

System Center 2012 R2 Licensing Datasheet



Product Overview

Microsoft System Center 2012 R2 offers solutions for managing datacenter resources, private clouds, and client devices.

Private Cloud/Datacenter Management

System Center 2012 R2 helps your organization achieve IT as a Service by enabling:

- **Productive infrastructure:** Deliver flexible, cost-effective private-cloud infrastructure to your business units in a self-service model, while carrying forward your existing data center investments.
- **Predictable applications:** Deep application insight combined with a “service-centric” approach helps you deliver predictable application-service levels.
- **Cloud computing on your terms:** Deliver and consume private and public cloud computing on your terms with common management experiences across your hybrid environments.

Client Management

System Center 2012 R2 helps IT empower people to use the devices and applications they need to be productive, while maintaining corporate compliance and control.

Licensing Overview

System Center 2012 R2 is licensed by:

- **License required only for endpoints being managed.** No additional licenses are needed for management servers or SQL Server technology.
- **Consistent licensing model across editions.** Processor-based license, covering up to two processors for server management. User- or OSE-based license for client management.

Licensing Managed Servers

System Center 2012 R2 server management licensing maximizes your private cloud value while simplifying purchasing. All server management licenses (SMLs) include the same components and the ability to manage any workload. System Center 2012 R2 SMLs will be released in two editions differentiated by virtualization rights only:

- **Datacenter:** Maximizes cloud capacity with unlimited virtualization for high density private clouds
- **Standard:** For lightly or non-virtualized private cloud workloads.

Edition	Components Included
Microsoft System Center 2012 R2 Datacenter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations Manager • Configuration Manager • Data Protection Manager • Service Manager
Microsoft System Center 2012 R2 Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual Machine Manager • Endpoint Protection • Orchestrator • App Controller

Server ML Edition Comparison:

	Datacenter	Standard
# of physical processors per license	2	2
# of Managed Operating System Environments (OSEs) per license	Unlimited	2
Includes all System Center server management components	✓	✓
Right to run management server software and supporting SQL Server Runtime (SQL Server Standard Edition)	✓	✓
Manage any type of supported workload	✓	✓
Open No Level (NL) License and Software Assurance (L&SA) 2-year price	\$3,607	\$1,323

Components included in the Server MLs are not available separately.

Determining the Number of Licenses Needed

Server MLs are required for managed devices that run server Operating System Environments (OSEs). Licenses are processor-based, with each license covering up to two physical processors. The number of Server MLs required for each managed server is determined by the number of physical processor in the server for Datacenter Edition and either number of physical processors in the server or number of OSEs being managed for Standard Edition (whichever is greater). If you choose the Standard Server ML, you can add more licenses to a server to manage a greater number of virtual OSEs.

Examples	Datacenter Server MLs Required	Standard Server MLs Required
One 1-processor, non-virtualized server	1	1
One 4-processor, non-virtualized server	2	2
One 2-processor server with 3 virtual OSEs	1	2
One 4-processor server with 8 virtual OSEs	2	4

Multiple System Center 2012 R2 Standard licenses may be assigned to the same server to license the number of managed OSEs. Components included in the Server MLs are not available separately.

Flexibility to License Managed OSEs Running on Public Cloud Platforms

All System Center 2012 R2 Server Management Licenses with active Software Assurance qualify for License Mobility through Software Assurance benefits. With the License Mobility through Software Assurance benefit, you can assign Server MLs to manage applications running on a public cloud infrastructure.

For more information, see the [Microsoft License Mobility through Software Assurance Customer Guide](#).

Transitioning to the New Server Licensing Model

If you have Software Assurance coverage on your current System Center licenses at the time of System Center 2012 R2 General Availability, you will receive the following System Center 2012 R2 Server ML grants listed below:

Current License	New License(s)
System Center 2012 Datacenter Server ML	System Center 2012 R2 Datacenter Server ML
System Center 2012 Standard Server ML	System Center 2012 R2 Standard Server ML

You may migrate from System Center 2012 R2 Standard to System Center 2012 R2 Datacenter by purchasing a Step-Up License.

Licensing Managed Clients

Client Management Licenses (MLs) are required for managed devices that run non-server OSEs. There are three System Center 2012 R2 Client ML offerings:

	Configuration Manager Client ML	Endpoint Protection Subscription	Client Management Suite Client ML
Components Included	Configuration Manager Virtual Machine Manager	Endpoint Protection	Service Manager Operations Manager Data Protection Manager Orchestrator
Included in Core CAL Suite	✓	✓	
Included in Enterprise CAL Suite	✓	✓	✓
Open NL L&SA 2-year price	\$62	\$22	\$121

Client MLs are available on a per-OSE or per-user basis. Components included in the Client MLs are not available separately.

Transitioning to the New Client Licensing Model

If you have Software Assurance coverage on your current System Center licenses at the time of System Center 2012 R2 General Availability, you will receive the following System Center 2012 R2 Client ML grants listed in the following table:

Current License	New License
System Center 2012 Client Management Suite Client ML	System Center 2012 R2 Client Management Suite Client ML
System Center 2012 Configuration Manager Client ML	System Center 2012 R2 Configuration Manager Client ML
System Center 2012 Endpoint Protection subscription	System Center 2012 R2 Endpoint Protection subscription

Note: There are no step-up paths for Client MLs.

Planning for System Center 2012 R2

If you are planning to deploy System Center 2012 R2, either through upgrades or new licenses, please remember:

- Renewing Software Assurance (SA) is the best way to protect investments and provide access to new versions as well as Deployment Planning Services and technical assistance.
- Select your edition of System Center 2012 R2 based on virtualization rights:
 - Datacenter Edition for highly virtualized private clouds
 - Standard Edition for lightly or non-virtualized private clouds
- Core CAL and Enterprise CAL Suites will continue to be the most cost effective way to purchase client management products.
- Find out how flexible payments can help you get the IT you need and stay on budget. Visit www.microsoft.com/financing for program details or to learn more. Or contact your Microsoft Solution Partner directly or by calling 1-800-936-3500 in the United States and Canada.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

System Center 2012 R2 Server Management

Q: What's new in System Center 2012 R2 server management licensing?

A: System Center 2012 R2 server management licensing does not change from System Center 2012.

Q: Can you describe the product editions offered with System Center 2012 R2?

A: Same as System Center 2012, System Center 2012 R2 server management licenses will be released in 2 editions differentiated by virtualization rights only:

- **Datacenter:** Maximizes cloud capacity with unlimited Operating System Environments (OSEs) for high density private clouds
- **Standard:** For lightly or non-virtualized private cloud workloads.

There is no differentiation between the types of workloads you can manage with either edition. The only difference between the editions is the number of Operating System Environments (OSEs) that you can manage per license. Datacenter Edition allows the management of an unlimited number of OSEs per license. Standard Edition allows the management of up to two OSEs per license.

Q: How do I determine the number of Server Management Licenses (MLs) I need?

A: Server MLs are required for managed devices that run server OSEs. Licenses are processor-based, with each license covering up to two physical processors. The number of Server MLs required for each managed server is determined by the number of physical processors in the server for Datacenter Edition and either number of physical processors in the server or number of OSEs being managed for Standard Edition (whichever is greater).

- **System Center 2012 R2 Datacenter**

Each license covers up to two physical processors, so you must count the number of physical processors on the server, divide that number by two, round up to the nearest whole number, and acquire and assign that number of licenses to your server.

Provided you acquire and assign to your server the required number of Datacenter edition server management licenses, as described above, you may manage any number of OSEs on that server.

- **System Center 2012 R2 Standard**

For each managed server count the number of physical processors and the number of managed OSE's. You need the number of licenses to cover the greater number (processors or OSE's).

Processor Count	Managed OSE Count
Each license covers up to two physical processors, so you must count the number of physical processors on the server, divide that number by two, and then round up to the nearest whole number.	Each license permits you to manage up to two OSEs, so you must count the number of OSEs you will manage on the server, divide that number by two, and round up to the nearest whole number.*

*An exception to this rule is when the physical OSE on your server is being used solely to run hardware virtualization software, provide hardware virtualization services, and run software to manage and service OSEs on that device. In that case, you only count the number of virtual OSEs you will manage on the server, divide that number by two, and round up to the nearest whole number.

Examples:

	Datacenter Server MLs Required	Standard Server MLs Required
One 1-processor, non-virtualized server	1	1
One 4-processor, non-virtualized server	2	2
One 2-processor server with 3 virtual OSEs	1	2*
One 4-processor server with 8 virtual OSEs	2	4*

*Multiple System Center 2012 R2 Standard licenses may be assigned to the same server to license the number of managed OSEs.

Q: Can I purchase each of the System Center 2012 R2 Server Management License components separately?

A: No. The System Center 2012 R2 Server Management components are part of an integrated offering to create and manage private cloud environments and are available only as part of System Center 2012 R2 Standard and System Center Datacenter MLs.

Q: Can I split 2012 R2 Server MLs across multiple servers?

A: No, a single Server ML may not be used to license two one-processor servers.

Q: Can I assign more than one System Center 2012 R2 Standard license to the same server to increase the number of OSEs I may manage?

A: Yes. The breakeven point for moving to SC 2012 R2 Datacenter is 7 VMs per host.

Q: How much do the Server MLs cost?

A: The Microsoft Volume Licensing Open License No Level (NL) U.S. Estimated Retail Price (ERP) is \$1,323 for System Center 2012 R2 Standard and \$3,607 for System Center 2012 R2 Datacenter. For your specific pricing, contact your Microsoft reseller. Actual prices may vary. Microsoft does not determine pricing or payment terms for licenses acquired through resellers.

Q: Can I extend a Server ML to manage applications running on the public cloud?

A: Yes, with the License Mobility through Software Assurance benefit, you can assign Server ML to manage applications running on a public cloud infrastructure. System Center 2012 R2 Standard licenses allow you to manage two virtual OSE in a public cloud, while System Center 2012 R2 Datacenter licenses allow you to manage up to eight virtual OSEs in a public cloud. When managing applications running on Azure, each Azure instance is considered to be one virtual OSE. For more information, see the [Microsoft License Mobility through Software Assurance Customer Guide](#).