



# \$5 Showdown: Linode vs. DigitalOcean vs. Amazon Lightsail vs. Vultr

14 FEB 2017 • 14 MIN READ • REVIEWS • HOSTING • LINODE • DIGITALOCEAN • LIGHTSAIL • VULTR

1.2k  
Shares

**Updated on March 6th, 2017 since Vultr has updated their \$5 offering. The data tables have been updated and the applicable sections have updates near the end of the section.**

**Usually I wait to run fresh benchmarks on all providers, but the comments section has been blowing up about Vultr's update.**

Every time I post a [\\$10 VPS Hosting Showdown](#), I am flooded with comments from people that want to focus solely on the price. Regardless of the benchmark results, they always say the same thing, **Linode needs a \$5 plan.**

When somebody mentions this, I always say the same thing, “given enough time they will probably offer a \$5 plan”. I said the same thing when people were barking about how Linode didn't even have a \$10 plan.

**And here we are, Linode is now offering \$5 per month instances!**

They also added high memory instances and added more SSD storage to their \$10 per month plan. Expect some other showdowns soon :)

## Overview

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
Memory	1GB	512MB	512MB	1024MB
Processor	1 Core	1 Core	1 Core	1 Core
Storage	20GB SSD	20GB SSD	20GB SSD	25GB SSD
Transfer	1TB	1TB	1TB	1000GB
Overage	\$0.02/GB	\$0.02/GB	\$0.09/GB	\$0.02+/GB
Network In	40Gbps	1Gbps	???	???

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
<b>Network Out</b>	1000Mbps	1Gbps	???	???
<b>Price</b>	\$5/month	\$5/month	\$5/month	\$5/month
	\$0.0075/hour	\$0.007/hour	\$0.007/hour	\$0.007/hour

Right out of the gate Linode is offering twice as much RAM as DigitalOcean and Amazon Lightsail, and 256MB more than Vultr. Even though Vultr is offering a bit more RAM, they offer 25% less storage.

All servers were built out running Ubuntu 16.04 LTS x64 and with the exception of Lightsail (in Virginia) the rest of the instances were in the New York / New Jersey area.

Even though all of the companies are at the same price (except Linode's hourly which is slightly higher), each offers their own special. Amazon offers your first month free without any promo code, while everybody else offers credit that is enough to cover at least 2 months in the case of Linode and DigitalOcean and since their bonus code expired, Vultr is also back down to 2 months.

Linode: [Use code LINODE10](#)

DigitalOcean: [Get \\$10 in credit](#)

Lightsail: No promo code, first month free!

Vultr: [Get \\$10 in credit](#)

Quick note, when running my benchmarks, Vultr borked during software update. Unsure the cause, but I had received an error that it couldn't get the lock. I've seen the error before by running apt more than once, but never on a brand new server that I was the only person logged in.

\* **March 6th, 2017 Update** Vultr bumped their plan from 768MB to 1024MB of RAM and from 15 to 25GB of storage. They now have a comparable RAM offering to that of Linode and slightly more storage than all competitors.

## CPU Info

So what exactly is underneath the hood? Here's some abridged data from `/proc/cpuinfo`

```
cat /proc/cpuinfo
```

	Model Name	CPU MHz	Cache Size	BogoMips
<b>Linode</b>	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2680 v2	2,799.998	4,096KB	5,602.32
<b>DigitalOcean</b>	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2630L v2	2,399.998	15,360KB	4,799.99
<b>Lightsail</b>	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2676 v3	2,400.060	30,720KB	4,800.12
<b>Vultr</b>	Virtual CPU a7769a6388d5	2,394.454	4,096KB	4,788.90

I'm not the most versed in hardware, but it looks like Linode, DigitalOcean and Lightsail have comparable CPUs with Linode having the fastest of the bunch. Even with what appears to be an older CPU, Vultr's speed came in second.

\* **March 6th, 2017 Update** Vultr originally reported an Intel Xeon E3-12xx v2 (Ivy Bridge) clocking in at 2599.996. On the box I spun up to run updated benchmarks, the CPU was reported as Virtual CPU a7769a6388d5 and only 2394.454MHz.

## CPU Benchmarks

```
sysbench --test=cpu run
```

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
<b>Number of Events</b>	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
<b>Total Time</b>	11.7018s	13.0227s	11.3688s	11.7363s
<b>Event Execution</b>	11.6999s	13.0198s	11.3672s	11.7331s
<b>Minimum Request</b>	1.16ms	1.22ms	1.03ms	1.12ms
<b>Average Request</b>	1.17ms	1.30ms	1.14ms	1.17ms
<b>Maximum Request</b>	1.44ms	5.17ms	2.16ms	11.80ms
<b>95th Percentile</b>	1.18ms	1.34ms	1.21ms	1.33ms

For the most part, everybody performed about the same at the 9th percentile. Linode's max requests weren't nearly as high as the other guys.

\* **March 6th, 2017 Update** Vultr clocked in about the same as before. The only notable difference is that the maximum request jumped from 4.18ms to 11.80ms.

## Memory Benchmarks

### Memory Reads

```
sysbench --test=memory run
```

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
<b>Number of Events</b>	104,857,600	104,857,600	104,857,600	104,857,600
<b>Total Time</b>	41.4636s	84.3949s	71.4697s	57.6430s
<b>Execution Time</b>	34.1515ms	67.3855s	56.8831s	46.8024s
<b>Minimum Request</b>	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms
<b>Average Request</b>	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms
<b>Maximum Request</b>	3.65ms	1.51ms	0.23ms	8.25ms
<b>95th Percentile</b>	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms
<b>Operations/sec</b>	2,522,822.27	1,242,463.36	1,467,161.71	1,819,085.95
<b>MB/sec</b>	2,463.69	1,213.34	1,432.78	1,776.45

### Memory Writes

```
sysbench --test=memory --memory-oper=write run
```

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
<b>Number of Events</b>	104,857,600	104,857,600	104,857,600	104,857,600
<b>Total Time</b>	41.2297s	81.5642s	71.3810s	56.7589s
<b>Execution Time</b>	34.1296s	64.9544s	56.8120s	46.0790s
<b>Minimum Request</b>	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms
<b>Average Request</b>	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms
<b>Maximum Request</b>	0.42ms	5.21ms	0.19ms	3.86ms
<b>95th Percentile</b>	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms
<b>Operations/sec</b>	2,543,252.11	1,285,584.18	1,468,984.58	1,847,421.59
<b>MB/sec</b>	2,483.64	1,255.45	1,434.56	1,804.12

Somewhat expected, the providers offering more RAM ended up having faster speeds. If RAM is important to you, you'd get more bang for your buck with Linode or Vultr at the \$5 price point.

\* **March 6th, 2017 Update** Vultr remained in the #2 spot, but had slipped a bit since the previous set of benchmarks.

## File I/O Benchmarks

```
sysbench --test=fileio prepare
sysbench --test=fileio --file-test-mode=rndrw run
sysbench --test=fileio cleanup
```

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
<b>Number of Events</b>	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
<b>Total Time</b>	1.9924s	1.4641s	6.6209s	2.8518s
<b>Execution Time</b>	0.5274s	0.5873s	1.9269s	1.6152s
<b>Minimum Request</b>	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms	0.00ms
<b>Average Request</b>	0.05ms	0.06ms	0.19ms	0.16ms
<b>Maximum Request</b>	7.45ms	1.80ms	1.82ms	5.50ms
<b>95th Percentile</b>	0.11ms	0.10ms	0.37ms	0.41ms
<b>Requests/sec</b>	5,019.11	6,929.91	1,510.36	3,506.57
<b>MB/sec</b>	78.424	106.72	23.599	54.79

Quite the mixed bag for the file I/O benchmarks. DigitalOcean performed a decent percentage about Linode, and over 2x the requests per second of Vultr and over 4x that of Lightsail!

\* **March 6th, 2017 Update** Vultr saw a slight improvement, but not enough to change the outcome on this benchmark.

## MySQL Benchmarks

```
mysql -uroot -e "CREATE DATABASE sbtest;"
sysbench --test=oltp --oltp-table-size=1000000 --mysql-user=root prepare
sysbench --test=oltp --oltp-table-size=1000000 --mysql-user=root run
sysbench --test=oltp --oltp-table-size=1000000 --mysql-user=root cleanup
```

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
<b>Number of Events</b>	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
<b>Total Time</b>	29.1639s	43.8152s	52.5180s	32.7331s
<b>Execution Time</b>	29.1167s	43.7459s	52.4601s	32.6649s
<b>Minimum Request</b>	2.16ms	2.53ms	2.37ms	2.08ms
<b>Average Request</b>	2.91ms	4.37ms	5.25ms	3.27ms
<b>Maximum Request</b>	884.57ms	325.37ms	171.01ms	28.23ms
<b>95th Percentile</b>	3.03ms	8.45ms	13.58ms	4.49ms
<b>Read/write Requests/sec</b>	6,514.91	4,336.39	3,617.80	5,804.53

Linode had the best performance at the 95th percentile and the most reads/write requests per second but the maximum request time was nearly a second. Vultr was second in read/writes but also had a significantly better maximum request time.

\* **March 6th, 2017 Update** Vultr saw another bit of improvement, but not enough to move the needle since last time.

## Apache Benchmarks

```
ab -kc 1000 -n 10000 http://127.0.0.1/
```

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
<b>Concurrency Level</b>	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>Time taken</b>	3.044s	1.991s	1.285s	1.406s
<b>Completed Requests</b>	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
<b>Failed Requests</b>	10	11	4	2
<b>Requests/sec</b>	3,285.22	5,023.11	7,784.84	7,110.55
<b>Time per request</b>	304.393ms	199.080ms	128.455ms	144.636ms
<b>Transfer rate Kbyte/sec</b>	37,276.91	56,990.74	88,386.49	80,746.67

Somebody had mentioned that I should do the Apache Benchmark with Nginx. I may in the future if there's enough interest. Nginx is my webserver of choice, but using Apache with the Apache Benchmark utility makes sense to me for the sake of these reviews.

\* **March 6th, 2017 Update** Slight improvement from Vultr, but really just more of the same.

## Network Benchmarks

As mentioned before, I chose datacenters in New York / New Jersey for Linode, DigitalOcean and Vultr. The Lightsail instance lives in Virginia.

```
./speedtest-cli --server=7340
```

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
<b>Distance</b>	2,269.12	2,282.16km	1,933.53km	2,251.70km

	Linode	DigitalOcean	Lightsail	Vultr
Ping	92.124ms	75.602ms	65.945ms	68.769ms
Download Mbit/sec	545.47	329.19	197.72	705.48
Upload Mbit/sec	81.77	112.22	106.61	109.35

I like to include this metric but it always feels like a crap shoot with the varying locations of the servers. Never an apples to apples comparison. DigitalOcean's upload time squeaked by Lightsail and Vultr while Linode was able to blow past everybody in terms of download speed.

\* **March 6th, 2017 Update** Decent bump in download speeds from Vultr with this benchmark. The distance to the server ended up being about 1,000km less though, which was weird because I spun up a Vultr instance in the same New York (NJ) data center as last time and used the same speed test server in Houston.

## Conclusion

Linode's new plan is not only offering the consistently better performance I've seen in past dollar for dollar comparisons, but also the single digit price point that people have been craving.

Linode is still a bit behind the curve when it comes to things like block storage volumes, default SSH keys and yeah, their UI. Patience is a virtue, and given enough time, Linode always seems to deliver.

And when they deliver, it tends to blow everybody's offerings out of the water.

## Digging this article?



If so, why not sign up for updates? I post at least once a week about coding and technology, life hacking and productivity, cooking and fermentation, book reviews and more!

Full articles delivered straight to your inbox!

**Gimme the goods!**

That said, DigitalOcean also had a big announcement today and are now offering Load Balancers for \$20 per month. Linode has offered their version, called Node Balancers for a while now, and at the same price point. Vultr and Lightsail don't current offer this, but you could also spin up an instance that serve as a self-managed load balancer.

Linode's announcement today is something I'd have expected on their birthday later this year as that's when they tend to make these announcements. Can't wait to see what's in store in June!

Like all of my reviews, YMMV and you need to pick the provider that fits your needs. If you do end up making a decision based on this review, I'd very much appreciate it if you used my referral links for [Linode](#), [DigitalOcean](#) and/or [Vultr](#).

Amazon doesn't do referrals, but you could always donate to [Ubuntu](#) as that's the Linux distro I use for these reviews.

Oh yeah, and Happy Valentine's Day!

\* **March 6th, 2017 Update** Vultr's latest offering definitely helps them compete with Linode by offering the same amount of RAM. If you are looking for more storage for the buck, they would be the way to go. Otherwise, most of the metrics saw an improvement, but nothing that made their offering better than everybody else.

What's interesting is that they are now offering a \$2.50 plan that's on par with DigitalOcean and Amazon Lightsail's \$5 plans. Starts to seem like a race to the bottom at a certain point. Time will tell if there needs to be a \$2.50 showdown in the future ;)



Husband. Father. Pug dad. Born again Linux user. I beat PHP and so can you. Building amazing tools at [Sumo](#). Once beat Super Mario Bros. w/o using a Warp Zone.

Follow me on [Twitter](#) and [GitHub](#) and [subscribe for updates!](#)

« [Next Post](#)  
[The 48 Laws of Power](#)

[Previous Post](#) »  
[You may not need Oh My Zsh](#)

77 Comments [joshtronic](#)

[Login](#)

Recommend 19 Share

Sort by Best



Join the discussion...

LOG IN WITH

OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS

Name



This comment is awaiting moderation. [Show comment](#).

[Josh Sherman](#) Mod [Daniel Aleksandersen](#) · 4 months ago

Solid tips, will definitely give that a whirl next review :) Cheers!

1 · [Reply](#) · [Share](#)

[dyskusja](#) · 5 months ago

Wow, there are people who don't like Linode GUI? I'm always positively surprised when I use their GUI. It's extremely

readable, it works well with and without Javascript, it's lightning fast. Compared to Linode, the Amazon console is a torture and DigitalOcean is kind of OK but not very fast.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Daniel Aleksandersen** → dyskusja · 4 months ago

I kind of like it, but really hate it too. I've written about my experiences in detail in two blog posts:

- [Restoring from a Linode Backup is really confusing](#)
- [Linode DNS Manager pitfall](#)

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Daniel Aleksandersen · 4 months ago

Great posts, thanks for the links!!

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → dyskusja · 5 months ago

Yeah, seems like a pretty common thing. It's definitely dated looking, but I do agree, it's fast and it works. I especially love the DNS manager. Just does what it's supposed to. Honestly, unsure why people are in the GUI so much anyway

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Eloff** · 5 months ago

Lightsail does not offer 5TB transfer at \$5/mo, that's at \$80/mo.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Eloff · 5 months ago

Oh damn, good eye!! Updated!

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Chisomo K.** · 4 months ago

Hey, I signed up to Vultr using your affiliate link but didn't receive any credit, when I enquired about it they said the offer had expired but even if the \$20 offer had expired I should still get \$10 right? Just wanted to check if you've been credited for sign ups using your link?

Also just to add the \$2.50 plan on Vultr is meant to be a "sandbox plan" rather than a plan intended for production and is limited to 2 instances on your account so it's not entirely a race to the bottom.

Cheers

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Chisomo K. · 4 months ago

That's shitty. I have been seeing sign ups, but they don't show me how much credit was given out. You are correct, the way they had the incentive stuff worded, it would expire back down to the 10\$ a month.

Did you try reaching out to them?

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Kevin Saliou** · 5 months ago

Have you tried Scaleway?

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Kevin Saliou · 5 months ago

I haven't, but am really intrigued by their bare metal offerings. Do you use them? If so, what are your thoughts on it?

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Elisha Bentzi** → Josh Sherman · 4 months ago

Hi, I use scaleway 3\$ VC1 server, that is really 4\$ because one IP is 1\$ month.

The support is worst that bad, is non existent, you are by yourself. The documentation is outdated. we can not make a hot backup, and have a bug that if the server is stoped, when restarted, the filesystem is mixed with ext3 and ext4 confusions. I have to spend 20\$ and a lot of my hours in external support



to confirm that the problem was not my configuration.

I'm here looking for a replacement of scaleway and move to linode vultr or digital ocean. Linode look good.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Elisha Bentzi · 4 months ago

Oh man, that does sound terrible. It's crazy because a lot of folks have been saying I should include them in the review. Amazing the kind of crap people are willing to go through just to save a buck!

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Mark** · 5 months ago

You should really add OVH and Scaleway (VCS1) to this test so we have a genuine comparison against the biggest players in the industry. OVH and scaleway both come in at €3 a month so they are certainly comparable to DO, Amazon, Linode etc at \$5

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Thomas** → Mark · 5 months ago

The problem with OVH is the hard requirement that you need to send a proof of address and your ID card to become a customer which is a bridge too far.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Alexei Martchenko** → Thomas · 5 months ago

This is becoming a standard... unfortunately (or not, I really dunno)

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Alexei Martchenko · 5 months ago

I don't work with enough new (new to me) providers these days. From my experience though, this doesn't seem to be the norm yet. I can see why it could become the standard though, help mitigate spammers and all of that

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Thomas · 5 months ago

That is kinda crappy. My domain provider was the same way, but they have been amazing. Small hurdles tend to keep the riff raff out, at least? :P

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Mark · 5 months ago

For me they are comparable at the spec level (comparing say 2GB plans) but at €3-3.5 they come in at less than \$5 which kind of defeats the purpose of a \$5 showdown comparing exact price points.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Phil Helm** → Josh Sherman · 5 months ago

I think it would be interesting to see if the Scaleway Baremetal / VPS €2.99 offerings come close to the \$5 alternatives.

Also it would be interesting to see how the €5.99 or €9.99 Scaleway VPS offerings compare to the \$10 showdown VPSs,

Then again Scaleway don't seem to have a referral scheme ;)

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Phil Helm · 5 months ago

Been toying with putting together a matrix where you can compare different plans price points across different providers (or even comparing a single company to itself). Only held back by my own bandwidth right now :)

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Robert** · 5 months ago



-----> message

Please review also the OVH VPS SSD, they seem to be a better bang for the buck.

#### OVH VPS SSD 1

KVM OpenStack

1 vCore

2,4 GHz

2 GB RAM

SSD 10 GB

RAID 10 local

2,99 €/month + VAT

(3,62 € VAT included.)

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Robert · 5 months ago

I may in the future, but it would be in one of the comparisons of similar specifications (usually going with RAM) since OVH doesn't offer the same price point as the rest. Cheers!

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Mark** → Josh Sherman · 5 months ago

You pick the comparisons based on RAM? Yet you pick the Linode that has double the RAM of DO and Amazon? Your logic doesn't make sense. Are you picking on price (which seems to be the case) or are you picking based on RAM? If its based on price then you should include OVH as they are the worlds biggest hosting provider so it makes sense.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Mark · 5 months ago

I pick based on overall metrics. I also advice that you need to pick your provider based on your use case. OVH has been coming up more and more but their pricing doesn't fall in line with the \$5 and 10\$ posts. Sometimes being less expensive can also mean being omitted. Perhaps I'll include them in a future post comparing instances with the same amount of RAM. Cheers!

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**gosukiwi** · 5 months ago

If you are looking for cheap hosting, OpenShift is pretty nice. It gives you 3 gears for free, each gear is 512 RAM and 1GB Storage. 3 small instances for free is no joke. What sucks is that you have to move to a \$20 plan after that if you need more, not many intermediate plans. Also only US & Europe can buy plans for now I think.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → gosukiwi · 5 months ago

Interesting, hadn't heard about this before. Seems more like a competitor for Heroku and not necessarily in the same realm as a typical VPS?

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**jonathanbartlett** · 5 months ago

On your benchmarks, Linode seems to be coming ahead in everything EXCEPT Apache. Any guesses as to why? I agree NGINX would be a nice comparison, too, but I'm really curious what it is that Linode isn't optimized for that Apache is hitting. Is it perhaps task switching?

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → jonathanbartlett · 5 months ago

I really wish I knew what's up there. Very well could be task switching, could be something else unique to their setup. Definitely interested in running some benchmarks with nginx in the future to at least figure out if the issue is Apache or Linode specific

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Jeremy John** · 4 months ago

I have multiple Digital Ocean servers and cat /proc/cpuinfo on each gives me a different CPU models with different Ghz from 2.0Ghz to 2.4Ghz and as for my Linode server the CPU model i got is Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2680 v3 @ 2.5Ghz. So i think every Linode/Droplet gives a different result as its the matter of keep spinning a new one until you

2.5GHz. So I think every Linode/Droplet gives a different result so it's the matter of keep spinning a new one until you get the Perfect IP and CPU.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Jeremy John · 4 months ago

Seems pretty common with a lot of the VPS providers. Where it gets really interesting is when you end up upgrading and you run the risk of moving to another server that may have different specs!

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Edii** · 4 months ago

Great stuff! I came to research the best company for RAM and CPU. I care less about storage.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Edii · 4 months ago

Did you end up making a decision? I haven't actually dug into the high memory instances yet, sounds like that would be up your alley

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Ralph Rothschild** · 5 months ago

Vultr has upgraded their \$5 USD plan. It now comes with 1GB RAM.

They've also introduced a \$2.5 USD plan with 512MB RAM.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Ralph Rothschild · 5 months ago

Thank's for the head's up! I went ahead and updated the post to include some benchmarks since they've made their update!

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Shibli Chowdhury** · 5 months ago

**@Josh Sherman**

i have been comparing this one with \$10 showdown and what i found linodes 5\$ is performing better then 10\$ plan in some places. quite similar result with digitalocean also. how come this is possible?

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Shibli Chowdhury · 5 months ago

Can't say for certain, but there are a lot of things that have to be factored in, like the luck of the draw on the hardware I'm being assigned (all of the companies have new and old hardware that you could be assigned to which could skew results) as well as the time of day and who the neighbors are on the boxes et cetera. I'm thinking it would be fun to try benchmarking a single company against itself by spinning up a bunch of boxes and running the benchmarks on all of them at the same time to compare!

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Kenn Ejima** · 5 months ago

How's the referral conversion between vendors? Now in favor of Linode? :)

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Kenn Ejima · 5 months ago

Hadn't checked until you said something. Up until recently, DO was ahead in that regard. That said, Linode referrals has went up dramatically since the 5\$ announcement. Vultr has been slow to gain any traction but has started to see some sign ups!

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Finn Magnusson** · 5 months ago

Only Vultr officially supports OpenBSD so only Vultr is good enough in my book.

Just like Windows taught me to appreciate Linux, Linux taught me to appreciate the BSDs (and to some extent their derivatives MacOS X and Android).

Choose OpenBSD for your Unix needs. OpenBSD - the world's simplest and most secure Unix-like OS. Creator of the world's most used SSH implementation OpenSSH, the most elegant firewall PF, the mail server OpenSMTPD, the webserver httpd, the OpenSSL rewrite LibreSSL, and a whole bunch of other projects

the webservers help, the OpenBSD rewrite LibreSSL, and a whole bunch of other projects.  
OpenBSD - the cleanest kernel, the cleanest userland and the cleanest configuration syntax.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Finn Magnusson · 5 months ago

A very valid point :) Got me thinking I should do a distro showdown and get everybody's distro offerings in one place :)

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Mike** · 5 months ago

What about also comparing to DevCapsule? <https://devcapsule.com>

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → Mike · 5 months ago

TBH, never even heard of them. There's a ton of companies out there, hard to include them all. These posts started many moons ago as just Linode vs DO (as that's what I was using) and I start to include different providers as the demand increases.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**anonymous4711** · 5 months ago

That's a very nice summary. Thanks!

It might be worth mentioning that especially those in Europe might also want to consider other providers like Exoscale or Cloudscale (although the latter has no hourly billing) for reasons of latency and privacy protection laws. And finally (depending on what you do; availability of different Oses could influence your decision. Basically everyone offers Debian or Ubuntu, but not necessarily Fedora. One or two offer FreeBSD, OpenBSD or Windows server.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → anonymous4711 · 5 months ago

Good to know. So many providers out there! Have been noticing the European providers are usually around the 3,50 price point. Perhaps a three and a half pounds or euro post in the future? :P

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**FlyingAvatar** · 5 months ago

An "orders of magnitude" difference would imply a minimum of 100x difference.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → FlyingAvatar · 5 months ago

You got me, I shoulda said bajillion. Updated :)

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**S.S. Elwood** · 5 months ago

Vultr ships their Ubuntu 16.04 images with unattended installs enabled, which has a net effect of being unable to get a lock with apt for about five minutes after the machine is first launched (because unattended install is running in the background). It's great for users that want to set and forget, but does causes issues for anyone eager to log in and immediately install software.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Josh Sherman** Mod → S.S. Elwood · 5 months ago

Didn't realize that! I haven't done much with Vultr, I guess in the past I had let my new instance sit idle enough to get the updates done. Pretty cool selling point for somebody that doesn't want to have to worry about that stuff out of the box.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

[Load more comments](#)







