

Questions

What are the components that are absolutely necessary to build any kind of system no matter the requirement or the scale or the users?

For a very basic system, we need the following components for sure.

Database - Persistence is something that is required for every backend application. So, A Database is utmost necessary

Server - For any system that needs to scale, we need to have a server, so that we can have an API driven architecture so that if the frontend changes, the new frontend can easily consume the existing API's.

Network - We need a Network as a component for the communication between the client and the server and between the server and the database.

Not necessary

Components like a frontend are not necessary because even a console will work or even a curl command will work.

Stuff like Load Balancers, Caches are there for efficient and highly scalable systems, they are not required for basic applications.