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Top 20 System Design Concepts You Should Know

- 1 - Load Balancing: Distributes traffic across multiple servers for reliability and availability.
- 2 - Caching: Stores frequently accessed data in memory for faster access.
- 3 - Database Sharding: Splits databases to handle large-scale data growth.
- 4 - Replication: Copies data across replicas for availability and fault tolerance.
- 5 - CAP Theorem: Trade-off between consistency, availability, and partition tolerance.
- 6 - Consistent Hashing: Distributes load evenly in dynamic server environments.
- 7 - Message Queues: Decouples services using asynchronous event-driven architecture.
- 8 - Rate Limiting: Controls request frequency to prevent system overload.
- 9 - API Gateway: Centralized entry point for routing API requests.
- 10 - Microservices: Breaks systems into independent, loosely coupled services.
- 11 - Service Discovery: Locates services dynamically in distributed systems.
- 12 - CDN: Delivers content from edge servers for speed.
- 13 - Database Indexing: Speeds up queries by indexing important fields.
- 14 - Data Partitioning: Divides data across nodes for scalability and performance.
- 15 - Eventual Consistency: Guarantees consistency over time in distributed databases
- 16 - WebSockets: Enables bi-directional communication for live updates.
- 17 - Scalability: Increases capacity by upgrading or adding machines.
- 18 - Fault Tolerance: Ensures system availability during hardware/software failures.
- 19 - Monitoring: Tracks metrics and logs to understand system health.
- 20 - Authentication & Authorization: Controls user access and verifies identity securely.

Over to you: Which other System Design concept will you add to the list?

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Source: [Alex Xu](#)

Top 20 System Design Concepts

Every Developer Should Know

1 Load Balancing



Distributes traffic across multiple servers for reliability

2 Caching



Stores frequent data in memory for faster access

3 Database Sharding



Splits databases to handle large-scale data growth

4 Replication



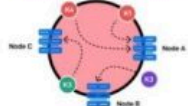
Copies data across replicas for availability and fault-tolerance

5 CAP Theorem



Trade-off between consistency, availability, and partition tolerance

6 Consistent Hashing



Distributes traffic across multiple servers for reliability

7 Message Queues



Decouples services using async event-driven architecture

8 Rate Limiting



Controls request frequency to prevent system overload

9 API Gateway



Centralized entry point for routing API requests

10 Microservices



Breaks systems into independent, loosely coupled services

11 Service Discovery



Locates services dynamically in distributed systems

12 CDNS



Delivers content from edge servers for speed

13 DB Indexing



Speeds up queries by indexing important fields

14 Partitioning



Divides data across nodes for scalability and performance

15 Eventual Consistency



Guarantees consistency over time in distributed databases

16 WebSockets



Ensure bidirectional communication for live updates

17 Scalability



Increases capacity by upgrading or adding machines

18 Fault Tolerance



Ensures system availability during hardware/software failures

19 Monitoring



Tracks metrics and logs to understand system health

20 AuthN & AuthZ



Controls user access and verifies identity securely