aws marketplace

CentOS

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users

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Product Recap

CentOS

CentOS Recap

CentOS offers a stable, secure, and compatible environment with Red Hat packages, providing robust performance and cost efficiency. Its lightweight, scalable design and strong community support make it ideal for handling heavy workloads with limited resources.

CentOS is a popular choice for organizations seeking reliable server and virtualization solutions. Known for its robust stability and security, it offers seamless integration and maintenance. However, after a shift from Red Hat, some challenges emerged, including weak NFS client performance and a more complex interface, which beginners find challenging alongside insufficient documentation. Despite these, CentOS remains a favored option for deploying web applications, server installations, and supporting cloud solutions, thanks to its efficient use in monitoring, databases, and telecommunications.

What are CentOS's key features?

- Stability: Maintains a consistent performance, essential for mission-critical environments.
- Security: Offers robust safeguards, aligning with Red Hat's trusted security packages.
- Compatibility: Seamlessly integrates with Red Hat ecosystems, enhancing versatility.
- Cost Efficiency: Open-source approach reduces expenses compared to proprietary systems.
- Community Support: Access to extensive resources and assistance from a dedicated user base.

What benefits should users look for in reviews?

- Performance: Efficient resource management even under heavy workloads.
- Integration Ease: Smooth integration with existing IT infrastructures.
- Scalability: Ability to grow with changing requirements, supporting diverse applications.
- Flexibility: Adaptable to a wide range of industries and use cases.
- Reliability: Trusted for critical operations and consistent service delivery.

CentOS is widely used in industries requiring robust infrastructure, such as web hosting, scientific computing, and telecommunications. In data centers, companies deploy it to support virtual environments, testing, and development. The OS powers business applications, email servers, and cloud solutions, offering a cost-effective alternative to Red Hat.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

✔ "Setting up CentOS is straightforward, and you simply boot from a CD to get started."

Alex Kvasnytskyy

Technical Operations Manager at a wholesaler/distributor with 10,001+ employees

✔ "The vendor updates the tool regularly to solve vulnerabilities."

Van Cotoco

Senior Manager, Systems Engineering at Yutivo Corporation

✔ "If I need to install a feature or fix a server issue, I can easily find answers online. The CentOS community is also vast and helpful."

Mahender Nirwan

Software developer at TAIGLE LLC

✔ "The product's initial setup phase was straightforward and not complex, especially if you are familiar with CLI."

Arif-Kundi

CEO at BazTech

✔ "I find the solution's stability to be the most valuable feature of it since I have been using a virtual machine with the help of the solution since 2015, and it still works on all the laptops in my organization."

Ahmed Qasim

Senior System Admin at Tepco-Group

✔ "The initial setup is very easy."

Sajjad Raza

Vice President | Services Group Leader at Afiniti

✔ "You can work with the UI or in command line, if you prefer."

Vijay Muddu

Manager server admin and security at Vivaconnect

What users had to say about valuable features:

"CentOS adapts well to many software and applications, providing good compatibility. Additionally, there are many online communities to learn from, which is beneficial.."

Wayne-Green   Read full review ↗
COO at OSS

"The product is stable. We have to update it every once in a while. The vendor updates the tool regularly to solve vulnerabilities. We have to do patches. The software and hardware compatibility are updated. The vendor updates the versions to keep up with the new hardware.."

Van Cotoco   Read full review ↗
Senior Manager, Systems Engineering at Yutivo Corporation

"Regarding the most valuable features of the product, I can say that an operating system is a very robust tool. The product doesn't consume unnecessary resources, and it is very lightweight as an operating system. In our company, we are able to do a lot with the limited or small amount of resources offered by the tool. The aforementioned area covers my favorite aspects of using a Linux-based product like CentOS.."

Shaamil Ashraff   Read full review ↗
Architect - Database Administration at Mitra Innovation

"CentOS is very easy to use, and all the commands are user-friendly. Installing any package or application is pretty easy with CentOS. Security-wise, most of the latest security software and applications are compatible with CentOS. Updating the patches for CentOS is very easy.

CentOS is a stable, consistent, and secure solution.."

Vineeth Marar   Read full review ↗
Cloud solution architect at 0

CentOS was a stable and predictable environment, providing a consistent update cycle once a month. Their updates initially followed the schedule of Fedora and RHEL distributions, focusing on delivering a stable testing environment. However, the update cycle changed when CentOS was prioritized for updates, causing stability issues. We began to experience incidents with updates that disrupted features. Consequently, our organization transitioned to AlmaLinux for its long-term support.

Alex Kvasnytskyy   Read full review ⬈
Technical Operations Manager at a wholesaler/distributor with 10,001+
employees

"The in-depth documentation available for CentOS is great. If I need to install a feature or fix a server issue, I can easily find answers online. The CentOS community is also vast and helpful. Overall, I think it's a very good Linux distribution.

We work on the terminal. If you work on the server, the command-line interface makes perfect sense because we need to do automation, and that requires entering commands. The command-line utility works perfectly. I have no issues with it.

For security, we have an AWS load balancer in front of our servers. We don't give public access to our CentOS servers directly. That's why I haven't focused much on CentOS's security features, as AWS is ultimately responsible for the security.."

Mahender Nirwan   Read full review ⬈
Software developer at TAIGLE LLC

Other Solutions Considered

"At the time, there were quite a lot of options like Linux, Red Hat, and Ubuntu. But if you're already using these commands that work here, they will be the ones that work there. So, we chose CentOS.."

Mpho Morake
Group CEO at Mmusi Group

Read full review ↗

"CentOS and other Linux products have almost the same features, but Fedora Linux, a product that is a more futuristic tool, was a bit buggy. The aforementioned area consists of details on why my company chose to work with CentOS.."

Arif-Kundi
CEO at BazTech

Read full review ↗

We evaluated RHEL. It offers various enhancements, like the Ansible Tower, which includes a GUI and scheduling features. However, RHEL's pricing is high, making it less attractive.

Alex Kvasnytskyy
Technical Operations Manager at a wholesaler/distributor with 10,001+ employees

Read full review ↗

"I sometimes use Ubuntu for network service. The main difference is that if you don't upgrade with Ubuntu, you have to change the source and that can create problems that we don't experience with CentOS.."

Davy MOUSSAVOU
Head of Department of operational and compliance at ACE GABON

"I use MacOS, Windows, and Ubuntu on a daily basis.

For a server environment, I would recommend CentOS, but for normal usage, I would recommend MacOS.

When you buy a Mac it just comes with MacOS which is beautiful to work on. If I'm using a Windows laptop, I would go for CentOS. However, the problem with CentOS is there is no Microsoft Office.."

Muhammad-Mwinchande
Software Developer at NMB Bank

"For the production environment, we use Red Hat Linux and for the testing or relevant environment, we use CentOS.

Right now, with a Kubernetes solution and maybe we need a new solution as we are trying to move onto SecureNet. If we use, for example, EKS and right now, maybe in the future, we don't need to deal with an operating system. In the future, if we cause CentOS, we might use it in a smaller, more basic implementation.

We did not use anything previously. ."

Erick-Guevara   Read full review ↗
Application Server Manager at Centro Nacional de Registros

Use Case

"We used the solution as an operating system. We were using CentOS because it supported the Red Hat flavor. Now that CentOS has stopped providing the support, we have switched to Alma OS.."

SHUBHAM BHINGARDE
Project Engineer at CDAC

Read full review ↗

"Many of my customers use Linux as their client operating system because it is more secure. Since it doesn't have a UI and there are a lot of anomalies and viruses affecting the UI-related applications, some customers prefer to have an operating system without a UI. I have seen most people use CentOS, Red Hat, or Ubuntu as a client operating system or server.."

Vineeth Marar
Cloud solution architect at 0

Read full review ↗

"My company plans to drop the use of CentOS since Red Hat has stopped offering it support.

The tool was useful for hosting our company's website and email servers.."

Arif-Kundi   Read full review ↗
CEO at BazTech

We started using CentOS for our operations as soon as it became available. Initially, we used CentOS for its long-term support. It served as a stable production environment. However, they changed from a long-term support cycle and started dropping new versions every two or three years, making it less ideal for stable production environments. We experienced some incidents after updates, which led us to switch to long-term support on AlmaLinux.

Alex Kvasnytskyy   Read full review ↗
Technical Operations Manager at a wholesaler/distributor with 10,001+ employees

"Our clients are pharmaceutical companies, and they're hesitant to change anything that's working. They want us to continue with what's proven. So we stayed on CentOS 7 for a long time. If we changed, we'd have to provide extensive validation that the new operating system is perfect and has no vulnerabilities.

However, CentOS 7 reached its end of life a few months ago, forcing us to migrate to CentOS 9. This was a big effort because we have a lot of in-house servers. For the production servers on AWS, we didn't face any issues migrating from CentOS 7.."

Mahender Nirwan   Read full review ↗
Software developer at TAIGLE LLC

"In my company, we use CentOS to work in my test environments on my laptop. I didn't implement CentOS on the enterprise server.

My company uses it like a work server, and I got access to services provided by Apache and ManageEngine, which I used to deploy solutions, especially the minor ones like Elasticsearch. I didn't use other solutions because of security reasons in my company. I use it for testing purposes related to DNS servers, directory servers, binding servers, and Hyper-V servers, which are minor cases.."

Ahmed Qasim   Read full review ↗
Senior System Admin at Tepco-Group

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.

"The initial setup process is easy. It requires five executives for deployment, including managers, admins, engineers, and developers. It takes around a month to complete.."

Phat Chau

Read full review ↗

Solution architect at EASY CREDIT Vietnam

"The initial setup is easy. I rate the ease of setup an eight or nine out of ten. The time taken for deployment depends on what we have to add to the tool. Generally, the deployment can be done in about an hour.."

Van Cotoco

Read full review ↗

Senior Manager, Systems Engineering at Yutivo Corporation

"The product's initial setup phase was straightforward and not complex, especially if you are familiar with CLI. There can be an issue in the product's setup phase if you are a person who uses graphical interfaces.

The solution is deployed on an on-premises model.."

Arif-Kundi   Read full review ↗
CEO at BazTech

"The setup is pretty straightforward. We've installed other facilities that are just as good. There's nothing particularly different in the process.

The integration is as good as any other Linux platform. If another Linux platform can integrate with something, then CentOS can also integrate with it.."

Mahender Nirwan   Read full review ↗
Software developer at TAIGLE LLC

"The product's initial setup phase is very straightforward. For a technical person, it can be very easy to install the tool.

One needs to follow a standard deployment process for CentOS. It has a few simple steps, and as long as we use the correct parameters, it will spin up the OS correctly.."

Shaamil Ashraff   Read full review ↗

Architect - Database Administration at Mitra Innovation

"The initial setup is the same as installing an ISO file in Red Hat. The product allows me to configure the IPS and allows me for automatic configuration, making a big difference. If a person is familiar with Linux, the setup phase gets easy. If a person is familiar with Windows, installation will be hard for the first time.

Considering the use of the solution for my company's test environment, the deployment process takes only a minute or two.."

Ahmed Qasim   Read full review ↗

Senior System Admin at Tepco-Group

Customer Service and Support

"The documentation is excellent. I've never actually reached out to technical support. I've needed to leverage support services since the documentation is so strong. ."

Ibidapo Ibrahim
Head of IT Infrastructure at a non-tech company with 1,001-5,000 employees

Read full review ↗

"The solution is open source so there is no formal technical support. The community is a great resource and the solution's developers post content or answer questions. ."

Fabián Balseca Chávez
Security Presales Engineer at GMS Seguridad de la Información

Read full review ↗

"A ton of articles are available on the internet about CentOS, so I haven't really felt the need for active support. But overall, you can say that the internet is still a great source of information on how to work with CentOS.."

Mahender Nirwan
Software developer at TAIGLE LLC

Read full review ↗

"My company has not used the technical support of the product since it was a tool that relied on the community-driven part to provide help to its users. My company could use search engines to get answers whenever we faced any issues with the product.."

Arif-Kundi
CEO at BazTech

Read full review ↗

"There is not any technical support available from CentOS since it is open-source. However, there is a large community where information can be found for any problem that might arise.."

Aymen Dridi
Systems and Virtualization Engineer at Altelios Technology Group

Read full review ↗

"CentOS has no technical Support since it is an open-source or free edition platform. If I face any issues or I want to learn something about the product, then I would have to learn them through the online communities for the tool. In Linux, you can find every documentation you need by doing a simple Google search or on the online communities created for CentOS.."

Ahmed Qasim
Senior System Admin at Tepco-Group

Read full review ↗

Other Advice

Overall, I would not recommend CentOS for production environments because it requires frequent updates every two to three years due to its lack of long-term support. However, for learning Linux or experimental use, CentOS is a suitable and cost-effective platform with ample documentation. I would probably rate it about seven to eight.

Alex Kvasnytskyy
Technical Operations Manager at a wholesaler/distributor with 10,001+ employees

Read full review [↗]

"I would recommend CentOS to other users because it supports the Red Hat flavor. It is easy to integrate the solution with other tools and systems.

Overall, I rate the solution a nine out of ten.."

SHUBHAM BHINGARDE
Project Engineer at CDAC

Read full review [↗]

"Many software applications are open source. We do not have to spend money on them. Many people are using CentOS. It is a popular OS for those who don't want to spend lots of money on Windows. People who are knowledgeable in setting up servers use the product. Those who do not know the technical setup choose Windows. CentOS users are programmers with technical knowledge.

Overall, I rate the solution a nine out of ten.."

Van Cotoco
Senior Manager, Systems Engineering at Yutivo Corporation

Read full review ↗

"CentOS provides very good cost efficiency. It is a very efficient operating system without any hassle or inconsistencies. I don't see much difference between CentOS and Ubuntu. Ubuntu has a few more user-friendly commands than CentOS. Once you are familiar with the flavors, CentOS is also very user-friendly. For a new user of Linux, Ubuntu is a little bit easier.

Overall, I rate the solution an eight out of ten.."

Vineeth Marar
Cloud solution architect at 0

Read full review ↗

"For CentOS, I would rate it as nine out of ten.

CentOS is pretty old now, so I wouldn't recommend anyone use it. Everyone should follow the Docker container model at the moment. They should build their Alpine images of Dockers and host them.

If they want to host them in the cloud, then AWS ECS (Elastic Container Service) works fine. If they want to host their services on-premises, they can use Kubernetes to host them.."

Mahender Nirwan
Software developer at TAIGLE LLC

Read full review ↗

"The product's security features are really good.

The integration capabilities of the product with other tools in the market are okay.

CentOS is a lightweight operating system that offers stability. I would recommend CentOS or any other Linux-based tools.

I have not used any AI with CentOS.

CentOS is an open-source product, so there are no licensing costs attached to the tool.

The value of using the solution is the fact that it is a lightweight product that is easy to implement.
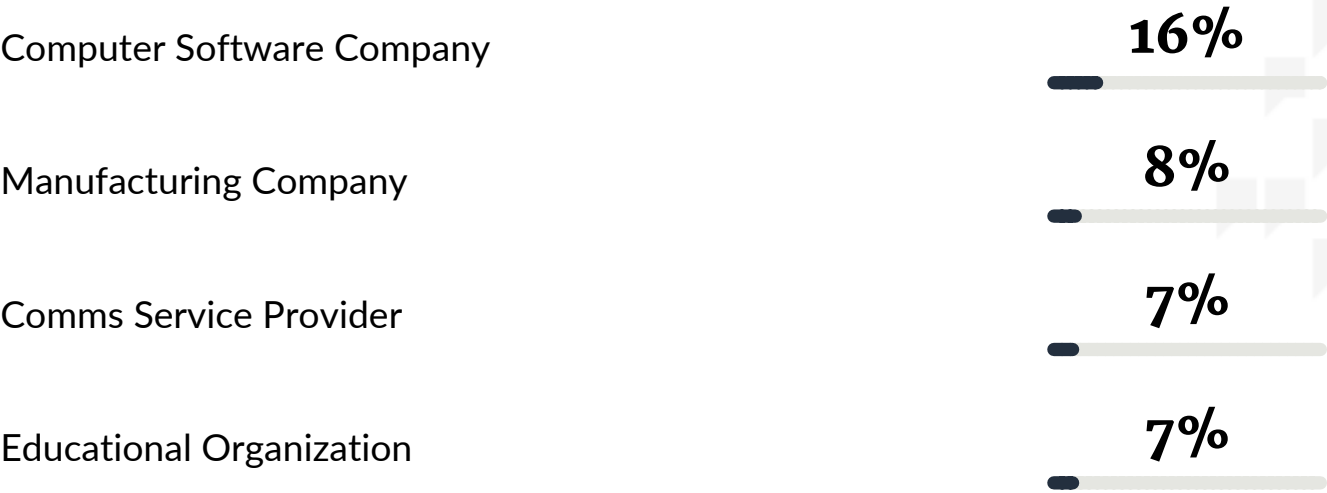
I rate the solution an eight out of ten.."

Shaamil Ashraff
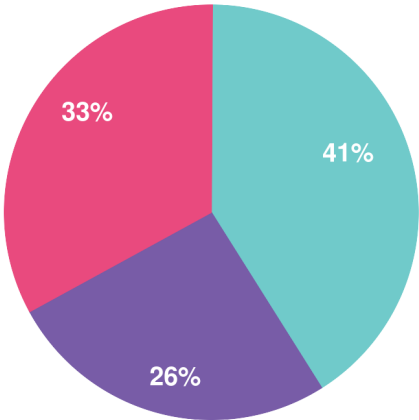Architect - Database Administration at Mitra Innovation

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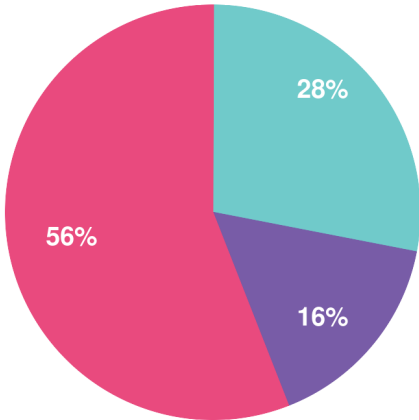
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by reviewers

by visitors reading reviews

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28% 56% 16%

● Large Enterprise   ● Midsize Enterprise   ● Small Business

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