



Oracle Licensing Basics in 2 minutes

Description

This article on Oracle licensing basics may be the shortest guide to Oracle licensing policy for Oracle Database and other technology products (eg WebLogic and other middleware products).

You may treat this as an introduction to Oracle licensing for on-premise technology products.

Editions

Oracle Database is sold in different editions: Enterprise Edition, Standard Edition 2 & Personal Edition. WebLogic is also sold in different editions: Standard, Enterprise, Suite, Grid. Oracle database has also one free edition which used to called Oracle Express (now for 23c it is called Oracle Database Developer Free edition).

Licensing Rules

The rules below apply to the Oracle Database Enterprise Edition & the various WebLogic Editions.

- License the physical server unless you are using OVM, LPAR or Solaris Zones (or a few other virtualization technologies).
- Oracle licenses the database and middleware products by metrics called â??Processorâ?? or â??Named User Plus (NUP)â?? A server can be licensed either by â??Processorâ?? or by â??Named User Plusâ??. Both cannot be mixed on the same server.
- A â??Processorâ?? license is calculated on the basis of the number of total cores in a server multiplied by a core factor. The core factor for each CPU manufactured by different OEMs is available on the Oracle website.
- There is a minimum number of NUPs per Processor to be procured if a server is being licensed by this metric.
- Both Oracle database & WebLogic have additional features known as â??Optionsâ?? & â??Management Packsâ?? that need to be purchased separately to be used.

- The number of Options or Management Packs needs to equal the number of Oracle Database or WebLogic licenses on the server.
- All servers on which Oracle database or Weblogic is installed needs to be licensed. (There are a few exceptions â?? a standby node on a cluster, a server running RMAN or database backup on an external media. These two have specific rules, you should check them more thoroughly before making a decision.)
- Oracle licenses are fungible across versions â?? i.e. you can buy the Oracle database today and use an earlier version.
- You can get free Oracle licenses for development from the Oracle Technology Network (OTN). But there are specific restrictions that need to be adhered to.

About Rythium Technologies

Rythium Technologies is a leading provider of Oracle and Microsoft licensing services. We help our clients reduce their software costs, manage their IT assets, and achieve compliance. We offer a wide range of licensing services, including: Oracle ULA services, Java License Advisory, Oracle LMS and audit defense, Oracle license review, Microsoft license review, Adobe license review, Managed SAM Services, Software contracts management and Software Procurement consulting. ***We have worked on more than 180 Oracle license management projects in the past 7 years.***

Do you want to know the steps for ULA Certification ? Read here

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Click here if you want to download our guide on â??How to analyze and license Oracle Javaâ??

You might want to read more about our CEO Sheshagiri Anegondi (Sheshu). He is amongst the foremost Oracle License Experts globally.

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