

Virtualization is the creation of a Virtual (rather than actual) version of something, such as an Operating system, a Server, a storage device or network resources.

You probably know a little about virtualization if you have ever divided your Hard drive into different partitions. A partition is the logical division of a hard disk drive to create, in effect, two separate hard drives.

Operating system virtualization is the use of software to allow a piece of hardware to run multiple operating system images at the same time. The technology got its start on mainframes decades ago, allowing administrators to avoid wasting expensive processing power.