

Windows Server® 2008 Administration: Hands-On - 4 Days

Course 961 Overview

- You Will Learn How To**
- Maintain, troubleshoot and secure Windows Server 2008
 - Implement key security components to protect your server
 - Develop and deploy a patch management strategy
 - Leverage built-in components to create a highly available infrastructure
 - Optimise and tune system performance for greater responsiveness
 - Recover from system failures with troubleshooting tools and techniques

Course Benefits Organisations are facing a multitude of administrative challenges to their infrastructure. Windows Server 2008 provides administrators with powerful and flexible tools to overcome these challenges and manage complex server environments. In this course, you gain the practical experience to administer, troubleshoot and secure a Windows Server 2008 environment.

Who Should Attend Those developing an administrative strategy within a Windows Server 2008 environment. Experience with Windows Server and the Active Directory at the level of Course 960, "Windows Server 2008 Comprehensive Introduction", is assumed.

Hands-On Training Practical exercises provide experience administering Windows Server 2008. Exercises include:

- Administering systems with Server Manager, WSRM and PowerShell
- Creating group policies to configure remote administration
- Reducing the attack surface with Server Core
- Solving boot configuration problems
- Creating a fault-tolerant environment with clusters, DFS and Hyper-V
- Troubleshooting system issues

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Course 961 Outline

Windows Server 2008 Administration

- Developing an effective administrative strategy
- Tools, techniques and best practices

Building Blocks of Server Management Implementing role-based server administration

- Analysing available server roles
- Solving remote administration issues
- Remotely configuring features to maximise functionality

Leveraging fundamental tools and components

- Controlling resources with Server Manager
- Performing common administrative tasks with PowerShell
- Microsoft System Center

Securing Windows Server 2008

Hardening your server

- Reducing the attack surface
- Baselining your server with Microsoft Baseline Security Analyser (MBSA)

Implementing Group Policies for security

- Generating custom templates with Security Configuration Wizard (SCW)
- Creating effective security policies
- Building security templates with the Security Configuration and Analysis tool
- Integrating local and AD policies

Tracking internal access

- Achieving your security goals with selective auditing
- Centralising the audit management process

Reducing vulnerabilities with Server Core

- Managing Server Core from the command line
- Minimising exploitable components

Patch Management Implementation

Developing a strategy for patch management

- Taking inventory and documenting the existing environment
- Deploying service packs and hotfixes

Windows Server Update Services (WSUS)

- Managing the WSUS catalogue
- Configuring WSUS components
- Preparing the workstations with Group Policy

- Authorising and distributing patches to clients

Maintaining a High-Availability Environment

Building fault-tolerant servers

- Maximising resource utilisation with Hyper-V
- Enabling failover clustering to ensure business continuity
- Analysing cluster models for optimal architectures

Replicating with the Distributed File System (DFS)

- Transferring data with the DFS Replication (DFSR) service
- Optimising and troubleshooting replication

Virtualising servers to extend uptime

- Selecting the appropriate virtualisation model
- Best practices for architecting your virtual environment

Disaster recovery methods and tools

- Repairing the server with imaging technologies
- Full server backup with scripts and scheduled tasks

Maximising Performance and Increasing Responsiveness

Diagnosing system performance problems

- Monitoring applications and processes with Reliability and Performance Monitor
- Identifying the essential system counters
- Optimising servers with Windows System Resource Manager (WSRM)

Tracing performance problems

- Isolating the causes of performance problems
- Locating and solving bottlenecks

Troubleshooting Windows Server 2008

Resolving issues with diagnostic tools

- Shutdown Event Tracker
- BCDEDIT

Repairing the Registry

- Rooting out Registry problems
- Backing up and restoring the Registry

Coping with driver failures

- Revealing and uninstalling phantom devices
- Demystifying and recovering from common failures

Solving boot configuration problems

- Identifying critical boot components
- Fixing partition tables and the boot configuration data store