End-User Computing Today

Today, end users are leveraging new types of devices for work—accessing Windows and Linux applications alongside iOS or Android applications, and are more mobile than ever.

In this new mobile cloud world, managing and delivering services to end users with traditional PC-centric tools has become increasingly difficult. Data loss and image drift are real security and compliance concerns. And organizations are struggling to contain costs. Horizon 7 provides IT with a new streamlined approach to deliver, protect, and manage Windows and Linux desktops and applications while containing costs and ensuring that end users can work anytime, anywhere, on any device.

Horizon 7: Delivering Desktops and Applications as a Service

Horizon 7 allows IT to centrally manage images to streamline management, reduce costs, and maintain compliance. With Horizon 7, virtualized or hosted desktops and applications can be delivered through a single platform to end users. These desktop and application services—including RDS hosted apps, packaged apps with ThinApp, SaaS apps, and even virtualized apps from Citrix—can all be accessed from one digital workspace across devices, locations, media and connections without compromising quality and user experience.

Leveraging complete workspace environment management and optimized for the software-defined data center, Horizon 7 helps IT control, manage and protect all of the Windows resources end users want, at the speed they expect, with the efficiency business demands.

WHAT'S NEW

Drawing on the best of mobile and cloud, Horizon 7 radically transforms VDI, giving you unprecedented simplicity, security, speed and scale—all at lower costs. Horizon 7 helps you get up and running up to 30x faster while cutting costs over traditional solutions by as much as 50%.

Desktops and Applications Delivered Through a Single Platform

Deliver virtual or hosted desktops and applications through VMware's next-gen JMP platform to streamline management, easily entitle end users, and quickly deliver desktops and applications to end users across devices and locations.

Horizon 7 provides a single platform for delivering hosted Windows applications and shared desktop sessions from Windows Server instances using Microsoft Remote Desktop Services (RDS), virtual desktops, and ThinApp packaged applications.

Horizon 7 supports both Windows as well as Linux-based desktops including RHEL, Ubuntu, CentOS and NeoKylin.

Unified Digital Workspace

With Horizon 7, IT can support real-time validation, streamlined identity management across identity sources like active directory and LDAP, and provide end users with contextual and customizable access to resources through a single unified workspace.

Horizon 7 supports 2-factor, smart card and biometric authentication. It is designed and certified to meet the most demanding compliance regulations including those of the US Federal Government.
Desktops and applications that can be securely delivered and accessed through the digital workspace include:

- Horizon virtual desktops
- XenApp 5.0 and later
- RDS-hosted apps and desktops for Windows Server 2008 and later
- SaaS applications
- ThinApp 5.0 and later
- VMware Horizon Cloud Desktops and Horizon Cloud Apps

![Figure 1. Digital Workspace](image)

**Just-in-Time Delivery with Instant Clone Technology**

Instant Clone Technology coupled with VMware App Volumes™ dramatically reduces infrastructure requirements while enhancing security. VMware’s JMP platform enables you to deliver brand new personalized desktops and published applications instantly to end users every time they log in.

- Deliver pristine high-performance personalized desktops to end users every time they log in.
- Scale published applications effortlessly at the push of a button while deploying them 5-10x faster and eliminating image sprawl.
- Simplify deployments with a tightly integrated stack and fewer components, along with half the required steps when deploying or scaling as compared to competitive solutions.
- Reduce end point security concerns by destroying desktops as soon as users log off.
- Drastically lower costs by pooling required infrastructure to drive down storage costs by up to 30% with a truly stateless desktop, but deliver the personalization end users expect.
- With updated Cloud Pod Architecture, scale to over 50,000 desktops across 50+ sites with improved failover characteristics, in a fraction of the time of traditional desktop virtualization models.

**Rich, Adaptive User Experience**

Horizon 7 provides end users with a consistently great experience across devices, locations, media and connections. The latest Horizon 7 release delivers bandwidth utilization improvements of up to 50% to support more use cases across your organization alongside feature-rich capabilities and “Blast Performance” that will ensure your end users can be as productive as possible at all times.
Blast Performance includes

- **Blast Unity Touch** – Intuitive and contextual user experience across devices, making it easy to run Windows on mobile.
- **Blast Local Access** – Access to local devices, drives, USB, and device peripherals.
- **Horizon Clients with Blast** – Unified client for consistently great experience across devices and locations.
- **Blast Adaptive UX** – Optimized access across the WAN and LAN through an HTML browser or the Horizon client using either PCoIP or Blast Extreme display protocols. Blast Extreme is purpose-built and optimized for the mobile cloud, built on industry-standard H.264 protocol.
- **Blast Extreme Adaptive Transport**: BEAT maintains a great user experience across a wide variety of network types, ranging from corporate LAN to public Wi-Fi and mobile networks.
- **Blast Multimedia** – High-performance multimedia streaming for rich user experience.
- **Blast 3D** – Rich virtualized graphics delivering workstation-class performance including support for NVIDIA GRID vGPU with virtual desktops and RDSH hosted applications.
- **Blast Live Communications** – Fully optimized unified communications and real-time audio-video (RTAV) support. Horizon 7 now includes support for Microsoft Lync with Windows 10.

**Figure 2. Horizon Blast Performance Delivers an Adaptive Experience across Devices and Locations**

**Smart Policies with Streamlined Access**

Improve end user satisfaction by simplifying authentication across all desktop and application services while improving security with smarter, contextual, role-based policies.

- Support contextual, role based security for end users that maps policies based on user, device or location with ease.
- True SSO delivers one-click, password-free access to Windows desktop services.
- Streamline identity management across identity sources and provide end users with easy access to resources through a single unified workspace.
Complete Workspace Environment Management
Horizon 7 ensures that IT can consolidate control, automate delivery, and protect user compute resources through a single, tightly integrated platform.

User Environment Management and Personalization
VMware User Environment Manager™ offers personalization and dynamic policy configuration across any virtual, physical and cloud based environment.
• Simplify end-user profile management by providing organizations with a single and scalable solution that leverages existing infrastructure.
• Provide end users with quick access to a Windows workspace and applications, with a personalized and consistent experience across devices and locations.

Real-time Application Delivery and Management
• Easily package applications to avoid compatibility issues.
• Instantly provision applications at scale.
• Dynamically attach applications to users, groups, or devices, even when users are logged onto their desktop.
• Provision, deliver, update, and retire applications in real time.

Figure 3. Horizon 7 provides complete Workspace Environment Management

Figure 4. An App Volumes Managed VM is virtualized above the OS. Applications, Data Files, Settings, Middleware, and Configuration Licenses act as separate layers.
Image Management
• Support desktop and application provisioning through Horizon.
• Support VMware Mirage™ for streamlined image management across virtual
datacenters of physical and full clone virtual machines.
• Analytics and Automation
• Cloud analytics with VMware vRealize® Operations™ for Desktops and
Applications provides comprehensive visibility across VMware Horizon and
Citrix XenApp and XenDesktop environments, allowing IT to optimize the
health and performance of desktop and application services.

Optimized for the Software-Defined Data Center
Leverage and extend your expertise with VMware vSphere® to simply deliver
desktop and application workloads. Horizon 7 extends the power of
virtualization with virtual compute, virtual storage, and virtual networking
and security to drive down costs, enhance the user experience, and deliver
greater business agility.

Horizon 7 includes support for VMware Virtual SAN™ with all-flash. Virtual
SAN automates storage provisioning and leverages direct-attached storage
resources to drive down storage costs for desktop workloads. Customers can
leverage Virtual SAN Ready Nodes and other hyperconverged infrastructure
appliances to support easy, scalable, and cost-optimized desktop and
application virtualization deployments. From a networking and security
standpoint, Horizon with VMware NSX® (sold separately) further enables you
to quickly and simply set up networking security policy for end users that
stays with them across devices and locations regardless of any changes in
the underlying physical infrastructure.
# Make the Move Today

Horizon 7 (on-premises) is available in three editions:

- **Horizon Standard** - Simple, powerful VDI with great user experience
- **Horizon Advanced** - Cost-effective delivery of desktops and applications through a unified workspace
- **Horizon Enterprise** - Desktops and applications delivered with cloud automation and management

## Feature Table

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