7 Best Minecraft Server Hosting Platforms

Minecraft has sold over 200,000,000 copies by 2020 and has attracted a large user base of more than 126,000,000. The game is a true classic and the demand to have more resources for it doesn't seem likely to change. Players are constantly looking for ways to keep their game innovative, creative, and optimized, from modpacks to standalone mods to plugins to servers.

We've already discussed some popular Minecraft mods in our updated Minecraft Mods Guide. We also have a list of the best Minecraft Texture Packs. In this article, we're going to look at Minecraft Servers.

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62+ Courses

Minecraft servers are essentially dedicated to secure online platforms that allow Minecraft players to play and interact with other Minecraft players. It gives them the opportunity to customize their games more and allows them host multiplayer game mode without draining their computer resources.

Can anyone create a Minecraft server? Yes, actually! In our How to Make a Minecraft Server guide, you'll find that the process, while a little daunting, is actually very doable.

It can take some time to set up and it takes a lot of trial-and-error! That's why people prefer specialized Minecraft server hosting platforms. They are more convenient and easier to use.

The Best Minecraft Server Host?

It would be an understatement to say that there are many options available. There are dozens of established Minecraft server hosting platforms out there, and plenty more are popping up. Most of them will require you to pay a monthly fee or yearly fee.

If you're not willing to pay upwards of $10 just to experience running a Minecraft server, don't worry; there are plenty of free and affordable servers out there. We've listed seven of the best below!

Server.pro

Server.pro offers professional Minecraft servers that are "easy to setup" and "easy to use." This Swedish game hosting company offers both paid or free plans to suit low risk, high-reward hosting strategies. The paid plans will, of course, have more perks and features than free accounts; ad-free, daily backups, and multi-admin capabilities, just to name a few.

The free option isn't bad either. It's just as lag-less, customizable, and easy to edit (thanks to Server.pro's sleek file manager feature) as its paid counterpart.

Server.pro offers paid options. You can choose to get the Premium setup for $5-10 per month or the Pro setup from $20-40 per month. The Pro setup is the only package offered by Server.pro that comes with a dedicated IP and MySQL server with root access.

Pricing

Aternos

Aternos was launched in 2013 and has since attracted more than 28 million users. There are approximately 600,000 daily users. It's a fairly common and fairly popular platform that offers all its features - from the RAM to the plugins to the customizations - at zero cost.

You're correct, everything is 100 percent free. Aternos' motto is, in fact; "Minecraft Servers - Free. Forever."

What's the catch? You get what you pay.

Aternos is an excellent platform that offers a completely free service. Aternos offers a basic or starter package that is comparable to other hosting servers. You can add upto 20 players, up to 1.7GB of RAM and access to their 24/7 Customer Service (which, by a side note, is very quick to respond).

Aternos won't ask for your credit card information.

If you ask us, this is a pretty huge pro that makes all its other possible cons - i.e., limited plugins, inability to modify config files - worth it.

Pricing

Minehut

Like Server.pro, Minehut offers both paid and free plans to suit specific Minecraft server needs. Free users get two (2) servers. These servers are viewable by 250,000 monthly visitors to the lobby. You also get 12 plugin slot slots, 1GB RAM and a maximum number of 10 players.

All things considered, it's pretty good. This is especially true when you compare it with Server.pro's and Aternos' "no cost" packages.

People approach Minehut with cautious curiosity because Minehut is more commonly known as a "freemium", or free premium, server hosting provider. It is rare to find truly "free" servers, and many of them come with many drawbacks (e.g., lags, crazy limitations and hidden fees, hundreds, etc.). Minehut seems to pass the test.

If anything, plenty of reviews say it's a good hosting platform for pre-servers, or Minecraft servers that aren't ready for public opening. It allows you to test and refine your server in a safe environment without paying a cent.

Upgrades are also reasonable priced. They start at $5 per month for 10 more slots and an additional 1GB of RAM (for total of 2GB).

Pricing: Free Plan

BUDGET-FRIENDLY SERVICES

Shockbyte is one of the most user-friendly Minecraft server hosting platforms in the market. Although it isn't free, it's very affordable. Plans begin at a mere $2.50 a month, and you have the option to upgrade or downgrade as often as you need. It has been around since 2013, and it has made a name for themselves.

The $2.50 Dirt plan, which is represented by a Minecraft dirtblock, gives you 1GB of RAM and a recommended number of 20+ slots. Your server is activated upon subscription, and you also get a subdomain for it to help attract more people. Other standard features include 24/7 support and 100% uptime guarantee.

Shockbyte is a great choice for those who want something safe and secure without breaking your bank account.

Pricing: Dirt ($2.50/month)

ScalaCube is a flexible and accommodating game-hosting platform that offers many servers in addition to Minecraft (like Hytale or Ark). This widespread experience gives them the foresight they need to create packages that perfectly suit different Minecraft server needs.

These modpacks allow users to customize and control how their game launches. They also allow server owners the ability to monitor players via a website or forum. Users can also install thousands upon thousands of modpacks in just one click.

(Want to know how to create your own modpacks? Check out our Ultimate Guide to Minecraft Modding with Java!)

ScalaCube pricing is comparable to Shockbyte. It might not have as many tiers to offer, but what it does have is a full 50% discount on any succeeding server that you purchase after your first.

Pretty neat, huh?

Package prices start at $2.50 per month and don't go higher than $13. And that $13-a-month package offers an incredibly 4.5GB RAM and 70 player slots - among other things!

Pricing: Minecraft VPS 768 MB ($2.50/month) | Minecraft VPS 1.5G ($5.00/month) | Minecraft VPS 3G ($10.00/month) | Minecraft VPS 4.5G ($13.00/month)

MelonCube Hosting

MelonCube Hosting was founded with the goal of "providing the best possible service and product at an affordable price."

MelonCube is a restructured and redesigned Minecraft hosting company in 2013. It has many unique features that make it stand out. Comprehensive SSD storage, for instance. You can also access FTP via custom JAR functions. It also provides modpack support on top of providing some truly excellent Bukkit plugins.

Plans start from $3.00 per mois (1GB RAM, unlimited player slot) and can go all-the way up to $144.00/month (48GB DDR4RAM with unlimited player slot).

If you play offline on your personal computer, you can allocate more RAM to Minecraft. You can find our complete guide on how to allocate more RAM to Minecraft.

MelonCube Hosting is the winner of this list with 22 plans at varying prices.

Pricing: Zombie ($3.00/month)

Marketed specifically as a "budget hosting option" for Minecraft servers, PebbleHost's standard plan is pretty inclusive compared to most. For $3.00 a quarter (not a month!), you get 1GB of RAM allocated, 250 Mbps uplink, unmetered enterprise-grade SSDs, and unlimited player slots.

Under the Budget Minecraft Hosting 1GB package, you also get to use PebbleHost's unique Control Panel; an intuitive control center that allows the server host to run commands from console, auto-reboot on a crash, manage plugins and run usage statistics - just to name a few features. Srazy PebbleHost is one of the most secure hosting providers on the market thanks to its 2-factor authentication, 160Gbps DDoS protection, 24/7 Discord Support and 2FA authentication.

They currently offer three pricing levels: Extreme, Premium and Budget. There are 12 budget plans starting at $3.00/quarter, ending at $25.00/month, and 12 Premium Plans starting at $2.25/month, and ending at $56.25/month. One Extreme Plan is available starting at $56.25/month and starting at $2.25/month.

Pricing: Budget 1GB ($3.00/quarter) | Budget 2GB ($6.00/quarter) | Budget 3GB ($9.00/quarter) | Budget 4GB ($4.00/month) | Budget 5GB ($5.00/month) | Budget 6GB ($6.00/month) | Budget 7GB ($7.00/month) | Budget 8GB ($8.00/month) | Budget 10GB ($10.00/month) | Budget 12GB ($12.00/month) | Budget 16GB ($16.00/month) | Budget 25GB ($25.
00/month)

Premium Hosting 1GB ($2.25/month)| Premium Hosting 2GB ($4.50/month) | Premium Hosting 3GB ($6.75/month) | Premium Hosting 4GB ($9/month) | Premium Hosting 5GB ($11.25/month) | Premium Hosting 6GB ($13.50/month) | Premium Hosting 7GB ($15.75/month) | Premium Hosting 8GB ($18/month) | Premium Hosting 10GB ($22.50/month) | Premium Hosting 12GB ($27/month) | Premium Hosting 16GB ($36/month) | Premium Hosting 25GB ($56.25/month)

So, there you have it. Our top picks for Free and Budget-Friendly Minecraft Server Hosting Platforms.

Let's recap the list of the best Minecraft server hosting platforms:

- What is a Minecraft Server? - The Best Minecraft Servers? Server.pro - Aternos Minehunt Shockbyte ScalaCube hosting PebbleHost

Creating and hosting a Minecraft server may be a little intimidating at first. There are many things to do and many more to consider. It's important to have top-quality resources, such a great server hosting platform, in order to ensure smooth gameplay and enjoyable gaming.

Are you ready to take your Minecraft experience to the next level? Register for CodaKid Minecraft Modding classes now!