

VTVAX EMULATION · HARDWARE GUIDE

Pick the Right Hardware for VAX Emulation

vtVAX replaces aging DEC VAX hardware with software on modern x86-64 systems — tested against the original VAX diagnostics, so your operating system and layered products move over without modification. Most users never notice the difference — the hardware underneath is the decision that matters.

BASELINE SPECS

2.8 GHz+

CPU core speed, minimum

8 GB

Memory, typical minimum

1 + 1

Network ports: one for vtServer, plus one per vtVAX

Nine Things to Weigh Before You Buy

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| 01 Purpose — life cycle and portability | 02 Number of vtVAX and vtAlpha instances | 03 Network ports required |
| 04 Storage space — disk drives used and needed | 05 Software install method — DVD or USB | 06 USB ports, including one for the license key |
| 07 CPU speed and L3 cache — it sets vtVAX speed | 08 Pairs of non-hyperthreaded CPU cores | 09 Memory size — 8 GB minimum, typically |

Four Hardware Paths *vtVAX and vtServer run on the PC type that suits the application.*

Laptop	Desktop	Server RECOMMENDED	Virtual Server
Portable VAX system No PCIe slots Limited options — USB devices only	Less expensive than server class Single power supply, no RAID Optional PCIe slots for SCSI, network, serial One-year warranty	Longest life; redundant power, fans, network RAID controller and remote ILO monitoring Multiple vtVAX instances at once Internal USB port for the license key Three-year warranty, five-year option	VMware, Hyper-V, or KVM — emulation on emulation vtLicense server required No physical SCSI, serial, or USB ports No shared cores or memory; no hyperthreading

Note: Salem Automation uses HPE and Dell servers, depending on customer preference — 1U for HPE DL360 G10/G11, 2U for HPE DL380 G10/G11.

SERVER LIFE CYCLE

Service life depends on temperature, dirt, and dust. Manufacturers claim three to five years — our customers' servers routinely run well past it.

5–7

Years of typical service life for Salem Automation customers

90%+

of our customers choose server-class hardware

Have questions about specific requirements?

Every VAX migration has its own mix of storage, serial, and network needs. Tell us what you run today and we will specify the hardware around it.

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