

You will need at least one Linux system, which could be a virtual machine as well.

Depending on the specific features discussed, you might also benefit from the following:

- Access to an SMTP (email) server
- More Linux systems
- A device with SNMP support
- A Windows system
- A device with IPMI support
- A Java virtual machine
- A VMware instance

Some of these can be replicated on the same Linux box—for example, running SNMPPD or a Java virtual machine will allow you to try out all the monitoring solutions without a separate system.