

VMware to Nutanix

A journey of the VMware stack into Nutanix terms — what each component becomes, and what genuinely changes underneath.

The Architecture Shift: VMware → Nutanix

VMWARE · 3-TIER

Siloed infrastructure. Compute, storage, and networking are managed and scaled as separate layers, adding operational complexity.

NUTANIX · HYPERCONVERGED

Integrated infrastructure. Compute, storage, networking, and virtualization converge into a unified platform for simpler management and scalable growth.

 VMWARE TERM	 NUTANIX EQUIVALENT	WHAT ACTUALLY CHANGES
 vCenter Server	 Prism Central	Clusters, VMs and services in a single pane of glass.
 ESXi	 AHV (Acropolis Hypervisor)	Hypervisor is part of the platform — no separate licence.
 vSphere	 Nutanix Cloud Platform (NCP)	A suite of components becomes one software platform.
 Datastore (VMFS / NFS / vVols)	 Storage Container	Logical container managed by Nutanix Data Services, not by protocol.
 vSAN	 Distributed Storage Fabric (DSF)	Both software-defined; DSF is fused with compute and management.
 vSS / vDS	 Nutanix Virtual Networking	Built-in SDN for VM networking and segmentation.
 NSX	 Nutanix Flow	Microsegmentation and distributed firewall included, not added on.
 OVF / OVA	 NCV container image (.qcow2)	Templates repackage for Prism-driven automation.
 vSphere Data Protection / 3rd-party	 Nutanix native data services	Backup, replication and DR native; fewer third-party dependencies.
 vRealize Suite	 Prism Central + Prism Analytics	Monitoring, analytics and capacity planning built in.
 PowerCLI / vSphere API	 REST API / nCLI / Prism SDK	Different tooling, equivalent automation reach — scripts get rewritten.

AFTER THE MOVE: WHAT NUTANIX GIVES YOU

Less Complexity

One integrated platform. Fewer infrastructure layers.

Scale on Demand

Add nodes as needed—without unnecessary overhead.

Skills That Transfer

Build on familiar expertise. Minimize the learning curve.

Built for Resilience

Enterprise-grade availability, security, performance, and DR.

Planning your Migration?

 **1.5M+**
USERS MIGRATED

 **650,000+**
DESKTOPS MANAGED

 **Zero**
DOWNTIME CUTOVER

SCHEDULE A CONVERSATION →