IIS ADMINISTRATION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

What is IIS ( Internet Information Server )?

IIS is stand for Internet Information Server. IIS is a software or an application used for creating or converting your machine into web-sever. A web server is used for hosting your Web pages, application and other content on the Web. IIS is a Microsoft’s product of web host which provides a graphical user interface to hosting the websites and the associated users. Internet Information Services provides a GUI for creating, configuring, and publishing websites in a easier way on the web. Different features are available in IIS to host a website. IIS also supports different extensions (or “modules”) that add extra functionality to the server. You can includes different extensions according to your needs, in this way you can manage or limit your network resources.

What was the first version of IIS was introduced?

Almost every version of IIS was released either alongside or with a version of Microsoft Windows.  
First version of IIS is IIS 1.0 and it was initially released as a free feature or add\_on for Microsoft Windows NT 3.51.

How IIS Works?

This is most asked IIS Interview Questions and you can answer it by giving the following details. An Internet Information Server accepts requests from remote computers and send back the suitable reply or response. Internet Information Server has it’s own Process-Engine to handle the request. This basic functionality of IIS is to allows the web servers to distribute & deliver information across [LAN](https://w7cloud.com/what-is-local-area-network-features-and-characteristics-functions-of-lan/), intranets, or [WAN](https://w7cloud.com/what-is-wan-and-its-features/), such as the internet. IIS works with a variety of different standard languages and protocols. Hypertext Markup Language is used to create elements like text, image placements, hyperlinks etc. For communication among web-servers and users, the HTTP protocol is used. The File Transfer Protocol ([FTP](https://w7cloud.com/cloud-vs-ftp-difference-between-ftp-server-and-cloud-computing/)), or its secure variant, FTPS, can transfer files. As mention earlier that the Process Engine handles all requests from client to server for IIS. There are two layers IIS request-processing architecture.

IIS Kernel Mode

IIS User Mode

What is the role of IIS server or why we use it?

IIS perform the role of the Web-server in networks, answers the queries and requests for files from Web hosts or clients such as internet explorer, and logging activity. The IIS software allows web administrators to configure web-site options, like default-pages, error-pages, logging settings, security settings, and other performance optimizations. Internet Information Server have the information regarding the location of web files. and security types to access these web files. IIS also determined that how content-files are separated into applications and their URLs. Web server administration can configured theses setting by manually or code by using one of the IIS administration technologies like Microsoft SharePoint, Microsoft Visual Studio.NET, ASP etc.

What version of IIS is on Windows Server 2019?

Internet Information Server 10.0 (version 1809 a.k.a. version 10.0.17763) is introduced in microsoft Windows Server 2019.

What is worker process in IIS?

An IIS worker process is a windows process (w3wp.exe) which provides execution environment for running all web pages. This worker process is manages and answer all the request that are coming from the client hosts. ASP.Net perform or run all his function under the scope of the worker-process. In a simple word, worker process is the heart of ASP.NET (Web Application) which runs and handles all the request received from client system on IIS. You can find the worker process in the Web Server Home Features view, go to the IIS section.

What is application pool in IIS?

In IIS application Pool is like a container which contains many Worker Process. It help to keep separate the multiple-applications from each other. One application-pool can have different websites. In other words, an application pool is a group of addresses or URLs (Uniform Resource Locator ) that have been served by worker processes. With application pool you can separate different applications from each-other and it simplifies management. In case if one application pool have an issue or problem, the others application pool will remain working without error. In this way you can troubleshoot your error in simple and easy way.

How to start and stop IIS Web server?

You can use these commands in command prompt ” iisreset /stop” or simply “iisreset” to stop and start the IIS services. For stopping any individual website on IIS web server, you can simply right click on the website in IIS manger and then select “start” or “stop“. (Practical IIS Interview Questions)

How do I host an application or website in IIS?

There are slightly different method for each versions of IIS to add or publishing website in IIS. You can follow these steps against each version in ISS.

Open the IIS

Create a website or application in IIS sites by using add a new website, which will ask you to define its name, location and other basic information.

Once your website has created. You can open it by right click on the website name in IIS manager and browse to open it.

In case of local server enter URL http://localhost

How do I know if IIS is installed or running on my computer?

The most simple way to check the IIS installation is from command prompt. Press windows +R and type inetmgr and then click on OK. It will open the IIS manager console. (Practical IIS Interview Questions)

What is the virtual directories in IIS?

IN IIS a Virtual directory is a name that maps to a physical location. The direct name provides visitors a way to visit the content hosted on a web server more fast. For example, if one web-site can have multiple applications, then it may have multiple virtual directories which lead to a physical directory on a computer. In many cases, a website have different media elements like photos and videos as well and you can manage them with virtual directories.

What are different security and authentication mechanisms of IIS?

IIS 6.0 and later versions support and provide the following authentication mechanisms:

Basic access authentication

Digest access authentication

Client certificate mapping

IP security

Request filtering

URL authorization

Anonymous authentication

UNC authentication

.NET Passport Authentication (currently not available in latest versions)

Certificate authentication

Integrated Windows Authentication

What are Log Files in IIS?

In IIS, Log files are used to record a different events and actions which are occurs on your web server.  
A log files in IIS can provide differnt information such as  
–the date and time of the event  
–IP address involved in the event  
–The amount of data transmitted.  
Normally you can find your log files on following directory:  
< %SystemRoot%\system32\Logfiles\ >

What are IIS modules?

You can use different IIS modules, which have different features for processing user requests. Some of most common IIS modules are as under:

IIS Security modules: With security module you can do the security related task in the request processing pipeline. You can perform authentication-schemes, URL authorization, and filtering requests.

Content modules of IIS: This module handle the tasks related to content in the request processing pipeline. Different requests like for returning a default-page when a client does not specify a resource in a request, static files and listing the contents of a directory.

IIS-Compression modules: Used to perform tasks related to compression in the request-processing pipeline. Tasks like compressing responses, applying Gzip compression transfer coding to responses, and performing pre compression of static-content are achieved through compression module.

IIS Caching modules: This module perform the caching related tasks such as cached content in subsequent requests for the same resource.

Logging & Diagnostics modules: Used to perform tasks related to logging and diagnostics.

Is IIS more secure than Apache?

This one of the most important IIS Interview Questions. You can start answer the question that we normally selection of web-server is depends on your application like ASP or .NET MVC, running on Microsoft IIS will simplify your development and deployment.

IIS is a Microsoft product, as Windows operating system is more popular, therefore IIS has naturally exposed to security breaches. Due to this many hackers spend a good-deal of their time and efforts to exploiting & breaching it security. On the other hand Linux servers are consider more sercure as these operating system have an open source code, and more eyes on the improving critical aspects such as security. Apache-deployments, while perceived as being more secure, are no panacea for keeping web applications safe. You may required some security steps in order to harden your web server sercurity. Following are some secuirty steps for IIS web server installation:

Place the web content on a non system drive or partition

Block the ‘directory browsing’

Disable WebDAV to prevent remote-web content authoring

Configure application-pool identity for application pools

Restrict sensitive features to authenticated principals

Install SSL for “forms authentication”

Is Microsoft IIS free?

IIS is available free on Microsoft server and windows operating systems.

1. Do you know what is web garden?

By default Each Application Pool runs with a Single Worker Process (W3Wp.exe). We can assign multiple Worker Process With a Single Application Pool. An Application Poll with multiple Worker process called Web Gardens. Each Worker Process Should have there own Thread and Own Memory space.

2. How to create an web garden?

For creating web graden we need to go to Application Pool, then Right Click on Application Pool > Properties > Goto Performance Tab

In Web Garden Section, increase the number of worker process. By default it is 1.

3. Tell me how To Save Application Pool Settings In A File?

Right click on Application Pool ->All Task ->Save Configuration to a File.

It will save the configuration file in xml format.

4. Explain me what Is IIs Application Pool?

Application Pool stated that Multiple web applications or Group of web applications.

Application pool contain one or more Web URLs used by Worker processes.For one website or many website we can assign Application Pool, to avoid the effect of other website need to create seperate Application Pool.

5. Tell me what is the Name of Default Application Pool in IIS?

Though we can create new application pool IIS with different settings, but IIS having its own default application pool named: DefaultAppPool

6. Tell us how to create a Virtual Directory on IIS?

Open IIS Configuration Manager

First of all Right Click on Default web sites > New > Virtual Directory .

Browse the Physical Path. Set the properites. Click on OK

7. Tell us can we create one Application Pool From Another Application Pool?

Yes. We can.

While creating Application Application Pool From IIS, there should have two option available first one is for Default Setting and Another is for Existing Setting as template.

We can select the second one and from the drop down listed below we can select any on the Application Pool as Template,.

8. Do you know what Are The Security Authentication In IIs?

1. Anonymous ( Default Authentication in IIS runs under IUSER\_servername )

2. Integrated Windows Authentication

3. Basic Authentication

4. Digest Authentication

5. Passport Authentication

9. Do you know how To Restart Iis From Command Prompt?

Use the following command “IISRESET”.

10. Tell me what is the folder location for Virtual Directory?

<Drive>:inetpubwwwroot

11. Tell us what Are The Execution Permission For Virtual Directory?

1. None

2. Scripts Only

3. Scripts and Executable

12. Tell us what are the main layers of IIS Architecture?

IIS having mainly two layer Kernel Mode and User Mode

Below are the subsection of both of them.

1. Kernel Mode

☛ HTTP.SYS

2. User Mode

☛ Web Admin Service

☛ Virtual Directory

☛ Application Pool

13. What is different Available Identity Of An Application Pool?

For IIS 6.0 – NetworkServices,LocalService,LocalSystem

For IIS 7.0 – NetworkServices,LocalService,LocalSystem and Application Pool Identity.

14. Do you know what Is Isapi Filter?

ISAPI filters are DLL files used to modify the enhance functionality allocated by IIS.By default ISAPI filters run in IIS server.

change request URL or headers

perform custom authentication

Handle encryption and compression

15. Please explain what Is Web Garden?

Configure multiple work process on one application pool in a web server is called as Web Garden.Application Pool can configure for multiple websites hosted in IIS.

16. Explain me difference Between App Pool And App Domain In IIs?

App Pool and App Domain both are for isolations on different approches.App Pool use process to isolate without .net but for App Domain isolation methods by .net.

In Simple terms

For Multiple websites in IIS need different Application Pool.

In Single domain purpose we use Application Domain.

17. Tell us what are the different types of Identity available in IIS 6.0?

IIS having three different Identity.

1. Local System

2. Local Services

3. NetworkServices

18. Explain me what is Web Farm?

This is one of the most question in IIS. And along with that interviewer can as what is the different between Web farm and Web Garden ?

When we hosted our web Application on multiple web server under a load balancer call the Web Farm. This is generally used for heavy load web application where there are many user request at a time. So When Web Application is hosted on Different IIS Server over a load balancer, Load balancer is responsible for distribute the load on different server.

19. Explain me what is the Role of Http.Sys in IIS?

HTTP.SYS is the kernel level components of IIS. All client request comes from client hit the HTTP.Sys of Kernel level. HTTP.SYS then makes a queue for each and every request for each and individual application pool based on the request.

Whenever we create any application pool IIS automatically registers the pool with HTTP.SYS to identify the particular during request processing.

20. Tell me which Is The Default Identity Of An Application Pool?

Network Services

21. What is worker Process In IIs 6.0 And IIs 7.0?

For IIS 6.0 > w3wp.exe

For IIS 7.0 > w3wp.exe

in IIS 5.1 worker process is aspnet\_wp.exe.

22. Do you know how User Can Attach A Particular Worker Process To Application When Multiple Worker Process Are Running In IIs?

First identify the Application pool name and process ID using cscript iisapi.vbs script.Later attach process from Visual Studio IDE.

23. Can you name of default Identity of IIS6.0?

Default Identity of IIS 6.0 is NetworkServices .

Which is having very minimum rights on your system. The user can only have the read access of the site.

24. Please explain how we can set the Idle Time out of an worker process?

We can set the Idle time out for an worker process from Application Pool Properties.

In Performance Tab of Application pool, we can set the Idle Time out of the worker process. This means worker process will shut down after that given time period if it stay idle. And will again wake up again if a new request comes.

25. Please explain what is the Role of IIS?

Visual studio having It own ASP.NET Engine which is capable enough to run Asp.net web application from visual studio. So we just click on Run button to start the application.

Now this is the scenarios of local environment. But If we want to host it on server from where all user can access the sites then IIS comes into the picture.

IIS provides a redesigned WWW architecture that can help you achieve better performance, reliability, scalability, and security for our Web sites. IIS can support following Protocol HTTP/HTTPS, FTP, FTPS, SMTP Etc. We need to host the site on IIS, when request comes from client it first hits the IIS Server, then the server passed it to ASP.NET worker process to execute. Then the response also passes to client via IIS itself.

26. Tell us default IIs Port Numbers?

HTTP – 80

SSL – 443

FTP – 21

SMTP – 25

POP3 – 110

IMAP – 143

NNTP – 119

LDAP – 89

Other Port Number:

DNS – 53

DHCP : 67

27. Tell me what are the different way that we can hosted site on IIS?

We can hosted site on IIS either creating Virtual Directory through IIS manager or Using Folder Web Sharing .

Apart from that Visual studio provide some inbuilt features to host the site on IIS like using Publishing the web site , Using Copy web Tool or Creating Virtual directory during the creating the project by choosing Location as HTTP

28. Tell us how can we set the default page for any web application?

We can set the default page for a web site from the Virtual Directory Setting.

How To :

IIS Manager > Virtual Directory > Right Click > Properties > GoTo Document Tab.

29. Explain me what are the different security settings available in IIS?

Below are the commonly used IIS Security settings

1 Anonymous

2 Integrated Windows Authentication

3. Basic Authentication

4. Digest Authentication

5. Passport Authentication

For Set security permission you need to go to Virtul Directory > Right Click > Properties > Directory Security

Click on Edit Button .

30. Explain me what are the different version on IIS that you have worked on?

Before answering this question you need to know what are the different IIS version is available in different OS. Below is the list of IIS version with different Operating system.

Windows Server 2008 - Windows Vista - Home Premium/ Ultimate - IIS 7.0

Windows Server 2003 - IIS 6.0

Windows XP Professional - IIS 5.1

Now based on your working experience you can say that you have worked on IIS 5.1 and 6.0 or only IIS 7. Etc.

Now, the next question that can asked after answering this question is “what is the difference between them ? ” – Well I will come with this later.

31. Tell me how To Open IIs Manager?

From Run -> inetmgr

Start -> Programs -> Administrative tools

32. Tell me unique Properties Of App Pool In IIs?

1. Recycling Process

2. Performance

3. Health

4. Process Identity

33. Do you know what Is Web Farm In Iis?

Hosting webapplication in multiple webservers using load balancer is called as Web Farm.To avoid the high load in single server this load balancer method will use to distribute the traffic to different server on same web application.

34. Tell me worker Process In IIs 6.0 And IIs 7.0?

1. DefaultAppPool (Integrated)

2. ClassicAppPool

35. Please explain different Layers In IIs Architecture?

Two types of layers in IIS:

Kernal Mode

User Mode

Under Main Layers sub contents are:

1.Kernel Mode

HTTP.SYS

2.User Mode

Web Admin Service

Virtual Directory

Application Pool

36. Tell us what Are The Default Permissions For Virtual Directory?

1. Read

2. Write

3. Execute

4. Browse

5. Run Scripts

37. Tell us how To Take IIs Server Backup?

Open IIS and right click on Computer in IIS.

Select Internet Information Services. Now goto All Tasks Backup/Restore Configuration.

Click on create backup and give the backup name.

38. Do you know what is Recycling of Application Pool?

Recycling Application pool means recycle the Worker process (w3wp.exe ) and the memory used for the web application.

There are two types of recycling related with Application pool

1. Recycling Worker Process - Predefined Settings

2. Recycling Worker Process - Based on Memory

39. Explain me how we can debug a web application which is hosted on IIS?

We can easily debug any web application that are hosted on IIS by using Attaching of Worker Process.

From Visual Studio IDE > Tools > Attach To Process

Select the particular Process, then start debugging.

40. Please explain what are the main components of SVCHost.exe?

Main components for SVCHost.exe are WWW Publishing Service (W3SVC) and Windows Activation Porcess (WAP) .

W3SVC is the mediator of HTTP.SYS and Windows Activation Process. Windows Activation Process maintain the worker processes.

41. Please explain what is Application Pool in IIS?

Before Giving the Definition : you can say like this, Concept of Application pool has from IIS 6.0 .

Application pools are used to separate sets of IIS worker processes that share the same configuration and application boundaries. Application pools used to isolate our web application for better security, reliability, and availability and performance and keep running with out impacting each other . The worker process serves as the process boundary that separates each application pool so that when one worker process or application is having an issue or recycles, other applications or worker processes are not affected.

One Application Pool can have multiple worker process Also.

Main Point to Remember:

1. Isolation of Different Web Application

2. Individual worker process for different web application

3. More reliably web application

4. Better Performance

42. Please explain What Are Core Components Of Svchost.exe In IIs?

SVCHost.exe is the key component of www publishing service (w3svc) and Windows action Process(WAP)(WAP for start and stop the process).

W3SVC is the mediator for HTTP.SYS and WAP(windows activation process)

43. Explain me What Is The Key Role Od Http.sys In IIS?

HTTPS.SYS key component in Kernal level.It process the queue which hit the client request for each Application Pool depend on request.While create any new Application Pool IIS will register the Application Pool with HTTP.SYS.

44. What are default IIs Services?

1. www services (Worldwide Web)

2. FTP services (File Transfer Protocol)

3. SMTP services (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol)

4. NNTP services (Network News Transfer Protocol)

Fresh Top IIS Job Interview Questions:

* 1.How to install our Web Application In IIS Web Server?
* 2.Can we run multiple websites with same port number and different IP address?
* 3.Whats the Hardware requirements for the IIS Server so that we can host a webpage?
* 4.How many times are working in IIS Server?
* 5.In IIS Version 6.0 Through application pool we can provide different -2 applications for the client.
* Is it right?
* If yes then how to provide the application to the client and what kind of application it can be?
* 6.What is App Pool and App Domain? What is the difference between the two in IIS?
* 7.what is the difference between IIS 5.1 and IIS 6 administration?
* 8.What is the proporties of application Pool in IIS?
* 9.What is presentation layer responsible for in the OSI model?
* 10.Does Windows Server 2003 support IPv6?
* 11.Can Windows Server 2003 function as a bridge?
* 12.What is the difference between the basic disk and dynamic disk?
* 13.What scripts ship with IIS 6.0?
* 14.What is the name of the user who connects to the Web site anonymously?
* 15.What secure authentication and encryption mechanisms are supported by IIS 6.0?
* 16.What is the relation between SSL and TLS?
* 17.What is the role of http.sys in IIS?
* 18.Where is ASP cache located on IIS 6.0?
* 19.For the document of size 1 MB, what size would you expect the index to be with Indexing Service?
* 20.What is a vector space query?
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46. Define the different security settings available in IIS?

Below are the commonly used IIS Security settings:

★ Anonymous

★ Integrated Windows Authentication

★ Digest Authentication

★ Passport Authentication

★ Basic Authentication

For Set security permission you need to go to Virtual Directory > Right Click > Properties > Directory Security

Click on Edit Button.

47. Describe the different types of identity available in IIS 6.0?

IIS having three different Identity:

★ Local System

★ Local Services

★ NetworkServices

48. Describe the role of Http.Sys in IIS?

HTTP.SYS is the kernel level components of IIS. All client request comes from client hit the HTTP.Sys of Kernel level. HTTP.SYS then makes a queue for each and every request for each and individual application pool based on the request.

Whenever we create any application pool IIS automatically registers the pool with HTTP.SYS to identify the particular during request processing.

49. Describe the permission settings are available for Virtual directory?

Below are the list of permission that can be set during virtual directory creation:

★ Read

★ Run Scripts

★ Execute

★ Write

★ Browse

50. How to create a Virtual directory on IIS?

Open IIS Configuration Manager

First of all Right Click on Default web sites > New > Virtual Directory .

Browse the Physical Path. Set the properites. Click on OK

51. How to open IIS configuration manager?

Just simply Run >inetmgr

Or we can open it from control panel > Administrative tools.

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In Web Garden Section, increase the number of worker process. By default it is 1.

54. Explain the main layers of IIS architecture?

IIS having mainly two layer Kernel Mode and User Mode.

Below are the subsection of both of them:

1) Kernel Mode

★ HTTP.SYS

2) User Mode

★ Web Admin Service

★ Virtual Directory

★ Application Pool

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Default Identity of IIS 6.0 is Network-Services.

Which is having very minimum rights on your system. The user can only have the read access of the site.

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Though we can create new application pool IIS with different settings, but IIS having its own default application pool named: DefaultAppPool.

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★ Individual worker process for different web application

★ More reliably web application

★ Better Performance

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Note only Hosting of Site we can create our FTP Server, SMTP Server using IIS itself.

There are different version of IIS available like 5.1, 6.0, 7.0 etc.

61. What is a vector space query?

A multiple-word query where the weight can be assigned to each of the search words. For example, if you want to fight information on ‘black hole', but would prefer to give more weight to the word hole, you can enter black hole into the search window.

62. For the document of size 1 MB, what size would you expect the index to be with Indexing Service?

150-300 KB, 15-30% is a reasonable expectation.

63. Where is ASP cache located on IIS 6.0?

On disk, as opposed to memory, as it used to be in IIS 5.

64. What is the role of http.sys in IIS?

It is the point of contact for all incoming HTTP requests. It listens for requests and queues them until they are all processed, no more queues are available, or the Web server is shut down.

65. What is the relation between SSL and TLS?

Transport Layer Security (TLS) extends SSL by providing cryptographic authentication.

66. What secure authentication and encryption mechanisms are supported by IIS 6.0?

Basic authentication, Digest authentication, Advanced digest authentication, Certificate-based Web transactions that use PKCS #7/PKCS #10, Fortezza, SSL, Server-Gated Cryptography, Transport Layer Security

67. What is the name of the user who connects to the Web site anonymously?

IUSR\_computername

68. What scripts ship with IIS 6.0?

iisweb.vsb to create, delete, start, stop, and list Web sites, iisftp.vsb to create, delete, start, stop, and list FTP sites, iisdir.vsb to create, delete, start, stop, and display virtual directories, iisftpdr.vsb to create, delete, start, stop, and display virtual directories under an FTP root, iiscnfg.vbs to export and import IIS configuration to an XML file.

69. What is the difference between the basic disk and dynamic disk?

The basic type contains partitions, extended partitions, logical drivers, and an assortment of static volumes; the dynamic type does not use partitions but dynamically manages volumes and provides advanced storage options

70. Can Windows Server 2003 function as a bridge?

Yes, and it's a new feature for the 2003 product. You can combine several networks and devices connected via several adapters by enabling IP routing.

71. Does Windows Server 2003 support IPv6?

Yes, run ipv6.exe from command line to disable it.

72. What is presentation layer responsible for in the OSI model?

The presentation layer establishes the data format prior to passing it along to the network application's interface. TCP/IP networks perform this task at the application layer.

73. What is the proporties of application Pool in IIS?

The proporties of application Pool in IIS is:

1 Recycling

2 Performance

3 Health

4 Identity

74. what is the difference between IIS 5.1 and IIS 6 administration?

IIS 5.1 is for Windows XP

IIS 6 is for Windows Server, We can create separate application pool with worker process for a separete website in IIS 6.0 Server only.

75. What is App Pool and App Domain? What is the difference between the two in IIS?

► Application pool is created the each and every website.

► Application domain is created to one domain purpose.

76. In IIS Version 6.0 Through application pool we can provide different -2 applications for the client.

Is it right?

If yes then how to provide the application to the client and what kind of application it can be?

If you are running your IIS server with 2 different versions of framework(1.1 & 2.0)you can create 2 different application pools and point your application to the required framework you want to run.

77. How many times are working in IIS Server?

24 Hours

78. Whats the Hardware requirements for the IIS Server so that we can host a webpage?

It depends upon the what kind of Application we are using and related to frontend and backend features .Also Number of hits to the server on live is one of the Important key for the configuration .

Minimal configuration for a PHP webpage is

1.Any mid range server with (IBM system X , blade)

2.4 GB ram

3.160 GB HDD (May vary according to the Data )if separate DB server is used we dont want this much of space for the

Application server

Please be more specific on the Application we are going to host , so that we can plan a good configuration .

79. Can we run multiple websites with same port number and different IP address?

Yes, We can use multiple websites with same port number and different IP address.

80. How to install our Web Application In IIS Web Server?

There are different way to deploy the web application in web server like

1- X Copy deployment

2- create setup package and install the server machine

3- use the deployment tools and configure the server repositery and drag and drop all files in your machine to

virtul folder of server machine,