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CS519 Introduction to eCommerce

I pledge my honor that I have abided by the Stevens Honor System.

AWS vs Rackspace

Pros and Cons:

Amazon:

Pros:

- Price is much cheaper than Rackspace for comparable services
- Thousands of developers partnered with AWS to provide software and framework installations that are ready to go
- Many data centers in the US and worldwide
- Pricing easy to see on the site before you sign up
- Advanced options for every piece of server management technology that they provide

Cons:

- Servers are not as fast as Rackspace
- Charged based on the data plan you select, not by what you use
- Several outages in the past
- No full support option to control all of the server management like Rackspace

Rackspace:

Pros:

- Extremely fast servers
- Virtual no downtime and no major outages to speak of
- Full support options for Rackspace to control server management
- Only charged for data that you use

Cons:

- Very expensive when compared to Amazon
- Only 40 software and framework installations available
- Exact pricing not immediately available
- Less data centers than Amazon

For my eCommerce purposes, AWS would be the obvious choice in provider. They have every possible software integration for whichever eCommerce software solution is chosen, and their prices are much more friendly to smaller companies. Amazon's services seem to be much more friendly to small companies, and very large companies. Their services are also very appealing to users able to navigate and control their solutions on their own. The control and options that AWS provides is much more appealing at their prices than Rackspace, and their speed for a small eCommerce solution is plenty fast to serve the site to customers across the US and the world.

Pre-Configured templates	Exactly 40 customized templates available with popular software such as WordPress, Magento, and standard LAMP	Thousands of different preconfigured software installation templates available, most with several different versions with different packages including operating system and other frameworks.
Pricing	Only pricing examples available on their website. You must request a quote to determine annual pricing.	Extensive pricing available with every possible installation and server customization. Prices both hourly and annually, in addition to being able to request a custom quote for a specific package
Support	24/7 Support. Two levels of support available. Lower tier \$50/Month minimum with you controlling the majority of the hosting and backend management. Higher tier \$500/Month with Rackspace fully managing the server management and anything else involved.	24/7 Support. No option to fully leave Amazon in control of managing all servers and infrastructure.
Data Centers	Not as much global support as AWS. Full US regional coverage	Lots of global data centers. Many data centers in each region of US.
Performance/Uptime	Extremely fast servers. No downtime or major outages.	Servers significantly slower than Rackspace, several major outages in the past.