

[< Back to Definitions](#)

Blade Server

Noun | Sounds like: "blade serv-er"

A blade server is a modularly designed server computer that is optimized to use minimal physical space and energy. Blade servers typically lack many of the components of a rack server and only have CPUs, memory, network interface cards, and occasionally storage drives to reduce the space and power consumption. Multiple blade servers slide into a blade enclosure, or [blade chassis](#), which provide the ability to fit many servers into a single [rack](#) for high processing power.

Blade servers are most commonly used by larger data centers because they have a strong need to maximize space and power capacity utilization and efficiency, have high computing requirements, and can support a higher thermal and electrical load.

The benefits of using blade servers include:

- **Reduced power consumption.** Blade chassis provide power to many servers, reducing total consumption.
- **Increased processing power.** Blade servers allow for extremely high processing power in a minimal amount of physical space.
- **Easily serviceable.** Blade servers can be hot swappable, meaning if one server requires maintenance, it can easily be pulled and replaced.
- **Reduced cabling.** Blade servers require less cabling than rack servers.

Blade Server Management with DCIM Software

[Data Center Infrastructure Management \(DCIM\) software](#) is used to track and manage blade servers and blade chassis.

The benefits of using DCIM software to manage blade servers include the ability to:

- Automatically track weight of entire chassis as you add each blade
- View half height or full height of blades
- Track virtual machines on individual blades
- Track network and other I/O cards, ports, internal routing and virtual networks, plus upstream connections
- Support for N, N+1, and N+N power supply configurations
- Track blade and chassis configuration information
- Map power supplies to [rack PDU](#) outlets and see full upstream power chain

Want to see how Sunbird's world-leading DCIM software makes it easy for you to manage blade servers? [Get your free test drive now!](#)

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N	O	P
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W	X	Y
	Z	

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