



Automated **ASK ABD:** Business Designs

All of my data is being hosted on the same server as other businesses. How do I know my data is safe?

When your data is out of your control you are relying on your provider to keep your data safe and secure. Choosing hosting means that you will need to trust that your provider has the appropriate procedures in place to protect your data.

If you are sharing a server, the first concern is ensuring that competitive firms do not have access to data that is yours. Proper security must be set up by your application server provider (ASP) so that unauthorized users cannot access your data.

Next, should any type of theft, fire or natural disaster occur, copies of your data must be housed off-site so that it is available for restoration.

Last, find out what timeframes you can expect for data restoration after a disaster. How soon will a server be ready and loaded with your data so that you can get back into operation?

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