



## How do I know what hardware I need?

This FAQ is intended to answer common questions about Hardware Requirements for Best Practice Software.



Before proceeding to install Best Practice Software, please ensure that your computer hardware meets the following specifications. These specifications are a guide and your requirements will vary depending on the role of the computer. User's experience will be best on systems that meet or are above the recommended specifications.

Please contact your network administrator for advice on whether your current hardware is suitable and how to improve the performance of your system. This is particularly relevant if you have a large number of users (over 15), if your patient's database exceeds 4GB or if your server performs multiple tasks serving a number of applications.

In these cases you will need to evaluate how the performance of your server will be affected by the introduction of another application (i.e. Best Practice).

### Server Security - Fault Tolerance points to consider:

- RAID 1 (Mirroring of HDD)
- Offsite backup location
- Gigabit networking
- Having gigabit network cards in the Server and Workstations, along with a network switch/router capable of gigabit networks.
- Clustering (Windows Server Enterprise Edition, not SQL clustering)
- Load Balancing (Network & Server)



### **Stand-Alone computer** (X86 & X64)

Item:	Minimum Specifications:	Recommended Specifications:
OS:	See <b>Page 2/3</b> on <b>operating systems</b>	See <b>Page 2/3</b> on <b>operating systems</b>
Processor:	Intel Pentium 4 (LGA775) or higher	Intel Core2Duo or higher
Ram:	1GB or higher	2 GB or higher
Hard Disk:	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>disk space requirements</b>	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>disk space requirements</b>
Monitor:	15" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1024 x 768 at 16 bit colour (or better) and a SVGA compatible graphics card.	17" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1280 x 1024 at 32 bit colour and a SVGA compatible graphics card.
CD ROM/DVD:	DVD-ROM Reader - 80mm media compatible	DVD-RW (16x or above) - 80mm media compatible
Printer:	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>Printer Requirements</b>	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>Printer Requirements</b>



### Server computer (X86 & X64)

Item:	Minimum Specifications:	Recommended Specifications:
OS:	See <b>Page 2/3</b> on <b>operating systems</b>	See <b>Page 2/3</b> on <b>operating systems</b>
Processor:	Intel Pentium 4 (LGA775) or higher	Intel Core2Quad/Xeon or higher
Ram	2 GB or higher	4 GB or higher (ECC RAM if possible)
Hard Disk:	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>disk space requirements</b>	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>disk space requirements</b>
Monitor:	15" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1024 x 768 at 16 bit colour (or better) and a SVGA compatible graphics card.	17" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1280 x 1024 at 32 bit colour and a SVGA compatible graphics card.
CD ROM/DVD:	DVD-ROM Reader - 80mm media compatible	DVD-RW (16x or above) - 80mm media compatible
Printer:	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>Printer Requirements</b>	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>Printer Requirements</b>



### Workstation computer (X86 & X64)

Item:	Minimum Specifications:	Recommended Specifications:
OS:	See <b>Page 2/3</b> on <b>operating systems</b>	See <b>Page 2/3</b> on <b>operating systems</b>
Processor:	Intel Celeron (LGA775) or higher	Intel Pentium 4 (LGA775) or higher
Ram	512 MB or higher	1 GB or higher
Hard Disk:	Hard disk (c:\drive) should have a minimum of 10 GB free disk space.	Hard disk (c:\drive) should have a minimum of 10 GB free disk space.
Monitor:	15" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1024 x 768 at 16 bit colour (or better) and a SVGA compatible graphics card.	17" monitor, running a resolution of at least 1280 x 1024 at 32 bit colour and a SVGA compatible graphics card.
CD ROM/DVD:	CD-ROM Reader - 80mm media compatible	DVD-RW (16x or above) - 80mm media compatible
Printer:	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>Printer Requirements</b>	See <b>Page 3</b> on <b>Printer Requirements</b>



## Supported SQL Versions

The current installation disk supports installation of SQL 2005 Express, SQL 2008 Express and SQL 2008 R2 Express editions. SQL 2000 Express (MSDE) is no longer provided on the Best Practice installation disk. These can be upgraded to use a full version of SQL if required.

When installing BP on a new machine, it is important to install the same SQL version on both server and workstations. If you are installing BP on a new workstation that uses Windows Vista or Windows 7 operating systems and have been using Best Practice for a long time, you may need to update your server and all other workstations to use this same version of SQL to bring them all into line. (i.e. – If the Server has MSDE installed and you have a workstation running Windows 7 you will have to upgrade the server to SQL 2005 / 2008 Express)

## Supported Operating Systems

### Operating Systems that are supported are:-

Windows XP Professional SP3  
(32bit and 64bit)

Windows Server 2003  
SP 1 or higher  
(32bit and 64bit)

Windows Vista Business &  
Ultimate SP1 or higher  
(32bit and 64bit)

Windows Server 2008  
(32bit and 64bit)

Windows 7 Professional  
& Ultimate  
(32bit and 64bit)

Windows Server 2008 R2  
(32bit and 64bit)

Windows Small Business Server  
2011 Standard & Essentials  
(64bit)



**Note:** Best Practice Software cannot support the following systems:

- 1) Windows operating system - Home editions
- 2) Apple hardware and operating systems
- 3) Virtual machines and virtual environments

Best Practice support staff may be unable to assist in troubleshooting problems on these operating systems.

If your system does not meet the minimum requirements, you will need to upgrade your hardware before attempting to install Best Practice Software.

## Terminal Server

Best Practice installation does not require any special configuration to install on a terminal server. We do recommend however that you use the 'Install Application on Remote Desktop' option within windows to install the application.

## Printer Requirements

Any Windows supported printer can be used with Best Practice. If installing BP on 64-bit OS and/or Terminal Session, ensure that the printer and drive is also compatible with that operating environment.



On Terminal server, when the workstation uses a local printer rather than a network printed, it is recommended that the user prints to the default printer as the printer names change for each session.

## Disk Space Requirements

Best Practice's database is installed by default to the server's C:\ Drive. You will require a minimum of 10 GB free disk space, however this will vary according to how large your current software's databases are and how large they will become in the future (assuming your practice is converting from another software package).

Some items to consider are: -

### MD2, MD3, MT32 and Practix Conversions

When performing any conversion, the hard drive (C:\ Drive) must have free space equal to at least 2.5 times the size of the current software's database files. After the conversion is complete, you then need to take into account the expected growth of the data for the future and ensure that there is ample free disk space on the C:\ Drive to allow for this.

### Performing Best Practice Compressed Backups

Compressed backups require a significant amount of disk space to be available on the hard drive (C:\ Drive). You will need free space equal to approximately 3 times the size of the Best Practice database files (i.e. BPSPatients.mdf, BPSDocuments1.mdf, etc). The default location for the database files are: -

MSDE Desktop Engine: C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL  
Server\MSSQL\$BPSINSTANCE\Data

SQL 2005 Express: C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL.1\MSSQL\Data

SQL 2008 Express: C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL  
Server\MSSQL10.BPSINSTANCE\MSSQL\DATA

### What to do if your C:\drive has insufficient free disk space.

If your server has limited space on C:\Drive you can install Best Practice to an alternate drive during installation - the 'Wizard' installation option will allow you to change the location of both the data and program files.

## MORE INFORMATION

For more information consult the Best Practice Help Library or contact us via our



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