



How do I know what hardware I need?

This FAQ is intended to answer common questions about Hardware Requirements for Best Practice Software.



Before proceeding to install Best Practice Software, please ensure that your computer hardware meets the following specifications. These specifications are a guide and your requirements will vary depending on the role of the computer. User's experience will be best on systems that meet or are above the recommended specifications.

Please contact your network administrator for advice on whether your current hardware is suitable and how to improve the performance of your system. This is particularly relevant if you have a large number of users (over 15), if your patient's database exceeds 2GB or if your server performs multiple tasks serving a number of applications.

In these cases you will need to evaluate how the performance of your server will be affected by the introduction of another application (i.e. Best Practice).

Server Security - Fault Tolerance points to consider:

- RAID 1 (Mirroring of HDD)
- Offsite backup location
- Gigabit networking
- Having gigabit network cards in the Server and Workstations, along with a network switch/router capable of gigabit networks.
- Clustering (Windows Server Enterprise Edition, not SQL clustering)
- Load Balancing (Network & Server)



Stand-Alone computer (X86 & X64)

Item:	Minimum Specifications:	Recommended Specifications:
OS:	See Page 2/3 on operating systems	See Page 2/3 on operating systems
Processor:	Intel Pentium 4 (LGA775) or higher	Intel Core2Duo or higher
Ram:	1GB or higher	2 GB or higher
Hard Disk:	See Page 3 on disk space requirements	See Page 3 on disk space requirements
Monitor:	15" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1024 x 768 at 16 bit colour (or better) and a SVGA compatible graphics card.	17" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1280 x 1024 at 32 bit colour and a SVGA compatible graphics card.
CD ROM/DVD:	DVD-ROM Reader - 80mm media compatible	DVD-RW (16x or above) - 80mm media compatible
Printer:	See Page 3 on Printer Requirements	See Page 3 on Printer Requirements



Server computer (X86 & X64)

Item:	Minimum Specifications:	Recommended Specifications:
OS:	See Page 2/3 on operating systems	See Page 2/3 on operating systems
Processor:	Intel Pentium 4 (LGA775) or higher	Intel Core2Quad/Xeon or higher
Ram	2 GB or higher	4 GB or higher (ECC RAM if possible)
Hard Disk:	See Page 3 on disk space requirements	See Page 3 on disk space requirements
Monitor:	15" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1024 x 768 at 16 bit colour (or better) and a SVGA compatible graphics card.	17" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1280 x 1024 at 32 bit colour and a SVGA compatible graphics card.
CD ROM/DVD:	DVD-ROM Reader - 80mm media compatible	DVD-RW (16x or above) - 80mm media compatible
Printer:	See Page 3 on Printer Requirements	See Page 3 on Printer Requirements



Workstation computer (X86 & X64)

Item:	Minimum Specifications:	Recommended Specifications:
OS:	See Page 2/3 on operating systems	See Page 2/3 on operating systems
Processor:	Intel Celeron (LGA775) or higher	Intel Pentium 4 (LGA775) or higher
Ram	512 MB or higher	1 GB or higher
Hard Disk:	Hard disk (c:\drive) should have a minimum of 10 GB free disk space.	Hard disk (c:\drive) should have a minimum of 10 GB free disk space.
Monitor:	15" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1024 x 768 at 16 bit colour (or better) and a SVGA compatible graphics card.	17" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1280 x 1024 at 32 bit colour and a SVGA compatible graphics card.
CD ROM/DVD:	CD-ROM Reader - 80mm media compatible	DVD-RW (16x or above) - 80mm media compatible
Printer:	See Page 3 on Printer Requirements	See Page 3 on Printer Requirements

Supported Operating Systems



Note: Best Practice Software does not recommend any 'Home' operating systems. Best Practice support staff may be unable to assist in troubleshooting problems on Home based operating systems. If your system does not meet the minimum requirements, you will need to upgrade your hardware before attempting to install Best Practice Software.



Operating Systems that are supported are:-

Windows 2000 Professional SP4	Windows XP Professional SP2 or higher (32bit and 64bit)	Windows Server 2003 SP 1 or higher (32bit and 64bit)
Windows Vista Business & Ultimate SP1 or higher (32bit and 64bit)	Windows Server 2008 32bit and 64bit	Windows 7 32bit and 64bit



Important: the same SQL version needs to be installed on both server and workstations

- **Windows Vista and Windows Server 2008** require the SQL 2005/2008 Express version to be installed. If Vista is installed on a workstation, you will also need to update your server and all other workstations to use SQL 2005 Express. (i.e – If the Server has MSDE installed and you have a workstation running Vista you will have to upgrade the server to SQL 2005 / 2008 Express)
- **Windows 2000 SP4** is still supported by Best Practice; however the new version of Microsoft’s SQL Database (SQL 2008) **cannot** be installed to Windows 2000 due to requirements for the new SQL Database. SQL 2000 Express (MSDE) and SQL 2005 Express are still able to be installed to computers with Windows 2000 SP4.

Printer Requirements

Any Windows supported printer can be used with Best Practice. If installing BP on 64-bit OS and/or Terminal Session, ensure printer is also compatible with that operating environment.

Disk Space Requirements

Best Practice’s database is installed by default to the server’s C:\ Drive. You will require a minimum of 10 GB free disk space, however this will vary according to how large your current software’s databases are and how large they will become in the future (assuming your practice is converting from another software package). Some items to consider are:-

MD2, MD3 & MT32 Conversions

When performing any conversion, the hard drive (C:\ Drive) must have free space equal to at least 2.5 times the size of the current software’s database files. After the conversion is complete, you then need to take into account the expected growth of the data for the future and ensure that there is ample free disk space on the C:\ Drive to allow for this.

Performing Best Practice Compressed Backups

Compressed backups require a significant amount of disk space to be available on the hard drive (C:\ Drive). You will need free space equal to approximately 3 times the size of the Best Practice database files (i.e. BPSPatients.mdf, BPSDocuments1.mdf, etc). The default location for the database files are:-

MSDE Desktop Engine: C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL\$BPSINSTANCE\Data
 SQL 2005 Express: C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL.1\MSSQL\Data
 SQL 2008 Express: C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL10.BPSINSTANCE\MSSQL\DATA

MORE INFORMATION

For more information consult the Best Practice Help Library or contact us via:



07 4155 8800



<http://forum.bpssoftware.com.au>



07 4153 2093



<http://www.bpssoftware.com.au>



support@bpssoftware.com.au



sales@bpssoftware.com.au

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