Network Rack Layout Table and Pricing



Overview

After successfully creating your network rack, it''s time to share your server rack plan with your colleagues and print it.

Key Takeaways

Network rack layouts organize servers, switches, patch panels, and PDUs efficiently, with costs varying by rack size, equipment, and accessories.

Rack Layout Planning

A network rack layout table typically lists each rack unit (U) from top to bottom, specifying the equipment installed in each slot. Standard racks use 19-inch width and units of 1U = 1. 75 inches (4.

45 cm) in height. Common components include: Servers: Blade or rack-mounted servers occupy multiple U depending on size. Switches: Network switches are usually 1U or 2U.

Patch Panels: 24- or 48-port panels for cable management. Power Distribution Units (PDUs): Mounted vertically or horizontally to supply power. Cable Management Accessories: Horizontal or vertical organizers to maintain clean cabling.

Rack layout tables help visualize placement, airflow, and accessibility. Tools like PATCHBOX Rack Planner allow you to create digital layouts, drag-and-drop components, and export diagrams without registration. Other free tools include Anavem Rack Designer and Rack Manage, which offer drag-and-drop editors, room mapping, and inventory tracking.

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Smart

Draw provides templates and scale-based diagrams for precise planning.

Example Rack Layout Table

Rack Unit (U)Equipment TypeNotes1-2PDUPower distribution3Switch48-port, 1G/10G4-5Patch Panel24-port6-8Server 12U blade server9-11Server 22U rack server12Cable ManagementHorizontal organizer13-14Server 32U rack server15SwitchBackup or uplink switchThis table can be customized based on rack height (6–52U), equipment type, and redundancy requirements.

Pricing Considerations

Rack Cabinets: Standard 42U racks range from $300 to $1,200 depending on brand, cooling, and build quality. Servers: Rack servers vary widely; entry-level 1U servers start around $500–$1,500, while high-performance 2U or blade servers can exceed $5,000 each. Switches: Managed switches range from $200 to $2,000+ depending on ports and speed.

Patch Panels: Typically $50–$150 for 24–48 ports.

PD

Us: Basic units cost $50–$200, while intelligent PDUs with monitoring can exceed $500. Cable Management: Accessories range from $20–$100 per unit.

Recommendations

Plan digitally first: Use free tools like PATCHBOX, Anavem, or Rack Manage to visualize layouts and avoid space conflicts. Document each component: Include make, model, serial number, and connectivity in your layout table. Consider airflow and maintenance: Leave space for cooling and easy access to frequently serviced equipment.

Budget for accessories: Cable management, PDUs, and mounting hardware are essential for a clean, functional rack. By combining a rack layout table with digital planning tools, you can optimize space, improve cable management, and estimate costs accurately before purchasing equipment.

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Rack Diagram

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Best Network Rack Diagram Software (2026)

This comparison table reviews network rack diagram software used to plan data center layouts and document rack equipment. It contrasts tools including RackTables, NetBox,

Standard Rack Layout

Standard Rack Layout The following graphic illustrates the standard network equipment rack layout used by Missouri State University. All contractors terminating cabling, installing network

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