

What are the two main types of network server racks



Summary of Content

The most common types of network server racks are open-frame racks, enclosed cabinets, wall-mount racks, and high-density AI racks.

1. Open-Frame Racks

Open-frame racks are skeletal structures without doors or side panels, providing easy access to equipment and unrestricted airflow. They are ideal for environments where security is not a primary concern, such as labs, network operations centers, or cable-intensive setups. Open-frame racks come in 2-post and 4-post configurations: 2-post racks support lightweight equipment like switches and patch panels, while 4-post racks offer greater stability for heavier servers and storage arrays. They are cost-effective for low-to-medium density deployments but lack controlled airflow and physical security .

2. Enclosed Cabinets (Server Rack Cabinets)

Enclosed cabinets, also called cabinet racks, are the standard choice for modern data centers and enterprise server rooms. They feature locking front and rear doors, side panels, and perforated panels to balance airflow and security. These racks provide environmental protection against dust, moisture, and physical tampering, and allow for hot/cold aisle containment to improve cooling efficiency. Enclosed cabinets are suitable for high-density deployments and can integrate PDUs, UPS systems, cable management, and monitoring sensors .

3. Wall-Mount Racks

Article Content

What Is a Network Rack? Types, Depth & When You Need One

The hardware that lives in a network rack falls into two categories: active equipment and passive equipment. Active

Data Center Server Rack Wiki: Definition, Types and Buying Guide

There are two basic types of open server racks: 2-post and 4-post rack. The difference is that 2-post racks generally

A Beginner's Guide to Server Racks

There are two main types of server racks: open-frame and enclosed. An open-frame rack is a simple frame made up

Network Rack vs Server Rack: Key Differences & Use Cases

Network racks are typically shallower, open-frame, and optimized for switches, patch panels, and cable routing. Server

Server Rack: Types, Features, and How to Choose the Right One

Below are the most common server rack types along with their ideal use cases and key characteristics: 1. Open Frame

Types of Server Rack

This post provides a detailed introduction to network cabinets, their types, features, and several popular Gcabling

Data Center Server Rack Guide (2026): Types, Design, Airflow, Power

There are three primary rack types - open-frame racks, enclosed cabinets, and wall-mount racks, each suited for

What is a Server Rack? The Ultimate Guide to Sizes (U) & Types (2026)

This guide clarifies server rack structure, standard rack unit (U) measurements, and helps you select between open frame racks,

Types of Server Racks: A Guide

Data centres utilise various types of server racks to optimise and organise operations, from open frame racks to air

Data Center Server Rack: The Ultimate Guide

Server racks come in various types, each catering to different operational needs within a data center. The primary

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