more revenue as a result..”

Arkajyoti Misra

Associate Director (Engineering & Innovation) at Husk Power Systems

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“The programmability is fun to use. I get direct access to the pipeline. I use it to correct a few things that our clients and servers don't like. So I do some on-the-fly corrections and a little hacking, and it works better. The tool is really easy to install, very light, and extremely fast. It requires low maintenance. I'm quite pleased with the product. It is easy to learn the product. It's all documented properly.

The person who wants to learn the tool must know how to deal with such products. However, it is relatively simple. It's running well in our organization, and nobody needs to touch it. We haven't really touched any configuration in over a year as it's still working great. It has been running my same VCL code ever since initial deployment. It has been running stable since, apart from some minor optimizations here and there..”

Rogier Timmermans

Lead Engineer VOD & OTT at VOO

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“The best features Varnish Enterprise offers are the caching and the load balancing, which are the two main use cases for my organization.

“Varnish Enterprise stands out because it can be used to trim down the URL noise, which is really helpful in maintaining a very discreet cache. If users have different parameters but type one letter, they can all be shown the same suggestions regardless of their name or location. This has helped tremendously in cutting down the URL noise and has improved search traceability, aiding in investigating issues.

“Varnish Enterprise has positively impacted my organization by significantly reducing the API latency for my personal use case, and the same applies to other teams who use it..”

Verified user

Senior Engineer at a retailer with 5,001-10,000 employees


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Other Solutions Considered

“We implemented Varnish Enterprise by using the Helm charts that Varnish provides in the backend. It has been around three years since we did this implementation, so the exact details are a bit unclear, but I do remember the impact of it. We evaluated it against other solutions, including Fastly and Cloudflare, and Varnish Enterprise served us well..”

Arkajyoti Misra

Associate Director (Engineering & Innovation) at Husk Power Systems

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“We were using some vendor products before. They were relatively slow, and we had to add more servers as the vendor just likes to scale horizontally. The product was not performing well with increasing load and issues kept appearing leading to end-user impact and a lot of manual maintenance. We ended up with 20 servers for a very minimalistic setup. It did nothing and still had issues. I just googled a bit and chose Varnish (open source) to try it, impressed with the results we went for the Enterprise version to ensure support. .”

Rogier Timmermans

Lead Engineer VOD & OTT at VOO

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ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

“I do not recall the exact revenue figures, but the speed improvement was significant. It was at least a forty percent improvement in the speed at which websites loaded, which was great..”

Arkajyoti Misra

Associate Director (Engineering & Innovation) at Husk Power Systems

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“We have basic access to supportm but so far we're good with that. We got quite a good deal for three years, so I'm not unhappy with our investment. Our ROI seems to be quite decent for the deal we got in the end..”

Rogier Timmermans

Lead Engineer VOD & OTT at VOO

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Use Case

“My main use case for Varnish Enterprise is mostly cache. When I say mostly cache, I mean we get directly into Varnish and we edit the rules with VCL files..”

Verified user

Web Commerce Developer at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

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“Varnish Enterprise is primarily used by my organization to cache responses for quick suggestions for users. For example, when users visit IndiaMART and start typing in the search box, we show them a list of suggestions to choose from, which is the module I work on—the suggest module. The request goes through Varnish, and if the request is already present in Varnish, we provide the response back immediately. If it is not there, we proceed to hit the back end servers.

“Varnish Enterprise is also used by my organization as a load balancer..”

Verified user

Senior Engineer at a retailer with 5,001-10,000 employees

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“We implemented the solution for web caching in 2022. We auto-update the tool so that we don't face any security issues. We are a broadcasting company. We have many OTT clients that request a lot of images. We use a customized server that resizes images on the fly or transforms them in a different format. It's a legacy product. It's no longer fully supported. We don't have much choice there, but getting any fixes is difficult. However, with our growth and volume over the years, these things just don't cope anymore.

Ultimately, the traffic just kills the servers. So, we put Varnish in front of the cache and reduced the traffic to the service by about 98%. Instead of being bombarded with 40 million requests every day, it's now down to one million. We used more than 15 servers before. Now, with a bit of redundancy, we have reduced it to four. It is quite a lot. I haven't seen any issues on the server for one and a half years since we deployed Varnish, so it's pretty good..”

Rogier Timmermans

Lead Engineer VOD & OTT at VOO

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“My main use case for Varnish Enterprise was to provide speed improvements for websites that we were creating for our clients through a SaaS service, which was a no-code website builder. We wanted to have Varnish Enterprise as a caching layer in between.

“This specific example was part of the website builder itself. When people created their own websites, they were hosted in our system and served through the Varnish Enterprise layer, functioning as a private CDN. We had servers closer to user locations from which we served these websites. Before and after implementation, there was a marked difference in the speed of the systems, and the users noticed it as well. There was significant improvement in the user experience..”

Arkajyoti Misra

Associate Director (Engineering & Innovation) at Husk Power Systems

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Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

“Initially, I deployed the product using the open-source version, and I'm still running that VCL code. Technically, I can switch back to the open-source version at any point because I'm not running any enterprise code except for the service itself, makes negotiating for a good deal very effective too..”

Rogier Timmermans

Lead Engineer VOD & OTT at VOO

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Other Advice

“I do not want to add anything else about the features. The price and the feasibility of implementation keep Varnish Enterprise from being a perfect ten for me. I rate Varnish Enterprise overall as an eight out of ten..”

Verified user

Web Commerce Developer at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

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“The reduction in latency with Varnish Enterprise has affected business outcomes positively because the conversion rate of search for the suggestions shown to users has been significantly higher than for the search pages they land on by manually typing out the whole query. This is a clear conversion rate and is the KPI we always aim to improve.

“My advice for others looking into using Varnish Enterprise is to make sure that it justifies their use case and that it is not an overkill or an underkill for their particular requirement. I would rate this review an eight out of ten..”

Verified user

Senior Engineer at a retailer with 5,001-10,000 employees

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“My recommendation: it depends on the use cases. If you have a lot of files, if your servers get hammered quite badly, or if you are doing images or video delivery, first look at your traffic patterns and analyze what's going on. Generally, Varnish's out-of-the-box product is quite simple but the power comes from the VCL

code. Just running it should bring an improvement but make sure to look at the VCL code, the programmatic layer where we can play with the pipeline and make all kinds of adjustments.

We can filter, rectify or block things via VCL. The caching mechanisms ensure that all our clients receive proper delivery of their images. Traffic doesn't kill our legacy image servers anymore.

We connected our load balancer and configured Varnish to connect to the image servers to pick them up. The integration was very simple.

Our use case itself is quite simple. Overall, I rate the solution a nine out of ten, given that the monitoring and statistical analysis could be better. If we consider the product as a whole and look at the added value of Enterprise, I would rate it a six out of ten, but we do not use the features much. Enterprise has a nice UI where I can do basic monitoring. Though the UI is nice to have, I can also run it through the command line.

Overall, I rate the solution an eight and a half out of ten..”

Rogier Timmermans

Lead Engineer VOD & OTT at VOO

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“I would rate Varnish Enterprise at least eight out of ten.

“I chose eight out of ten because the product needs to work on the security part of things. Additionally, while it does give a lot of granular control, it requires a lot of effort to achieve those controls. There was considerable effort from our side to achieve those granular controls on the caching logic, invalidation, and other aspects. If those could be easier to accomplish, I would give it a ten.

“Regarding Varnish Enterprise's AI capabilities, I used it three years ago, and there were not many AI capabilities at that point in time, so I cannot comment on this. I did not have any experience with Varnish Enterprise's AI capabilities regarding the

accuracy and reliability of output.

“Varnish Enterprise is a great product because the core part works very well, achieving speed and cache validation, invalidation, and control logic. If those looking for these particular features, it is a great product. I have not seen the updated product and have not used it in the last couple of years, so I do not have any other thoughts.

“My overall rating for Varnish Enterprise is eight out of ten..”

Arkajyoti Misra

Associate Director (Engineering & Innovation) at Husk Power Systems

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