



IBM Db2 Database

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users



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Product Recap



IBM Db2 Database

IBM Db2 Database Recap

IBM Db2 Database provides a robust SQL dialect, multi-platform support, self-tuning memory, and strong security. Its capabilities in handling structured and unstructured data while offering high uptime make it reliable for diverse applications.

IBM Db2 Database is known for its robust performance, seamless integration, and effective data replication. It supports diverse environments and applications, leveraging its advanced features like automatic storage, data compression, and efficient resource management. Despite its strengths, complexities in learning, costly licensing, and a need for better interfaces and advanced analytics support are noted. It requires improvements in AI features, management simplification, and cloud compatibility to effectively address the dynamic needs of businesses.

What are the important features of IBM Db2 Database?

- **Powerful SQL Dialect:** Offers extensive SQL capabilities for varied database tasks.
- **Multi-platform Support:** Compatible with different operating systems for flexible deployment.
- **Self-tuning Memory:** Automatically optimizes memory usage for improved performance.
- **High Availability:** Ensures continuous service with minimal downtime.
- **Strong Security:** Provides advanced security measures for data protection.

What benefits should users consider when evaluating IBM Db2 Database?

- **Ease of Use:** Simplifies database management and operation.
- **Autonomic Features:** Automatically performs optimization and recovery tasks.
- **Robust Performance:** Maintains high efficiency in data processing and management.
- **Seamless Integration:** Easily integrates with existing systems and applications.
- **Effective Data Replication:** Ensures data consistency and reliability across platforms.

Organizations leverage IBM Db2 Database in financial and banking applications, including core banking systems, card management, and transaction management. It also serves as a data warehouse supporting ERP systems, e-commerce projects, and data integration. Its robustness is utilized in mainframe environments across sectors like entertainment, retail, and public cloud deployments.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- ✓ “It is highly scalable, and its performance related to database pruning is very good, and it can be scaled vertically or horizontally so that data insertions and data access are much faster and more secure compared to how Oracle or other databases work.”



Sathyan K

Founder, Director at perfTech Solutions Pvt Ltd

- ✓ “IBM Db2 Database is perfect and leading in this area.”



Verified user

Associate Director, Data Architecture at a financial services firm with 10,001+ employees

- ✓ “The valuable features include access path optimization, excellent performance, a robust locking mechanism, parallelism, and effective buffering in memory.”



Michael Raz

Consultant at Discount Bank



“The IBM Db2 multi-workload helps me manage diverse business applications with easy management.”



Mona Mohamed

Network Administrator at GAEB



“Db2 database scalability and performance capabilities match our database needs. It covers pretty much everything a database administrator or engineer might need.”



Devashish Dutta.

Senior project manager (APAC region) at FreeBalance



“It's very easy to figure out how the data is present, I can check what the keys in the table are, and I can easily export that to further work on it in Snowflake.”



Shariq Ahmed

Data Engineer at a tech services company with 501-1,000 employees



“As part of your licensing with IBM, you get access to their case system, which lets you raise incidents related to software or hardware. This system is helpful for problem determination and quickly identifying issues.”



Simon Higgins

Mainframe Technical Manager/Service Integration Lead at Saudi Business Machines

What users had to say about valuable features:

“Db2 is an on-premises solution. I only use SQL over there. It's very easy to figure out how the data is present. I can check what the keys in the table are. I can easily export that to further work on it in Snowflake. For data modeling and other tasks, I have to pull the information from Db2..”

Shariq Ahmed

Data Engineer at a tech services company with 501-1,000 employees

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“The optimizer plan feature of IBM Db2 Database offers great value. At our company, whenever we check access to a particular query, the aforementioned features assist us internally by providing a suitable plan. The newly added feature of ALSM is one of the top features of IBM Db2 Database. .”

ArpitKhare

Database Admin Senior Consultant at a consultancy with 10,001+ employees

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“The structure is straightforward, consisting of the test file and the logical and physical files. You have one physical file and many logical files related to it.

Banks use it which indicates that the security and compliance features are quite good..”

Elbert_Tarrosa

Lead Data Architect at Seven Seven Global

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“We mostly use the core Oracle database.

IBM Db2 Database is perfect and leading in this area.

Regarding how IBM Db2 Database can improve, I do not have anything in mind as our use cases are not complicated. There is PostgreSQL and SQL Server available. IBM Db2 Database, because of enterprise performance and support, is why banks still maintain their relationship with it. I am uncertain whether other companies do the same, but banks do..”

Verified user

Associate Director, Data Architecture at a financial services firm with 10,001+ employees

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“The IBM Db2 Database is trusted, and IT effort is less than any other product. IBM Db2's support for both structured and unstructured data benefits me because both are allowed.

IBM's impact on in-memory technology is good for working in our organization. The IBM Db2 multi-workload helps me manage diverse business applications with easy management. We just have a backup of incremental changes every day, and applications working with it do not need maintenance gradually.

The IBM Db2 Database brought benefits to my organization as we did not spend too much money on security. It is secure enough, and the IT teams do not have heavy work..”

Mona Mohamed

Network Administrator at GAEB

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“Sterling B2B Integrator is a highly transactional-oriented application, which can be described as an OLTP application. Any data that flows through the application is stored in the database for each step that it performs. IBM Db2 Database helps the application work much faster from an OLTP perspective.

“IBM Db2 Database is SSL enabled, which means that from the security point of view, any access to the database is through SSL. Additionally, all compliance-related aspects have been taken care of from the database point of view, including database encryption and security-related features.

“It is highly scalable, and its performance related to database pruning is very good. It can be scaled vertically or horizontally so that data insertions and data access are much faster and more secure compared to how Oracle or other databases work..”

Sathyan K

Founder, Director at perfTech Solutions Pvt Ltd

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Other Solutions Considered

“We are switching from Db2 as part of a broader strategy to consolidate onto fewer platforms. Oracle is being favored for its widespread industry use and better cloud compatibility..”

Raymond De Rooij

Product Owner at ABN AMRO Bank N.V.

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“Database Hammer does not work with IBM Power or POWER8. It is too expensive for us to purchase POWER9 so we are migrating to AWS and comparing that to Azure.

Currently, our server and database are shut down and not in use. .”

Amr-Ahmed

CIO at Mobica

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“We have some Oracle products. Oracle performs well but is becoming very expensive. The major concern is the cost, and there are other products that are much cheaper replacements with minimal performance degradation. That is why many companies are moving away from Oracle, at least for relational database use cases..”

Verified user

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Associate Director, Data Architecture at a financial services firm with 10,001+ employees

“I have worked with Postgres and a few open-source database solutions as well. Since the last two or three years, I have noticed that the IBM Db2 Database's popularity has been minimized in comparison to other open source databases. For quick deployment requirements for new clients in our organization, Postgres is preferred over IBM Db2 Database. .”

ArpitKhare

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Database Admin Senior Consultant at a consultancy with 10,001+ employees

“When compared with Oracle RAC or Microsoft SQL, Db2 for z/OS offers the highest level of availability and the best SLA, especially if you have skilled technical people managing it. For banks or airlines needing 24/7/365 availability, Db2 for z/OS is the top recommendation. If your business can tolerate occasional outages, Oracle RAC or Microsoft SQL might be suitable alternatives. However, in our experience, Db2 for z/OS on the mainframe provides the most reliable high availability and active-active configuration..”

Simon Higgins

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Mainframe Technical Manager/Service Integration Lead at Saudi Business Machines

“When you look at IBM Db2 Database, you feel it is more of a vendor lock-in type of approach. IBM Db2 Database offers little performance difference or competitive advantage compared to Oracle SQL or other platforms.

The products recommended to my customers may vary and depend on certain agreements. There are a lot of products, like Oracle, Microsoft SQL, and many other cloud databases, making for a wide portfolio of products..”

Cosmin Clobanica

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Global Solutions Architect at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

Use Case

“We use the product for managing large volumes of data, particularly in mainframe environments. It supports interoperability with other IBM systems and products..”

Raymond De Rooij

Product Owner at ABN AMRO Bank N.V.

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“We continued with our existing mainframe Db2 solution due to its high availability and the ability to maintain an active configuration across multiple servers or LPARs..”

Simon Higgins

Mainframe Technical Manager/Service Integration Lead at Saudi Business Machines

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“IBM Db2 for zOS serves as the central database for all the core business applications in the two banks I work with. All applications use Db2 as a data server. We fully implement and utilize most of Db2's functionalities and capabilities for core banking business applications..”

Michael Raz

Consultant at Discount Bank

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“The data resides in Db2, and the application is linked to Db2. My job is to pull the data through the Talend tool from Db2 and load it into Snowflake. At the Snowflake level, I handle the data for reporting purposes..”

Shariq Ahmed

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Data Engineer at a tech services company with 501-1,000 employees

“We use IBM Db2 Database for B2B Integrator, specifically Sterling B2B Integrator, which requires a database to store all configuration details. Any workflow that is created, any configuration messages, and metadata information are all stored in the database. We use IBM Db2 Database as part of the installation and configuration of the product itself..”

Sathyan K

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Founder, Director at perfTech Solutions Pvt Ltd

“We work at the banks. The bank has many IBM products. IBM Db2 Database is just one of them. It is mostly mainframes, but there are still some relational databases, such as IBM Db2 Warehouse, that we are interested in purchasing for financial companies.

Because we are a big client, we have a good price with IBM Db2 Database.

Based on my use case and understanding, performance-wise, Oracle is probably better because they may have better technology. However, for us it is acceptable since we do not use it extensively, so there is no real difference for us..”

Verified user

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Associate Director, Data Architecture at a financial services firm with 10,001+ employees

Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

“The solution's initial setup is straightforward. The deployment process involves requesting access to different test environments and productions. It takes a couple of hours to complete..”

HenrikVester

Test lead at Percik Consulting

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“The initial setup is straightforward. We have to install and register. The deployment process includes downloading the software from the vendor's website, having a customer account, copying the downloaded file to the machine, and executing the installation. It takes five to ten days to complete. We have around 50 executives working in the database administration team..”

Md Al-Amin

Senior System Analyst at Thakral

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“The ease of setup depends on the instances. In some instances, it's quite complex. Compared to SQL Server, MySQL, and PostgreSQL, Db2 is not easy to deploy. It is quite complex compared to other databases. However, the complexity comes with the territory. Companies that have complex requirements benefit from it..”

Basil Ndolo

[Read full review](#) 

Product Development Manager at a tech services company with 11-50 employees

“We haven't faced any challenges with deploying the solution at our company. Whenever an update arrives, it's downloaded and installed in our organization from the Password Advantage account and likewise is suggested to our company's clients. The deployment duration of the IBM Db2 Database depends on multiple teams in our organization. When all the deployment resources are ready, including the server, labeled file system, and additional assets, the solution deployment takes just around two or three hours. .”

ArpitKhare

[Read full review](#) 

Database Admin Senior Consultant at a consultancy with 10,001+ employees

“Mainframe environments require skilled, trained database engineers; many are available, particularly in the Indian subcontinent. My team has a mix of talent from around the world. While mainframe Db2 does demand a higher level of expertise, other environments might not require as much specialized skill, though some skills are still necessary.

IBM mainframe manuals are exceptionally well-documented and provide thorough explanations. In contrast, companies like Dell EMC or Microsoft sometimes fall short by not providing all the details needed. They might instruct you to run a process without explaining its potential impact, such as CPU usage or the best time to execute it.

I've worked with other suppliers and generally find that IBM's documentation for mainframes is very thorough and well-structured..”

SimonHiggins

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Mainframe Technical Manager/Service Integration Lead at Saudi Business Machines

“The deployment time and complexity totally depend on the solution we're implementing during this initial setup. It could be for one organization, maybe three or four. For another organization, maybe a seven or eight. So, it completely depends on what type of setup you want for the specific organization.

Where I work, the deployment model is always on the government's premises or their government cloud. It's never on public cloud platforms like AWS or GCP.

Recently, we did some data center migration. It's not a quick job because it's government resource planning. We need to involve all the ministries in the data center, which requires a complete plan.

Last time, it took around two and a half months, ten to be exact, for me to roll it out with my whole system team involved..”

Devashish Dutta.

[Read full review](#) 

Senior project manager (APAC region) at FreeBalance

Customer Service and Support

“We are a big customer of IBM and have some sort of specialized services. We have an elevated support agreement that helps. In general, it's not the greatest. That's only at a personal level..”

Madhav Kondapalli

Solutions Architect at a retailer with 10,001+ employees

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“Technical support is excellent. I would like to see better documentation. We have to speak to a support representative when we can not find the documentation on an issue we are facing..”

Solomon Rundasa

System engineer at a financial services firm with 10,001+ employees

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“The reason for limitations in customer service is that the technical skills available in the market for IBM Db2 Database are limited compared to those of Oracle. It is very difficult to have a skilled resource who can maintain and support this product unless IBM is involved directly..”

Sathyan K

Founder, Director at perfTech Solutions Pvt Ltd

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“The solutions provider offers decent support, but on rare occasions, the wait time is longer. For instance, seven out of ten times, I have received satisfactory support over a call from customer support of IBM Db2 Database. I would rate customer support a seven out of ten. .”

ArpitKhare

Database Admin Senior Consultant at a consultancy with 10,001+ employees

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“I have worked with IBM, and I have seen their support teams. They are very passionate about supporting their users. Whenever there is a problem, they have a team that is there 24/7 to ensure that their customers are supported. They are very fast and very technical in solving problems..”

Basil Ndolo

Product Development Manager at a tech services company with 11-50 employees

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“We have technical support from IBM, but we have to pay for it as part of our product licensing. If you're skeptical, look up IBM PH61633. It's an example of a Red Alert, which warns of a defect that could potentially cause data loss and provides temporary actions until a fix is available.

It feels like we're seeing these kinds of issues more frequently, and we have to be very cautious to avoid causing any outages. About two or three weeks ago, we recently experienced problems with some Microsoft tools and a third-party security fix. When the fix was applied, many Windows servers started crashing, leading to significant issues for airlines and banks worldwide.

There was also an issue involving CrowdStrike. We seem to encounter these problems more frequently, which has forced us to heighten our vigilance. I wonder if a better system could be developed to prevent these issues..”

SimonHiggins

Mainframe Technical Manager/Service Integration Lead at Saudi Business Machines

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Other Advice

“I am using the desktop version of the IBM Db2 Database, and we need to move to the cloud, but we need to develop our application. On a scale of one to ten, I rate the IBM Db2 Database a nine..”

Mona Mohamed

Network Administrator at GAEB

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“Overall, I rate Db2 as six out of ten. I can recommend it if someone wants to go to IBM stack. If someone is willing to adopt IBM's stack, then definitely they will be using IBM Db2..”

Shariq Ahmed

Data Engineer at a tech services company with 501-1,000 employees

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“We use the product combined with other solutions, such as SAP Crystal Reports and various reporting tools, but we do not directly integrate it with databases like SQL Server.

I rate it as ten because, despite occasional issues, it performs very well overall..”

Verified user

System engineer at a financial services firm with 10,001+ employees

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“We have not implemented AI as of now. IBM is already providing some capabilities through Watsonx. We have not used any unstructured data and are working with structured data only, so I am not completely certain about how it behaves with unstructured data. We are not using the real-time analytics part because the analytics is done from the application side itself. I rate this product a 10 out of 10 overall..”

Sathyan K

Founder, Director at perfTech Solutions Pvt Ltd

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“If you have a similar use case and the same deal with IBM as our company, it is definitely a good option and choice. The company I work with has more than 50,000 people and more than 500 support staff. We are not locked into one database vendor. We typically work with multiple database vendors simultaneously, selecting the top choice based on the deals we make and other considerations.

We do not use IBM Db2 Database related to AI at this moment because our AI project PLC is still very small scale. We may consider it in the future if we have enough scale.

Overall rating for IBM Db2 Database is 8.5 out of 10..”

Verified user

Associate Director, Data Architecture at a financial services firm with 10,001+ employees

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“You don't want to check in for your vacation flight and find that the airline's system is down, causing delays at the airport. That would be a nightmare. Or imagine being unable to access your money because the bank's system is down. These kinds of issues can cause significant problems and lead to a lot of internal headaches for the company providing the services.

As part of your licensing with IBM, you get access to their case system, which lets you raise incidents related to software or hardware. This system is helpful for problem determination and quickly identifying issues. You need to keep things up to date, but you also want to avoid potential problems. If you wait too long to update, you're more susceptible to security breaches, and someone could potentially hack your system.

If iOS is publishing fixes, people out there examine them to find potential exploits. The same happens with Microsoft—people review their fix lists and look for opportunities to exploit vulnerabilities. IBM doesn't publish its security fixes openly. You need special permissions to access them; they're not generally available to anyone except those with specific access to the security sites.

Overall, I rate the solution a nine out of ten..”

SimonHiggins

Mainframe Technical Manager/Service Integration Lead at Saudi Business Machines

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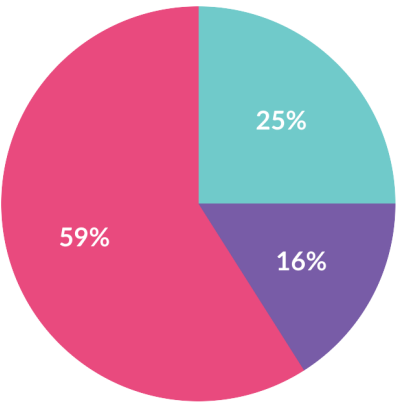
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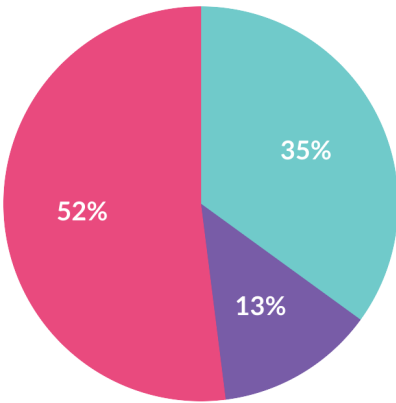


Company Size

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Large Enterprise Midsized Enterprise Small Business

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