NETWORKING & SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION LAB

Name: DONA M THOMAS

Roll No: 49

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Aim

Prepare a comparative study of specifications of desktops and server class computers.

Procedure

Many people mistakenly believe that a server is no different from a typical desktop computer. This couldn't be further from the truth. While almost any computer that meets the minimum hardware requirements can run a server operating system that alone does not make a desktop computer a true server. Even if the desktop computer had similar processor speeds, memory and storage capacity compared to a server, it still isn't a replacement for a real server. The technologies behind them are engineered for different purposes.

A desktop computer system typically runs a user-friendly operating system and desktop applications to facilitate desktop-oriented tasks. In contrast, a server manages all network resources. Servers are often dedicated (meaning it performs no other task besides server tasks). Because a server is engineered to manage, store, send and process data 24-hours a day it has to be more reliable than a desktop computer and offers a variety of features and hardware not typically used in the average desktop computer.