

Desktop and Application Virtualization 101: Understanding VDI and DaaS

Increased and fluctuating demand for remote work has solidified the need to deliver a hybrid workplace as the new normal, making desktop and app virtualization more critical than ever before. Why? Read on to learn about the fundamentals of desktop and app virtualization and deployment options available to help your organization.

As hybrid work becomes the norm, the global virtual desktop infrastructure market is **expected to grow at 17% annual CAGR from 2021 to 2026.**¹



According to Gartner:
 “The rapid increase in remote and hybrid work, as well as the need for business continuity, has made **desktop as a service a major priority for organizations.**”²



The basics of desktop and app virtualization

Desktop and app virtualization is a software technology that centrally hosts virtual desktops and applications in a data center or cloud, allowing users to securely access resources from a remotely connected device.

Why virtualize desktops and apps? The benefits reach across the organization.

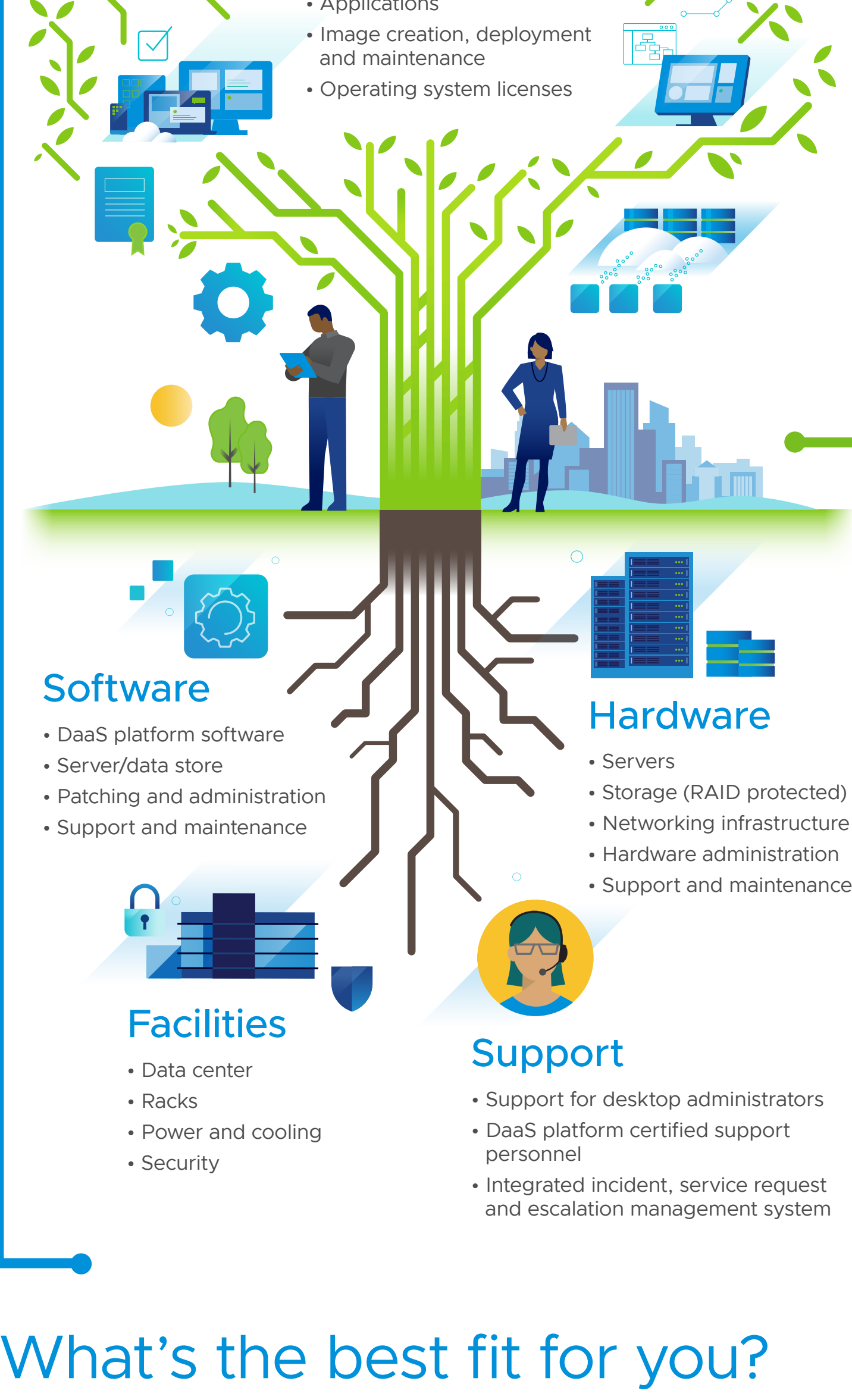
- Increase flexibility** – Meet fluctuating demands for remote work by quickly spinning up new desktops or app resources.
- Secure data** – Centralize data and apps in the data center or cloud, which protects data if an endpoint device is ever stolen or compromised. Centralizing resources also enables regular, automatic backup.
- Ensure compliance** – Leverage granular controls to enforce compliance in regulated industries.
- Simplify management** – Reduce complexity and simplify management and delivery with a modern approach, avoiding time-consuming legacy processes and tools.
- Improve productivity** – Deliver desktops and business-critical apps to any device, with any operating system, to any location.
- Boost the bottom line** – Reduce CapEx by transitioning workloads to the cloud, reducing the need for data center resources. Extend the usable life of existing endpoint devices and replace them with thin clients as needed. Reduce OpEx through intelligent management services to better manage applications, load balancing, and more.

Know your options: VDI & DaaS compared

Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI)
 is a technology that refers to the use of virtual machines to provide and manage virtual desktops.

Desktop as a Service (DaaS)
 is similar to VDI in that a cloud service provider delivers virtual desktops to end users over the internet.

What's the difference? How much you manage and control.



What's the best fit for you?

Both VDI and DaaS provide remote work flexibility, security, compliance, simplified management and cost savings. You might use one or both, depending on your particular use cases.

VDI best for

- Organizations with an IT team that is skilled in setting up, maintaining and managing virtual infrastructures
- Enterprises with predictable growth and resource requirements that can amortize the upfront investment in network, storage and compute infrastructure in the data center

DaaS best for

- Organizations that need to serve a large number of users with a lean IT staff
- Small to medium businesses that don't want to invest in the procurement, installation and management of infrastructure required for VDI

The percentage of users in the enterprise environment that consistently use **app or desktop virtualization has doubled in the last 18 months.**²

“By 2024, 80% of all virtual desktops served to remote users will be DaaS up from fewer than 30% today.”³

- 2X**
18 MONTHS
- A business with specific or stringent security or application requirements – VDI gives IT more control over the desktop offering and more control over security.
- Organizations that want complete control over all aspects of the virtual machines (storage, CPU, memory, networking, graphics, and more).

- 80%**
- Organizations that prefer to shift CapEx to OpEx with predictable monthly costs
- Organizations that want to modernize their data center, eliminating outdated infrastructure
- Businesses that need to react to fluctuating capacity demands, (e.g., burst workloads to the cloud for seasonal staff) without investing in additional infrastructure
- Organizations with bring-your-own-device (BYOD) policies that want to ensure security without sacrificing end-user experience

Get started with desktop and app virtualization

Whether your organization is looking to deploy VDI, DaaS or both, VMware Horizon enables a digital workspace with the efficient delivery of virtual desktops and applications. Learn how Horizon can be deployed on-premises and easily extended to hybrid or multi-cloud deployments in our ebook, *Get Hybrid Cloud Agility and Scalability to Empower Your Distributed Workforce*.

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