
Source: <https://faq.remarkbox.com/aeb1bde1-14d8-11f1-9335-040140774501>

Snapshot: 2026-04-27T13:58:57Z

Generator: Remarkbox 97a1fff

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Here is a bulleted list of pros and cons of a golden image:

Pros:

- Rapid server provisioning and deployment
- Consistency across the server environment
- Simplified initial configuration
- Easier to troubleshoot and manage similar servers
- Efficient use of bandwidth for initial provisioning
- Helps maintain a standard environment

Cons:

- Time-consuming to create and maintain the golden image
- Inflexible and difficult to update the image
- Outdated image can lead to inconsistencies and problems
- Golden image can become a single point of failure
- Difficult to incorporate customizations and exceptions
- Requires careful change management and version control
- Can limit innovation and experimentation
- May require significant storage for image backups
- Inefficient for environments that require frequent changes
- Can lead to "golden ticket" vulnerabilities if compromised
- Locked into specific tools, OS, and configurations
- Resistance to automation and DevOps practices
- Can create a "not invented here" mentality
- Requires skilled engineers to maintain the image
- Can increase complexity in multi-environment deployments
- Limited ability to adapt to different use cases
- May require significant testing and validation effort
- Can create a culture of "set it and forget it" mentality
- Can lead to technical debt and outdated infrastructure
- May limit the ability to leverage new technologies
- Can create a siloed and inflexible infrastructure
- Can hinder collaboration and knowledge sharing
- Can create a heavy reliance on the golden image itself
- May require significant downtime for image updates
- Can create a lack of visibility into the actual server configurations
- Can lead to a lack of documentation and knowledge transfer
- Can create a lack of flexibility and agility in the infrastructure
- Can create a lack of self-service and automation capabilities
- Can create a lack of portability across different environments
- Can create a lack of scalability and performance optimization
- Can create a lack of security and compliance controls
- Can create a lack of monitoring and alerting capabilities
- Can create a lack of disaster recovery and business continuity plans
- Can create a lack of cost optimization and efficiency measures
- Can create a lack of innovation and continuous improvement
- Can create a lack of customer-centric and user-focused approaches
- Can create a lack of stakeholder engagement and alignment
- Can create a lack of regulatory and compliance requirements
- Can create a lack of best practices and industry standards
- Can create a lack of training and skill development programs
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