

# Licensing Microsoft SharePoint Server

This brief applies to all Commercial Licensing programs.

## Contents

Summary .....	1
What's new in this brief.....	1
Details.....	1
Concepts that provide a framework for SharePoint Server licensing .....	1
Microsoft SharePoint Server licensing.....	2
Use scenarios .....	3

## Summary

This brief clarifies the licensing of Microsoft SharePoint Server by defining concepts that provide a framework for SharePoint Server licensing. This brief also gives some examples of how to license common use scenarios.

## What's new in this brief

This brief replaces the previous version published in April 2017. It was updated to reflect details about SharePoint Server 2019.

## Details

### Concepts that provide a framework for SharePoint Server licensing

**Internal users:** Users who are the licensee's or its affiliates' employees and on-site agents and contractors.

**External users:** Users who aren't the licensee's or its affiliates' employees or on-site agents or contractors.

**Intranet:** Website hosting content, information, or software that's accessible inside the firewall to internal users only.

# Licensing Microsoft SharePoint Server

**Extranet:** Website hosting content, information, or software that's accessible inside the firewall to internal users and named external users only.

**Internet:** Website hosting content, information, or software that's publicly accessible to all users (internal and external).

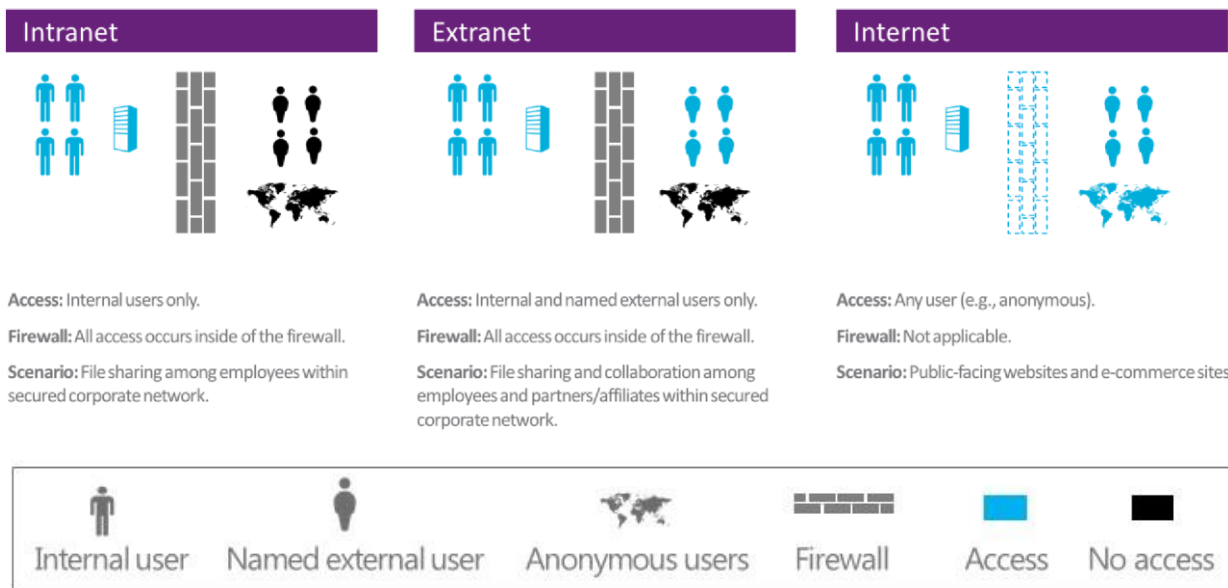


Figure 1: Concepts related to SharePoint Server licensing

Figure 1 illustrates the differences between intranet, extranet, and Internet websites, because these concepts apply to the licensing of SharePoint Server.

## Microsoft SharePoint Server licensing

Microsoft licenses SharePoint Server under the Server/Client Access License (CAL) licensing model. The Server/CAL licensing model requires both a server license for each copy of the server software a customer installs and uses and CALs for the users (or devices) that access that software. CAL requirements vary based on user status, and CALs are generally required for internal users to access all SharePoint Server software.

An exception to this is internal user access to Internet websites (public-facing websites such as e-commerce sites). In this case, the SharePoint CAL requirement is waived. In contrast to the general requirement for CALs for internal user access, CALs aren't required for external users to access SharePoint Server. In other words, the server license provides access rights for external users. The same criteria can be used for determining when CALs are required for SharePoint base CALs and Enterprise CALs.

However, SharePoint Enterprise CALs are required only if functionality corresponding to the SharePoint Enterprise CAL is accessed. For more information about which SharePoint features are part of the base product and which

# Licensing Microsoft SharePoint Server

features are considered additional functionality requiring additive CALs, refer to <http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/jj819267.aspx> or <http://sharepoint.microsoft.com/en us/Pages/Buy.aspxus/Pages/Buy.aspx>.

The following decision tree illustrates whether a user needs a SharePoint CAL or not. "Restricted" refers to content stored inside the firewall for internal access and possibly limited, identified external user access. "Public/Internet" refers to content stored outside the firewall for broad, unrestricted access.

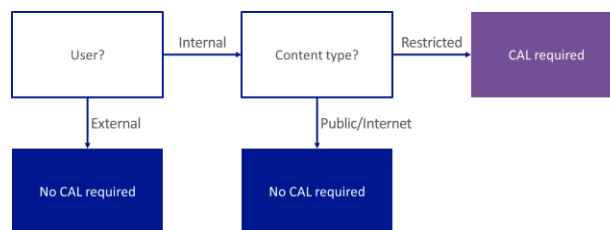


Figure 2: SharePoint CAL decision tree

## Use scenarios

This document also illustrates common deployment scenarios to further explain the licensing requirements of SharePoint Server. Users can license these same deployment scenarios under device-based CALs.

### Scenario A: Intranet

**Description:** Internal users accessing content, information, or applications inside the firewall through a local area network (LAN) or the Internet. No other users have access.

**Example:** A professional sports team sets up an intranet site that the manager, coach, and players access. It's also used for support staff such as the physiotherapist who's an on-site contractor rather than an employee, and for CAL requirements, an internal user. A news reporter trying to access the SharePoint Server site is denied access.

#### Licensing:

- ▶ **Server:** One SharePoint Server license per running instance of the software
- ▶ **Internal Users:** One CAL/user

# Licensing Microsoft SharePoint Server

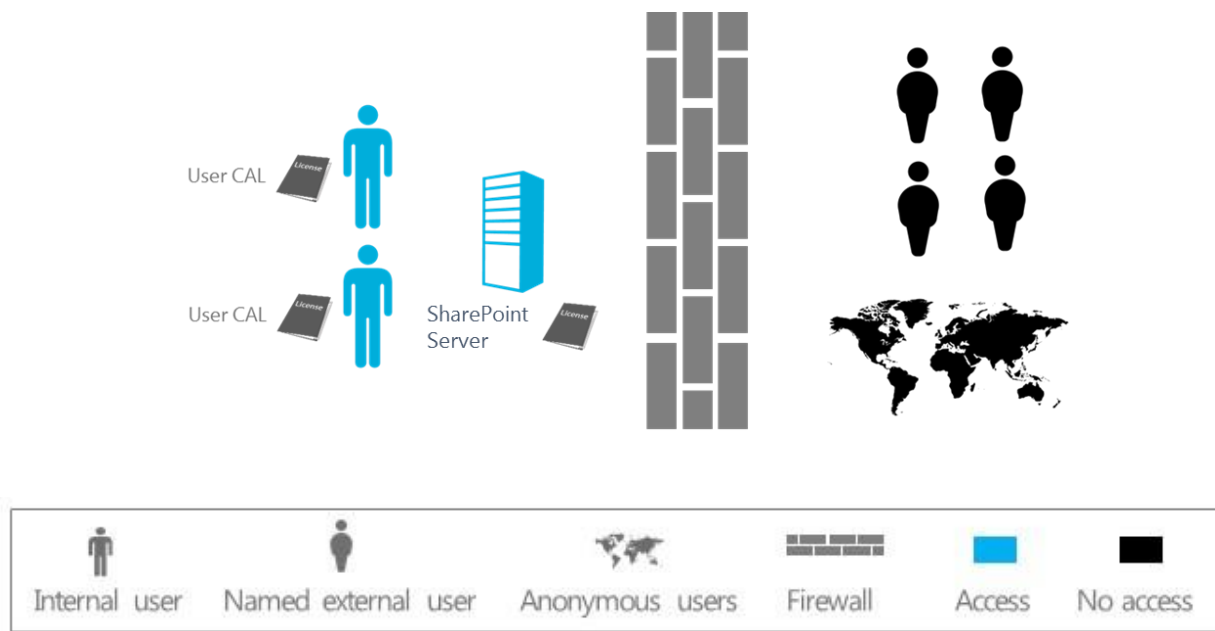


Figure 3: Scenario A: Intranet

In Figure 3, the internal users (the team’s managers, coach, players, and on-site therapist) each must be assigned a CAL. This requirement doesn’t change if the same users are accessing the intranet site remotely from the team’s offices. Given that this is an intranet site, no external user access is permitted.

## Scenario B: Extranet

**Description:** An organization extends access to otherwise restricted content inside the firewall to a limited number of identifiable external users.

**Example:** The Elm University publishes research papers available to specific educators from other universities (external users). This situation is an intranet plus extranet scenario.

### Licensing:

- ▶ **Server:** One SharePoint Server license per running instance of the software
- ▶ **Internal users:** One CAL/user
- ▶ **External users:** SharePoint CALS aren’t required; the server license permits external user access

# Licensing Microsoft SharePoint Server

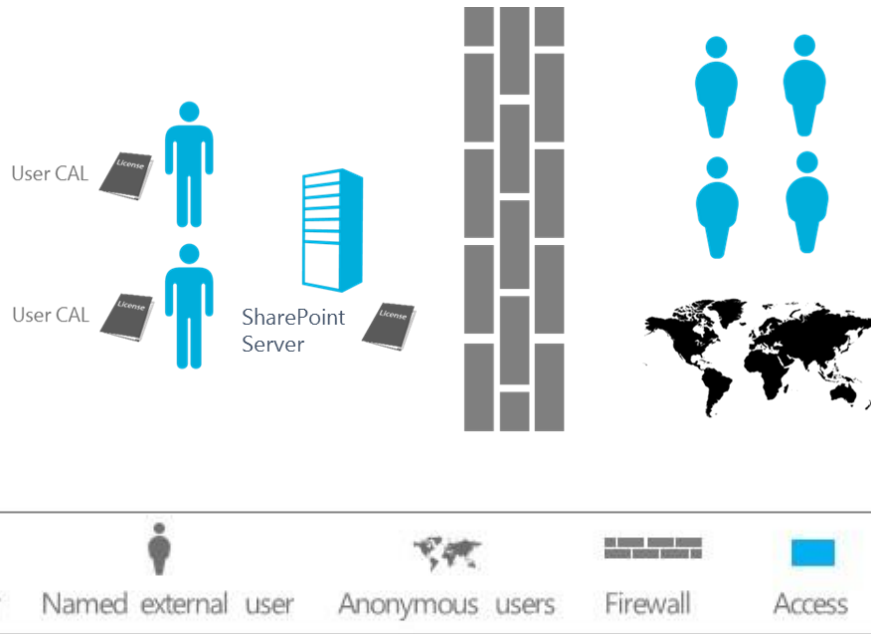


Figure 4: Scenario B: Extranet

In Figure 4, the internal users (the school's faculty and staff) each must be assigned a SharePoint CAL. This requirement doesn't change if the same users access the site remotely while they're off-campus. The identifiable external users (educators from other universities) who are permitted to access otherwise restricted content inside the firewall don't require SharePoint CALs, because external user access is permitted under the server license. No other users are permitted to access the site.

## Scenario C: Internet

**Description:** Internal users make content, information, and applications publicly available to users via the Internet (for example, on a public-facing company website). A mix of internal and external users anonymously access the site, including employees. No SharePoint CALs are required. External user access is permitted under the server license, and SharePoint CAL requirements for internal users are waived for access to content, information, and applications made publicly available via the Internet.

### Licensing:

- ▶ **Server:** One SharePoint Server license per running instance of the software
- ▶ **Internal users:** CALs aren't required
- ▶ **External users:** CALs aren't required

# Licensing Microsoft SharePoint Server

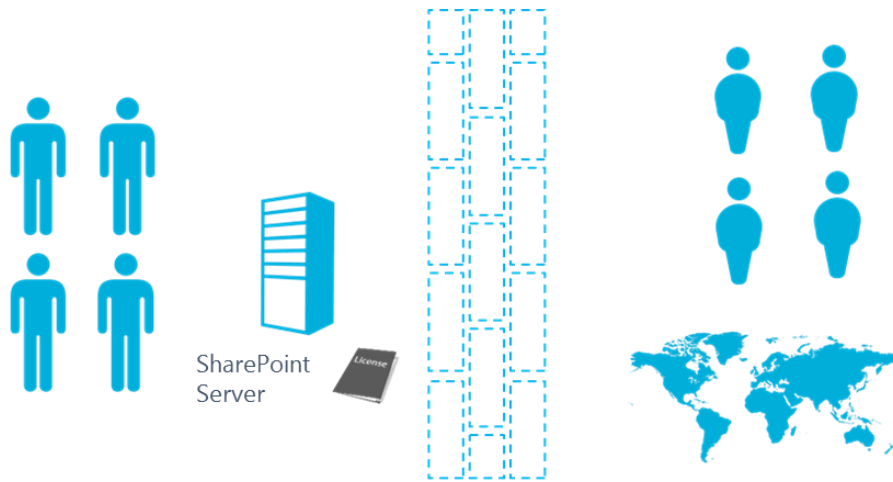


Figure 5: Scenario C: Internet

In Figure 5, access is unrestricted. The only license required is the server license. SharePoint CALs aren't required to access content, information, and applications made publicly available to users via the Internet (that is, not restricted to intranet or extranet scenarios). The same licensing applies for an e-commerce site where access isn't strictly anonymous. Again, SharePoint CALs aren't required to access content, information, and applications made publicly available to users via the Internet.

For specific terms and conditions for how to purchase SharePoint Server licenses, please consult the [Product Terms](#).

© 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

This document is for informational purposes only. MICROSOFT MAKES NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, IN THIS DOCUMENT. This information is provided to help guide your authorized use of products you license; it is not your agreement. Your use of products licensed under your commercial license agreement is governed by the terms and conditions of that agreement. In the case of any conflict between this information and your agreement, the terms and conditions of your agreement control. Prices for licenses acquired through Microsoft resellers are determined by the reseller.