

Home Lab | Another Set of Headache?

A home lab? Do you need another set of headaches that consist of small servers, network devices and other peripherals? Is it physical or virtual? Why do you need a pet lab instead of having a real cat for a pet? Why???

My short answer will be why not? I am system administrator whereby I should always have a testbed to understand more regarding the work I do and always try to better myself. A little disclaimer my setup is not an enterprise grade setup but rather a small setup of several PCs, a mini desktop, a Raspberry Pi and simple switch.

The hardware specifications of the desktops are as shown below:

- Intel i7 5th Generation CPUs
- 16 GB RAM DDR3
- 1 TB HDD

Some of the technologies that are used in the testbed are:

- Virtualization: oVirt 4.4
- NAS: TrueNAS 12
- Ad-Blocker and DNS: Pi-Hole
- Identity Management: FreeIPA

The purpose of the home lab is to test out some technologies that I was not familiar with, to test out some concepts that I have and familiarize with the needed technologies that I used in my daily life.

So, to summarize, a home lab is needed in this day and age due to the fast rate of change in IT field for me as a system administrator to be equipped and relevant. Thus, I rest my case.