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When configuring the multi-node feature, you need to consider the following:

- We recommend the high-availability deployment option.
- Use similar hardware for all nodes in your deployment.
- Minimize your hardware, for example, instead of using six MCS 7825 servers that support a total of six thousand users, choose two MCS 7835 servers that can support a total of five thousand users.
- Use the same generation of server hardware.
- If you must mix generations of similar hardware, put the same generations of older hardware together in a subcluster and put fewer users on this subcluster than on the more powerful subclusters. Note that we do not recommend this deployment practice.
- We recommend the following disk drives for the multi-node feature:
  - ◆ MCS 7816: minimum one 160GB drive (a 250GB drive can also be used)
  - ◆ MCS 7825: minimum two 160GB drives (two 250GB drives can also be used, upgrade *required* from smaller 80GB drives)
  - ◆ MCS 7835: minimum two 146GB drives (upgrade *required* from smaller 72GB drives)
  - ◆ MCS 7845: minimum four 72GB drives (upgrade recommended to four 146GB drives)

**Note:** The MCS 7845 with four 72GB drives can run the scalability feature, but this hardware with four 146GB drives is preferred.

- If you have older-generation hardware, follow the disk drive upgrade recommendations above. You must meet the minimal disk capacity on each server in the cluster in order to achieve scale.

**Note:** Upgrading drives will allow older hardware to be used in a multi-node cluster. However, we recommend that you use the latest hardware available for the multi-node feature as this hardware will have more powerful CPU, more memory and faster input/output processing.

**Related Topics**

- For a list of the supported hardware for the multi-node feature, and hardware user assignment guidelines for the multi-node feature, see the Cisco Unified Presence compatibility matrices at this URL:

[http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps6837/products\\_device\\_support\\_tables\\_list.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps6837/products_device_support_tables_list.html)

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