

EXCHANGE 2007 TIPS

Tip #1: Prepare for Exchange 2007

Courtesy of Lasse Pettersson, Exchange MVP, HumanData Inventus AB

If you have heard about all the great new stuff in Exchange 2007, then you are (or will soon) begin to think about moving from your current Exchange 2000/2003 environment. The process is not easy; but with a little research and proper planning, you will soon be benefiting from all that Exchange 2007 has to offer.

Your Infrastructure

You probably know that you can't insert an Exchange 2007 DVD and do an in-place upgrade—you have to buy new hardware.

- Your hardware must have 64-bit CPUs (both AMD and Intel are OK).
- You also need to install a 64-bit version of Windows 2003. You can choose between Standard and Enterprise. SP1 is minimum; SP2 and R2 are OK.
- Exchange 2007 also requires MMC 3.0, Framework Version 2, and Powershell.

And depending on which Exchange 2007 role you're going to install, you may also need some other components: Client Access Server needs IIS; Edge needs ADAM; etc. All of these requirements will be checked by ExBPA (Exchange Best Practice Analyzer) during the actual installation of Exchange 2007.

About ENow, inc.

ENow is a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner specializing in high-end Exchange consulting and the development of software to simplify Exchange system management. The company's flagship product is an innovative utility called Mailscape that provides administrators with a 'one-look dashboard view' of the entire Exchange environment. ENow is headquartered in Orange, California, and is proudly represented by a world-wide network of resellers and distributors.



1.877.TRY.ENOW



INFO@ENOWINC.COM



WWW.ENOWINC.COM

EXCHANGE 2007 TIPS

Other Prerequisites

You must meet a number of other prerequisites before actually installing Exchange 2007.

- Active Directory Schema Master must be Windows 2003 SP1 (or later).
- Every Active Directory site where you install an Exchange 2007 server must have a GC with Windows 2003 SP1 (or later).
- The AD domain functional level must be Windows 2000 server-native or higher for all domains in the AD forest where you'll be installing Exchange 2007. You cannot have any Exchange 5.5 (or earlier) in your Exchange Organization—you must move all content from your Exchange 5.5 servers to Exchange 2000 or 2003; then uninstall all Active Directory Connectors; and, finally, change the Exchange organization to native mode.
- Note: To do a readiness check of your environment, you can run ExBPA (www.exbpa.com).

Prep AD for Exchange 2007

To prepare AD for Exchange 2007, you must create new attributes and objects within the AD schema. This is done by running `setup.com` from the Exchange 2007 DVD with some switches. Note that you need the proper level of permission to extend the AD schema.

With the proper permissions, you follow these steps:

- `setup.com /preparelegacyexchangepermissions` (to grant Exchange permissions where necessary). This must be used if you have a current Exchange organization that you want to upgrade.
- `setup.com /prepareschema` (to update the schema for Exchange 2007)
- `setup.com /prepareAD` (to configure global Exchange objects in AD)
- You also need to prepare the domains into which you plan on installing Exchange 2007. Use `setup.com /preparedomain` and/or `/preparealldomains` command (which will provide permissions on the domain container for your Exchange servers, permissions for Exchange Organization Administrators, and a list of other necessary configuration and permission changes) to prepare your domains for Exchange 2007.
- Note: Make sure that AD replication has finished at each step before proceeding to the next step.

One final note about AD: Exchange 2007 does not use routing groups. Instead, Exchange 2007 creates connectors between AD sites automatically and uses the AD site's definition in a lot of circumstances. So your AD site definition is very important to Exchange 2007.

E X C H A N G E 2 0 0 7 T I P S

Install Exchange 2007

Now you are ready to actually install Exchange 2007—with one more twist to keep in mind: Previous versions of Exchange installed a complete Exchange server; but with Exchange 2007, you select which parts (called server roles) you want to install. There are five server roles: Client Access (CAS); Hub/Transport (HT); Mailbox (MB); Unified Messaging (UM); and Edge.

You need the first three for Exchange 2007 to work. You can install each role on a separate server, or you can put all of them on the same box.

Some Final Tips

- Do your homework and read everything you can about Exchange 2007 planning and deployment. <http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/exchange/default.aspx>
- Play with Exchange 2007 in a lab, especially if you're going to use Outlook 2007—it does things a little differently than previous versions.
- Do a review of your Active Directory.
- Do a review of your current Exchange organization. Exchange 2007 is more "picky" about certain attributes than before (for example, aliases must not contain spaces). If you don't correct these issues, you can't move the mailboxes to Exchange 2007.