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Upgrading your Virtual Private Server by [John Brice](#)

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Often when you sign up with a shared web host, or even a dedicated web host, there's no option to upgrade your servers. This is because with a shared host, you're sharing the resources within that server and so, there's no real opportunity for you to upgrade what you have. With a dedicated server on the other hand, you're given the entire server "and all of its possible resources" at the time you sign up. But one of the biggest benefits that comes with virtual private servers is that you can upgrade whenever you need to, and whenever you need more bandwidth, storage space, or any other resources.

A virtual private server is really a server within a server. Your website's data will be stored on the same server as many other websites, but there will be a virtual wall separating all of them. So another person's website will never interfere with your own. However, this doesn't mean that you'll be limited to the resources within your own virtual server; you can always upgrade so that you can use more. And this upgrading can happen in one of two ways.

The first way is very straightforward and will only require that you put in a call to your VPS host. Because VPS hosts usually don't sell every single bit of resources that are on their machines, this would just mean that the web host would need to allot you more resources. For this there will usually be a charge, depending on the amount and the type of resources you need, but a long process of switching servers might not be necessary.

If you need a great deal more resources than what you currently have, or if you're changing your package completely, you may need to be moved to a different server. This will only be required if the resources that are left on the server aren't enough to suit what you're looking for. If this is the case, your VPS host will simply find you another one of their virtual private servers that has enough room on it to accommodate what you need.

If you need to be moved to a virtual private server, don't worry about a huge transfer process that will take a very long time. Moving data from one VPS to another should take no longer than 30 " 60 minutes, during which time your site will unfortunately not be up and running. Because of this, make sure that you ask your host if it's possible to make the transfer during a non-peak time, such as in the middle of the night or very early in the morning. This will ensure that most visitors aren't even aware of the switch and that you don't lose too much business because of it.

One of the biggest benefits of using a web host that offers virtual private servers is that they are extremely flexible. And if you need to change or update your VPS, it's much easier than when you try with any other type of web hosting.

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