

aws marketplace

Percona Server

Reviews, tips, and  
advice from real users



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# Product Recap



Percona Server

# Percona Server Recap

Percona Server is a MySQL alternative offering improved performance and scalability for databases used in demanding environments. It is tailored for companies requiring reliable data management, ensuring efficiency and flexibility in operations.

Percona Server enhances MySQL with numerous features that boost database performance, making it suitable for large-scale deployments. Known for its ability to handle heavy workloads, users count on Percona Server to maintain operational consistency even under significant demand. Its security and compatibility with MySQL are additional benefits, providing a seamless transition for existing MySQL users. Organizations focused on cost-efficiency and high performance often consider Percona Server as a strong, open-source solution.

## What are Percona Server's features?

- **Advanced Scalability:** Supports large deployments with ease.
- **Enhanced Security:** Offers improved security measures for data protection.
- **High Availability:** Ensures continuous operation with minimal downtime.
- **Performance Optimization:** Increases efficiency in data processing.

## What benefits should users look for in reviews?

- **Cost Efficiency:** Provides a cost-effective alternative to other database systems.
- **Reliability:** Ensures stable performance for critical database applications.
- **Community Support:** Benefits from a comprehensive and active user community.

In industries such as e-commerce, telecommunication, and finance, Percona Server is implemented to maintain high transaction volumes and ensure robust data security. Its utility in managing complex database demands makes it a preferred choice in sectors where data integrity and performance are crucial.

# Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- ✓ “After switching to Percona Server, we were able to resolve those issues quickly.”



**Pieter Geelen**

Freelancer at geelen.io

- ✓ “Percona Server's scalability is very strong, as it features thread pooling for over 10,000 connections, scales out horizontally, and comes with XtraDB Cluster and ProxySQL, making it very effective.”



**Aidan McCarthy**

Principal Data Infrastructure Engineer at Susquehanna International Group

- ✓ “Percona Server has positively impacted my organization by reducing downtime for applications and improving backup capabilities.”



**Frederico De Almeida**

Senior Infrastructure Analyst at Embratur

- ✓ “Percona Server has positively impacted my organization because it is open source, and if the official MongoDB goes in different directions or makes its product expensive, we can still use Percona Server, which serves as a sort of safety net.”



**Verified user**

Devops at a tech company

- ✓ “We find the product mostly stable.”



**Umair Hassan**

Database Administrator at Systems Limited

- ✓ “In my use of Percona Server, I've found that the replication and High Availability features are the most valuable.”



**Verified user**

Systems Engineer at a comms service provider with 51-200 employees

What users had to say about valuable features:

“Percona Server offers excellent scalability and easy configuration.

The configuration feature is particularly valuable to me because adding a new server requires minimal effort, which streamlines my workflow.


Database consistency is the most important feature for me.

Percona Server has positively impacted my organization by reducing downtime for applications and improving backup capabilities.

Percona Server has improved downtime and backup management by making it easy to switch to another server when necessary, and it includes built-in backup functionality. .”

**Frederico De Almeida**

Senior Infrastructure Analyst at Embratur

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“It's easy to use, and the community is really nice. For example, if I have an issue, I can search for it, and the issue can get solved really quickly.

There are a lot of benefits. The tools which Percona provides for backup and recovery, like Percona XtraBackup, are great.

The initial setup is simple.

It's scalable.

We find the product mostly stable.

It's open-source, making it free to use.

The community surrounding Percona is quite helpful..”

**Umair Hassan**

Database Administrator at Systems Limited

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Percona Server offers features such as thread pooling that supports over 10,000 connections, providing significant performance benefits, and a reduced backup impact with tools such as XtraBackup.

Performance improvements are delivered largely through features such as XtraBackup, which support these advancements.

“The monitoring tool of Percona Server is very good.

“Percona Server positively impacts the organization because it is free and open-source.

“Being open-source significantly helps with cost savings and lowers the costs that had to be paid for enterprise licensing for MySQL with Oracle. .”

**Aidan McCarthy**

Principal Data Infrastructure Engineer at Susquehanna International Group

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“Percona Server offers excellent features including being open source, which allows us to use the tools the way we want. Percona Kubernetes for MongoDB is a unique offering since no other companies provide a proper Kubernetes operator that supports deployment, maintenance, and backup.

Percona's unique Kubernetes Operator for MongoDB has made my life easier by first providing backup, which is the main feature for databases, and it also includes advanced maintenance features when I need to upgrade to the next version of MongoDB.

Additionally, Percona has a great community, so I can always expect help from Percona fans regarding the features.

Percona Server has positively impacted my organization because it is open source, and if the official MongoDB goes in different directions or makes its product expensive, we can still use Percona Server, which serves as a sort of safety net.

This safety net has helped my organization save costs, as Percona costs nothing in the community version. .”

**Verified user**

Devops at a tech company

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“Percona Server offers excellent features including its compliance with the MySQL/Maria dialect, which was essential for our existing application. We faced the challenge of deploying it redundantly in a way that ensured the application would work now and in the future, which involved different replication strategies. Additionally, we needed it to be Kubernetes-native with an operator to check if the database was running and to manage redeployments. Percona provided all of that, along with optimization recommendations from a specialist. There were not many alternatives available, and we also wanted to stay on an open-source stack, which Percona supports to keep everything transparent while providing support as well.

Impact of Percona Server on my organization has been positive. The database was a mess and did not run well, and we suffered a loss of revenue in that project. The website needed to work, as it was a legacy system with lots of Java applications depending on it. If that database did not work, the website could not even start up, making it extremely important for the e-commerce side to have a well-functioning database.

After switching to Percona Server, we were able to resolve those issues quickly. The platform originally worked with MariaDB, so we spent about three months refactoring the software to accommodate features that MariaDB does not support or supports differently compared to MySQL dialect. The implementation for Percona Server took less than a month, and we have not encountered issues since then..”

**Pieter Geelen**

Freelancer at geelen.io

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# Other Solutions Considered

MySQL Community Edition was previously used before switching to Percona Server to access extra features, including features from Percona toolkit and clustering capabilities without the high costs of MySQL Enterprise. Percona provides enterprise features at zero cost, such as audit logging, which is not available in the community version.

**Aidan McCarthy**

Principal Data Infrastructure Engineer at Susquehanna International Group

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“We initially struggled with getting MariaDB working, which took a team of six people several months. This was time wasted, whereas with Percona Server, once it is up and running, you really have to do very little..”

**Pieter Geelen**

Freelancer at geelen.io

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“We evaluated different solutions such as MariaDB and MySQL, but we only evaluated them without implementing them. Our experience with MariaDB was that it did not work for us..”

**Pieter Geelen**

Freelancer at geelen.io

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“I previously used FerretDB, but I think it is not mature enough, and we also considered CockroachDB.

Before choosing Percona Server, I did not really evaluate other options since developers are conservative people and once they use a NoSQL solution, they prefer MongoDB over all other options. .”

**Verified user**

Devops at a tech company

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# Use Case

“I'm in the process of running a POC.

Initially, I've been working on the vendor side and we can only suggest to the vendor how to use Percona Server as opposed to MySQL's community version. I was just working on MySQL Server to see the difference between the community version and this and how the performance goes. I'm doing the R&D on my side..”

**Umair Hassan**

Database Administrator at Systems Limited

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“Percona Server is my main solution for electronic information systems, and I use Percona XtraDB Cluster for this purpose.

Percona Server has facilitated the configuration of clusters compared to using a large cluster setup.

Percona Server helps me maintain consistency in my systems. .”

**Frederico De Almeida**

Senior Infrastructure Analyst at Embratur

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Percona Server and Percona Cluster are used for transactional workloads, analytics, and high availability.

Percona Server is used on a master-master cluster for Airflow.

“Percona Server is used because it is useful for distributing the workload on Airflow, which is a scheduling workflow engine for scheduling jobs. .”

**Aidan McCarthy**

Principal Data Infrastructure Engineer at Susquehanna International Group

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“My main use case for Percona Server is deploying the community version without support to MongoDB servers in Kubernetes, and I also use Percona Server Exporter tools.

Using Percona Server for deploying MongoDB servers in Kubernetes helps my team day-to-day by allowing us to quickly deploy small replica sets of MongoDB and configure it in YAML files.

I use Percona MongoDB Exporter to export all metrics to Grafana. .”

**Verified user**

Devops at a tech company

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“My main use case for Percona Server was for an e-commerce platform, operating as a webshop. The customer had a migration underway where they wanted to move from a certain service provider to managing things themselves. They previously used MariaDB, which did not work, so we needed to move to MySQL, and Percona has a MySQL derivative that worked for us. The use case also involved running this within a Kubernetes cluster.

A specific example of how Percona Server was used in that e-commerce platform is that the state was managed through the database, and the entire hydration process occurred there as well. We had server-side rendering happening, and the client-side renders were hydrated through whatever lived in Percona Server database, which resulted in a huge amount of read operations. For redundancy and performance reasons, we worked with about three instances of Percona Server running to ensure that we got the read performance we needed. One issue was the contention and locking that occurred during write operations, and this is where I think Percona showcased that their system was better than other MySQL derivatives.

We used Kubernetes installed on VPS in Hetzner for that project, and it was very important for us to have a platform that was MySQL compliant, along with all the CRDs, the custom resource definitions, required to use it properly in Kubernetes. We also needed support in managing the service, so having a specialist to tweak those parameters for good database performance was really good to have.

My experience with the Kubernetes-native features was that getting it into Kubernetes was really easy. It is just a Helm chart that you throw in there, and it kind of works. Of course, Helm charts have many intricacies, so parameterizing it correctly was essential, but it provided an out-of-the-box experience for getting it into our cluster.

A cool thing to call out is that they have an observability dashboard for Grafana to see what is going on, which works seamlessly. It is not just about getting everything in there, but also having visibility into how it works, and we had lots of interesting metrics available to use..”

# 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.

“We evaluated different solutions such as MariaDB and MySQL, but we only evaluated them without implementing them. Our experience with MariaDB was that it did not work for us..”

**Pieter Geelen**

Freelancer at geelen.io

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“The setup is straightforward. It's really easy to use. Even a beginner or someone new to reporting for PostgreSQL or MySQL can easily install it on their local virtual machines, and they can play with the databases.

I'd rate the ease of implementation ten out of ten. As compared to Oracle, it's really easy to use and easy to understand as well as deploy.

We deployed on a local environment; if the internet is stable, it will hardly take up to ten minutes to set up on Ubuntu Debian services. I'm not too sure about the OS version of the other Linux versions..”

**Umair Hassan**

Database Administrator at Systems Limited

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# Customer Service and Support

Customer Service:

Because it's open source and free, there's no customer service.

Technical Support:

Because it's open source and free, there's no technical support..”

**Verified user**

[Read full review](#) 

Systems Engineer at a comms service provider with 51-200 employees

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“As compared to the licensed product, where money is money and money can buy you things, there isn't much direct support. That said, I have never found any sort of an issue that could not be found on the community forum or something like that. And I did approach some of the guys from Percona and they provided me with a good knowledge base. I'm also a member of a Percona community. Whenever I raise a question there, there is always someone who can help. It's pretty good. And this all comes with zero costs attached. .”

**Umair Hassan**

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Database Administrator at Systems Limited

# Other Advice

“My general advice, which is for any database really, is to plan ahead and design the database accordingly and, over a period of time, tweak the configurations in the my.cnf file..”

**Verified user**

Systems Engineer at a comms service provider with 51-200 employees

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My advice for others looking into using Percona Server is that it is a no-brainer if you are using it yourself, as it is a drop-in replacement, meaning the migration risk is low, and XtraBackup is a killer feature.

Percona is a drop-in replacement for MySQL, with XtraBackup being a killer feature, as it provides non-locking backup, and PMM is a complete monitoring solution. The overall review rating for Percona Server is 7. .”

**Aidan McCarthy**

Principal Data Infrastructure Engineer at Susquehanna International Group

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“I'm an end-user.

I'd advise new users to just go slow, step by step, in order to keep things simple. Don't try to jump ahead. If you go slow, you will get used to everything, and soon you'll be learning very quickly.

I'd rate the solution eight out of ten. .”

**Umair Hassan**

Database Administrator at Systems Limited

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“My advice for others looking to use Percona Server is that while it is a great product for making things work, it does not eliminate the need for a database administrator. You still need to know what you are doing, and it can alleviate a lot of the pain of running a database. However, it does not equate to a fully managed database, at least in our use case where we run it in our own Kubernetes cluster. That knowledge is also beneficial when working with a consultant for setup and database optimization. If you want to go open-source and are knowledgeable about databases, Percona Server is great and will provide everything you need. But if you are looking for a solution without needing to understand databases, this might be too advanced. I would rate this product an 8 overall..”

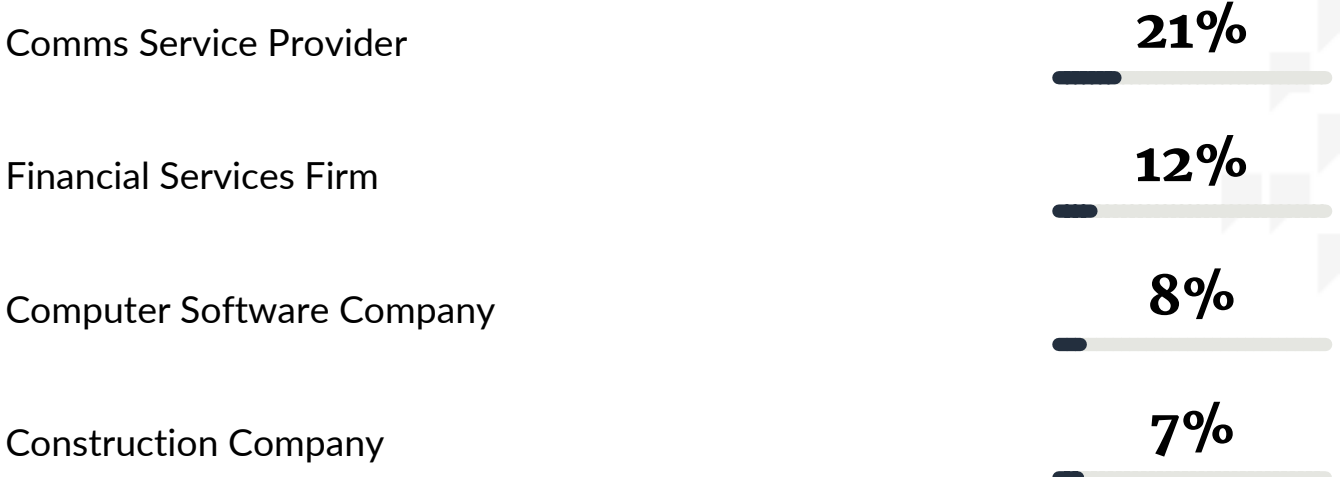
**Pieter Geelen**

Freelancer at geelen.io

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# Top Industries

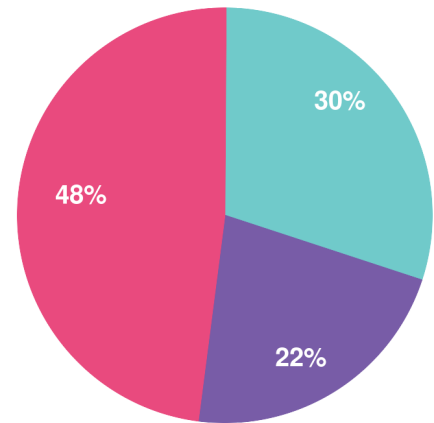
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# Company Size

by reviewers

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Large Enterprise      Midsized Enterprise      Small Business

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