HARDWARE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Digita Practice Software can be run in a number of different configurations to suit the number of users and available infrastructure.

Normal install configurations are standalone, peer to peer or client server, each option is listed on the next page.

The hardware required depends upon the configuration that is chosen. In addition to Digita Software, Microsoft SQL Server is required to be installed on one machine. The version and edition of SQL Server influences the hardware requirements for that machine. The version and edition of SQL Server is dependent on the type of system you are utilising, see the next page for example specifications for SQL Server requirements.

GENERAL

An up-to date, high quality network is essential. Any network component (hubs, cabling, etc) as well as the servers and workstations that are of poor quality may have adverse effects on overall performance. It is your responsibility to maintain the network. Digita does not support your IT systems and cannot provide technical help on your network. Ensure your network cabling is snag free, that there are no kinks or knots in it and that nothing heavy is resting on the cable. If you are not sure about the integrity of your cabling, we advise you to get it tested. This is a service requiring specialist tools and expertise.

- Installation on Linux, Novell or Apple Mac computers are not supported.
- Digita software requires a minimum screen resolution of 1024 x 768 and a text size of 100% (default) to ensure the correct display of the user interface.
- Users with monitors that use an uncommon aspect ratio (e.g. 3:2) may face display issues.
- The use of High Definition and 4K monitors are not supported.
- The use of wireless networks is not supported.
- Windows tablet mode not supported.
- Running the software directly over a VPN is not supported unless the software is run within an RDS environment.
- The Digita Suite is built with Microsoft .NET Framework 4.6 which is not compatible with Microsoft Exchange 2010. If you use Exchange 2010, you should not install the Digita Suite on the same server.

BACKUPS

Please make regular backups of your data. Digita is not responsible for the security of your data. More information on backups can be found in the Digita Customer Centre.

MICROSOFT OFFICE

Digita recommends Microsoft Office 32-bit, this can be installed and used on 32-bit and 64-bit Windows Operating Systems and the Digita Suite fully supports all 32-bit versions of Microsoft Office from 2007 up to 2019.

If you are using Microsoft Office 64-bit, documents created in the Digita software cannot be attached directly to an Outlook email. The simple workaround is you need to manually save the document to disk and then attach it to the email.

Office 365 is supported as long as the Desktop versions are used; the Digita software is not compatible with the Office 365 Online version as it is unable to communicate with the online service.

SERVER REGION

Before installing the Digita Suite or SQL Server on a computer, the computer Region settings must be set to United Kingdom, and all other Region settings are set to British English for date compatibility.

Please note, Region Settings must be set correctly prior to the installation of SQL Server (independently or via the Suite).

STANDALONE SYSTEMS

Standalone systems have Digita and SQL software installed on a single machine for use by one person.

If your requirements differ to the table below, please consult your own IT Support who should be able to assist you in planning a suitable configuration and specification for your particular circumstances.

The minimum hardware requirements are:

Desktop Operating System	Windows 10, Windows 11
Processor	Intel Core i3 or AMD A8
Memory	4 GB RAM
Hard Disk	25 GB free space. Excludes space required for the databases.

Please note: these are minimum specifications and we would recommend using the highest specification available for best performance.

Other factors will affect the performance of the Digita software such as other applications running on the same machine.

PEER-TO-PEER (P2P) NETWORKS

These systems have Digita software and SQL Server loaded on one of the workstations with other users accessing Digita via this "server". While P2P has the advantage of being inexpensive, it does have some limitations. We recommend a maximum of 5 machines. The workstation requirement for this configuration is the same as a standalone machine with the recommendation that the machine acting as the server should be of a higher specification than the other machines. For the majority of P2P configurations SQL Server Express should be suitable (SQL 2014 or later recommended).

If your requirements differ to the table below, please consult your own IT Support who should be able to assist you in planning a suitable configuration and specification for your particular circumstances.

The minimum hardware requirements are:

Desktop Operating System	Windows 10, Windows 11
Processor	Intel Core i5 or AMD A10
Memory	8 GB RAM
Hard Disk	25 GB free space. Excludes space required for the databases.

Please note: these are minimum specifications and we would recommend using the highest specification available for best performance.

Other factors will affect the performance of the Digita software such as other applications running on the same machine.

CLIENT SERVER NETWORKS

Client Server systems have Digita software and SQL Server loaded on specific Windows Server Operating System machine. Client Server systems are suitable where the number of workstations exceeds 5 concurrent users. Workstation requirements in this environment are the same as a standalone machine although Windows 'Home' Editions are not suitable for use in a Windows Server environment.

If your requirements differ to the table below, please consult your own IT Support who should be able to assist you in planning a suitable configuration and specification for your particular circumstances.

The minimum hardware requirements are:

Server Operating System	Server 2016, Server 2019, Server 2022
Processor	1.4GHz
Memory	8GB RAM minimum
Hard Disk	25GB free space for a typical Digita/SQL Server installation. Excludes space required for the databases.

Please note: these are minimum specifications and we would recommend using the highest specification available for best performance.

Other factors will affect the performance of the Digita software such as other applications running on the same machine.

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HOSTED SERVICES

A popular trend is using hosted desktop solutions to reduce the costs of upgrading the local infrastructure. Defining hardware requirements for such systems is very difficult due to the types of infrastructure available.

The required resources are more akin to that of a high-end Server/Workstation setup with RDS or Citrix, without taking into the account the 'per user' resources needed.

Server Operating System	RDS: Server 2016, Server 2019, Server 2022
Processor	1.4GHz, however the higher the better
Memory	OS Base Requirement ~4GB RAM For SQL Express, 1.5GB. For SQL Standard, ~500 MB per user 2GB RAM suggested per user, 3GB RAM recommended. Example. 10 Users with SQL Standard: 29/39GB recommended
Hard Disk	25GB free space for a typical Digita/SQL Server installation. Excludes space required for the databases.

The amount of resources assigned to a user is very subjective and depends on many factors. The figures above are estimated and therefore may be over or under resourcing each user session.

If SQL Server Standard is used on the same server as the user sessions, it would be advisable to cap SQL Server memory usage.

VIRTUALISATION

The Digita Suite is compatible with all known virtualisation technologies that support the installation of Windows within the virtual environment.

MICROSOFT AZURE & AMAZON WEB SERVICES (AWS)

We recommend using environments which emulate a standard Windows installation, allowing full administration privileges. For example, **SQL Server on Azure Virtual Machines (VMs)**.

Azure SQL Database, **Azure SQL Managed Instances** and **Amazon RDS for SQL Server** are not compatible with the Suite as the service does not allow 'SA' account access into a Default instance of SQL Server, plus a few other database specific compatibility issues.

Azure AD is not currently supported, however using Azure Directory Services does allow Windows Authentication to function.

SQL SERVER COMPATIBILITY

The table below is a guide to assist with what operating system is compatible with specific versions of Microsoft SQL Server. The latest version of the Digita suite fully supports versions of Microsoft SQL Server from 2014 up to 2022.

With more than 5 concurrent users, we recommend a SQL Server Standard rather than SQL Server Express. Thomson Reuters can supply this for use with the Digita software only, please contact your Account Manager for more details and prices.

SQL Server / OS Compatibility		32-bit / 64-bit	64-bit only			
		2014	2016	2017	2019	2022
Desktop Operating System (SQL Express & Standard)	Windows 10	*	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Windows 11	✖	✖	✓	✓	✓
Server Operating System (SQL Express, Standard & Enterprise)	Server 2016	*	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Server 2019	*	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Server 2022	✖	✖	✓	✓	✓
✓ Compatible ✖ Not Compatible * Latest SQL Service Pack must be installed to be compatible						

Please note, SQL Server 2014 was the last release to include a 32-bit version.

PLEASE NOTE: The Digita Suite requires a Default instance of SQL Server. Named instances are not supported.

RETIREMENT OF SUPPORT FOR KEY MICROSOFT APPLICATIONS

Microsoft has ended Extended Support for the following products:

Applications already expired	End of Life / End of Support
SQL Server 2008R2 SP3	9th July 2019
Windows 7	14th January 2020
Windows Server 2008	14th January 2020
Windows Server 2008R2	14th January 2020
Small Business Server 2011 (Windows Server 2008/2008R2)	14th January 2020
SQL Server 2012 SP4	12th July 2022
Windows 8	10th January 2023
Windows 8.1	10th January 2023
Windows Server 2012	10th October 2023
Windows Server 2012R2	10th October 2023

For future planning…

Applications expiring soon	End of Life / End of Support
SQL Server 2014 SP3	9th July 2024

Application expiry in the next 10 years	End of Life / End of Support
Windows 10	14th October 2025
SQL Server 2016 SP2	14th July 2026
Windows Server 2016	12th January 2027
SQL Server 2017	12th October 2027
Windows Server 2019	9th January 2029
SQL Server 2019	8th January 2030

The 'End of Life' status means that Microsoft will no longer issue security updates for that software leaving your programs and data potentially vulnerable. Under GDPR guidelines, controlling customer data on systems not receiving security patches is considered an act of negligence and therefore may result in a penalty if customer data is compromised.

The Digita Suite will still be able to be installed or run on these 'End of Life' applications until further notice, however, any problems caused by running them will not be investigated or rectified after their 'End of Life' date. If you are currently using any applications that have come to, or close to its End of Life, we recommend upgrading them as soon as possible.

NOTE: To find out what version of SQL Server you are using, download and run this application.
https://productdownloads.digita.com/digitavarious/SQLVersion.bat
(If you get a security dialog, click on 'More info' and then 'Run anyway'. The file is safe.)
OR, on the server click on the Start menu, type CMD <enter>. Type: osql -E -Q"select @@version" <enter>.

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