

vSphere 5.1 – The Most Trusted Virtualization Platform

		vmware® vSphere 5.1	Microsoft® Hyper-V 3
Hypervisor Architecture	Scalability	✓ Host – 160 CPUs, 2TB RAM VM – 64 vCPUs, 1TB vRAM	✓ Host – 320 CPUs, 4TB RAM VM – 64 vCPUs, 1TB vRAM
	Purpose-Built Hypervisor	✓ No reliance on general purpose OS	✗ Hyper-V requires Windows Server OS
	Simplified Patching	✓ No unrelated patching; Automated, image-based with rollback capabilities	✗ Subject to unrelated Windows patching (i.e., Patch Tuesday)
	Advanced Memory Management	✓ Ballooning Transparent page sharing Memory Compression Swap to disk/SSD	✗ Dynamic Memory: No Linux support, disables NUMA
Virtualization Security	Small Attack Surface Area	✓ 144MB disk footprint	✗ Server Core: 5GB Full Install: 8GB
	Centralized Security Management	✓ Unified policy-based approach, managed via vCenter	✗ Lacks single interface, Requires mix of System Center tools (VMM, EP)
	Agentless VM Protection	✓ Built-in vShield Endpoint offloads AV & anti-malware to secure appliance	✗ No introspection; Relies on agents in every VM, legacy physical security
	Software-Defined Security	✓ vCloud Networking & Security* Built-in edge and vNIC-level firewall, NAT, SSL VPN	✗ Nothing comparable; Requires 3 rd party solns

*vCloud Networking & Security (vCNS) can be purchased separately or as a part of the vCloud Suites