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# Windows Server 2012 R2 Essentials Installation Guide For Small Businesses

Windows Server 2012 R2 Essentials



An Independent  
Installation Guide  
for Small Businesses

ALSO COVERS  
WINDOWS STORAGE SERVER  
2012 R2 ESSENTIALS

7th Edition

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## Synopsis

The 7th Edition of the "Missing Guide". Updated August 2015. Also covers Windows Storage Server 2012 R2 Essentials. Windows Server 2012 R2 Essentials is the latest version of Microsoft's server operating system designed for organizations with up to 25 employees. However, as with most modern applications it comes with only the most basic of instructions. Windows Server 2012 R2 Essentials Installation Guide for Small Businesses is a succinct installation guide produced from a real world perspective and written according to the Goldilocks Principle - not too little information, not too much information, but just right. With 180 illustrations and screenshots, practical examples and clear explanations it takes you through setting up Essentials in a typical small business. Whether you are installing Essentials for the first time, are planning to do so or are just plain curious, you will find this proven guide of interest. This new 7th edition adds new sections and includes expanded coverage for Windows 10 & Mac client, along with other enhancements and improvements.

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## **Book Information**

File Size: 6624 KB

Print Length: 255 pages

Publisher: CTACS; 7th edition (February 1, 2014)

Publication Date: February 1, 2014

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00H55KUKI

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #185,733 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #43

inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Networking & Cloud Computing > Network Administration > Windows Administration #57 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Computers & Technology > Microsoft > Windows - General #65 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Business Technology > Windows Server

## **Customer Reviews**

Superb quick-start guide for Newbies (like me), especially those who are trying to switch away from WHS2011 for their home server. This guide dovetails nicely with the built-in Wizards within Server Essentials 2012 R2. It makes the process of installing and setting up a basic working server very

simple,-deceptively simple. Before I purchased this guide I bought a 1500 page tome on Server 2012 which includes Essentials, but the complexity of Server 2012 R2 resides within Essentials, but is masked by the Wizards and Dashboard. Both Server 2012 R2 and the Essentials version are extremely complex and require considerable, careful study to exploit all their features. There lies the risk. Stray too far from the Wizards and Dashboard interface and you'd better have that tome by you side and know it well. It's Group Policy hell out there. For my install on my home server everything went very smoothly thanks to this guide. However on connecting my desktop, my e-mail accounts, password manager, Office 365 account etc., were wiped away. Quicken and Quickbooks software lost their connection with the data files, printers needed to be re-installed etc., Unfortunately the book did not warn about that, but it was not the end of the world as no programs (save the password manager) needed to be re-installed. Using server is not for the faint-hearted, but this book makes the leap VASTLY easier and inspires confidence in the adoption process. A must-have for a Newbie.

Oriented mostly as a step by step guide to setting up Windows Server 2012 R2 Essentials in a small business environment. It makes some simple mistakes that occur from erring on the side of average end users reading it where its recommendations are concerned, especially early on where it talks about server specifications and how to buy a server. It makes the assumption, probably rightly so, that the average business user is going to buy a lower end HP or Dell microserver instead of building out the server on their own from component parts, and it does have a tendency to oversimplify many concepts. Still, as a step by step guide, it is easily understandable, and well worth the read, even for professional network engineers, as a first primer in the 2012 R2 Essentials environment. Those who know will see the flaws, and know that there are alternatives not listed or discussed. Those who do not know will still be in possession of a working 2012 R2 Essentials server at the end, and since that is the desired result, the little omissions and oversimplifications don't really play in the scheme of things.

I was ready to replace a 5-year old Server running our Business software. The new server came in and Windows Server 2012 R2 was an upgrade from Windows Server 2008 which ran my old server. This Installation Guide gave me a great overview of what was required and specifically a tip on getting my Windows 7 Home Premium workstations to connect to the new server. It seems that 2012 wants to have Windows 7 Professional but Nick showed me a way to have them work anyway. It was definitely worth the money and it was an easy read. I recommend it.

The material may be good. However, the screen shots do not load on the Kindle. I would recommend a hard copy. The author does state in the book that he will send you a file of pdfs if you email him your info.

We replaced the Windows Small Business 2003 server at our small church with a new server running Windows Server 2012 R2 Essentials. I volunteered to do the migration even though I had very little experience with servers. This e-book was an excellent starting point. I read through it before starting the job and referred back to it many times during the process. It was instrumental in the successful setup of the new server.

Finally Microsoft has manufactured a product for the rest of us who are knowledgeable about computers and operating systems, but are not certified experts. And the pricing is spot on!

Setting up my first server and this book is easy to follow, understand, and put into actual practice. I highly recommend it to anyone setting up their first sever.

It's real easy guide to follow and covered all the subject real good. The only thing lacking is how to set up the drives and the raid.

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