

# Why Choose VMware® Horizon View™ over Microsoft RDS 2012?

## Why VMware Horizon View for Desktop Virtualization?

VMware® pioneered desktop virtualization in response to the unmet needs of the end-user computing market. VMware Horizon View™ provides the security, robustness, and flexibility required by today's demanding workforce and addresses the challenges of end-user mobility and mobile device proliferation.

VMware continues to innovate and augment desktop solutions with tighter integration with VMware vSphere®, the addition of centralized physical device management with VMware Horizon Mirage™, and the introduction of VMware Horizon™ Suite, the premier platform for workforce mobility.

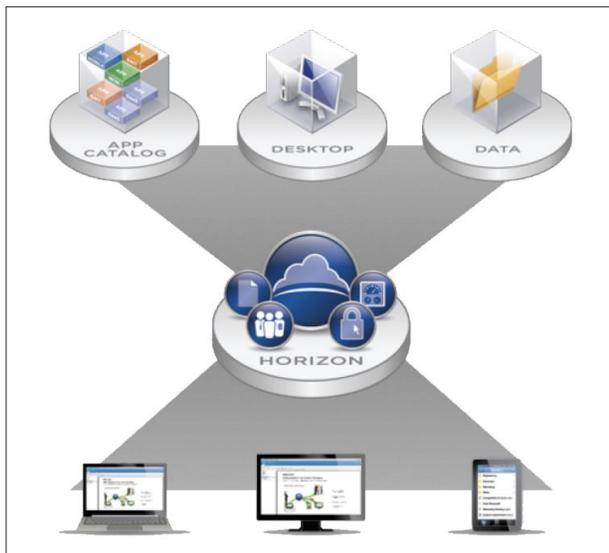


Figure 1: VMware Has a Full Set of Technologies to Enable Workforce Mobility

## Why Choose VMware Horizon View over Microsoft VDI?

Horizon View is a proven, enterprise-class VDI solution deployed at over 22,000 customers. Horizon View deployments range in size to 60,000 or more desktops. In addition to performance and scalability, Horizon View includes other capabilities that the newly introduced Microsoft VDI lacks:

- Proven, scalable, enterprise-class solution
- Broad client and operating system support
- Platform integration—vSphere

## Proven, Scalable, Enterprise-Class Solution

Horizon View offers enterprise-ready capabilities that Microsoft VDI does not:

- Power management for provisioned desktops
- Web-based management front end
- Cloning and disk space recovery
- Scalable and flexible desktop templating
- Support for offline desktops
- Granular and extensive editing of desktop attributes
- Published large-scale reference architecture and success stories

## Broad Client and OS Support

Leveraging an extensive partner ecosystem, VMware offers much broader client and OS support than Microsoft. VMware fully supports a range of non-Windows-based client endpoints (e.g., Linux, Mac, Android, and iOS-based certified devices), while Microsoft doesn't provide support for non-Windows-based devices.

Microsoft's new RemoteFX graphics capabilities are only available on devices that have either a Windows 8 or Windows 7 SP1 Enterprise license. Non-Windows and non-Enterprise licensed devices are not supported by Microsoft.

## Platform Integration

Horizon View is tightly integrated with VMware vSphere—the only platform specifically designed to host virtual desktops. This integration offers several unique capabilities:

- View Storage Acceleration leverages vSphere Content-Based Read Cache to provide up to 65 percent reduction in peak IOPS, dramatically reducing peak storage costs.
- View Composer Array Integration and Space-Efficient sparse disk utilization provide efficient disk utilization and reclamation.
- Antivirus offloading provides simplified antivirus administration, higher consolidation ratios, prevention of antivirus storms, and improved performance.

## How to Decide?

If you are considering a choice between VMware Horizon View and Microsoft VDI, consider these questions:

1. Do you need direct support from one vendor for all of your devices including non-Windows devices?
2. Do your deployments need to scale to thousands of users?
3. Do your users need desktop access when they travel?
4. Is your datacenter virtualized on vSphere?

An answer of "yes" to any of these questions indicates VMware Horizon View is a better solution for you than Microsoft VDI.

## Why Choose VMware Horizon View over Microsoft for Mixed VDI and Session Deployments?

Horizon View supports Microsoft RDS sessions using RDP to provide flexibility for your desktop deployment options. The key advantage of using Horizon View over Remote Desktop Session Host services (RDSH) is that you get enterprise-class VDI plus tight integration with vSphere while still enjoying the flexibility of delivering a shared session experience when needed.

The question of when to use VDI desktops versus shared sessions is best answered by considering the use case. If your end users are task-based workers and use only a small number of applications, Horizon View with shared sessions is a good choice. If your end users require the full desktop experience (i.e., administrators of their own images, native application compatibility, and use of desktop applications), View VDI is the better choice. Many deployments use a mixture of both.

Horizon View offers ease of management along with a secure, robust architecture, and the ability to offer end users the freedom and choice they need to be productive. In comparing VDI and sessions, VDI offers the following advantages over sessions:

- Eliminates application-compatibility issues
- User or OS resets do not impact other users (sessions require resetting entire server)
- Provides better native-application compatibility
- Eliminates application-to-application conflicts in a multi-session environment
- Applications do not have to be written with TS or RDSH in mind (i.e., desktop applications are supported)

Figure 2 illustrates the basic architectural differences between VDI and shared sessions.

### How to Decide?

If you are considering a choice between VDI and RDSH, consider the following questions:

1. Do you have users that require constant up time?
2. Are you concerned about your application licensing agreements being valid in a multi-user environment?
3. Do your users need a full desktop experience, i.e., admins of their own machines, unique application requirements, and varied and broad USB device support?
4. Do you want or need the flexibility to easily migrate users between servers?

An answer of “yes” to any of these questions indicates that VMware Horizon View is a better solution for your environment than RDSH.

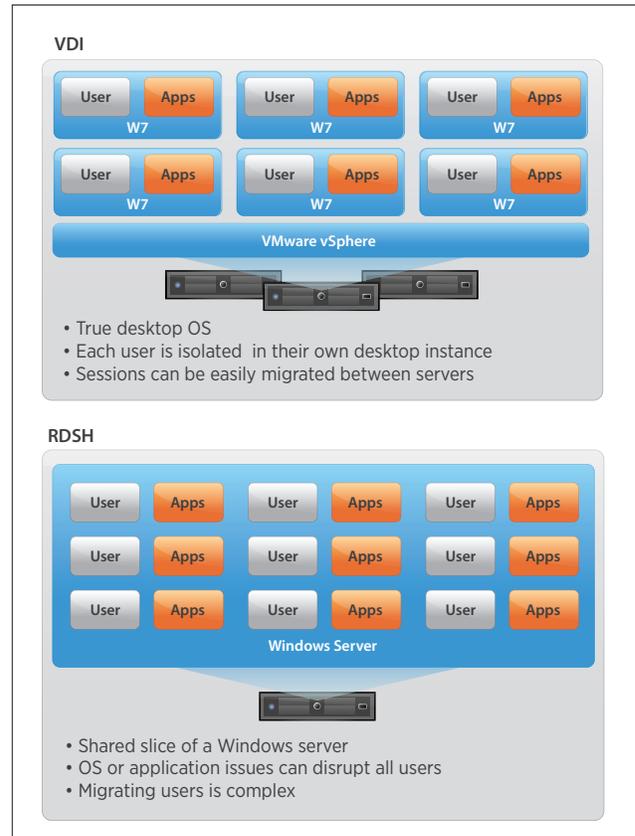


Figure 2: Comparison of VDI and RDSH Architectures

## VMware Is the Right Choice

Whether deploying a few virtual desktops or tens of thousands, VMware Horizon View provides the enterprise capabilities and ease of management that organizations of all sizes require. Horizon View, and Horizon Suite, provide a complete end-user computing solution for today's mobile workforce while addressing the needs of IT for a secure, centrally managed platform. VMware Horizon View is the best choice for desktop virtualization.

