aws marketplace

NGINX Plus

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users

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Contents

Product Recap . . . . . 3 - 4

Valuable Features . . . . . 5 - 9

Other Solutions Considered . . . . . 10 - 11

ROI . . . . . 12 - 13

Use Case . . . . . 14 - 15

Setup . . . . . 16 - 18

Customer Service and Support . . . . . 19 - 20

Other Advice . . . . . 21 - 24

Trends . . . . . 25 - 26

About PeerSpot . . . . . 27 - 28

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Product Recap

NGINX Plus

NGINX Plus Recap

NGINX Plus efficiently handles heavy loads with lightweight software and simple configuration. It seamlessly integrates with F5, offering high-performance load balancing and robust reverse proxy capabilities for HTTP, IMAP, POP, and SMTP protocols.

NGINX Plus stands out for its load balancing, authentication, caching, and modular design. Its flexibility and scalability make it ideal for web servers, traffic routing, and enterprise use, supported by comprehensive documentation and a strong community. However, improvements in pricing, graphical interface, and advanced load balancing are desired. Users seek enhanced performance, better security, and simpler configuration. Automation and integration capabilities need attention, and scalability requires further refinement.

What are the key features of NGINX Plus?

- Load Balancing: Manages traffic efficiently for better resource utilization.
- Reverse Proxy: Offers robust support for directing requests to the appropriate backend server.
- Caching: Improves speed and reduces server load through effective content caching.
- Modularity: Customizable setup with various modules for specific functionalities.
- Security Features: Provides web application firewall and DDoS protection.

What benefits can users expect?

- Performance Enhancement: Boosts speed and efficiency in web and application servers.
- Scalability: Easily adapts to increased demand with minimal effort.
- Flexibility: Supports a wide range of deployment scenarios from cloud to on-premises.
- Security: Fortifies web applications with comprehensive protection measures.

NGINX Plus is vital for industries deploying reverse proxy, load balancing, and application delivery control. Enterprises utilize it for both cloud and on-premises setups to manage content, secure traffic, and improve application performance. It plays a crucial role in CDN deployments, API management, and microservices architecture by providing enterprise-grade capabilities in caching and traffic management, along with security features like web application firewall and DDoS protection.

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Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- "The web application firewall feature has helped enhance security for our applications because most of the attacks which are performed on our website are being blocked by it, so the web application firewall is good."

Nadeem-Inamdar

Senior Information Security Engineer at a tech company with 10,001+ employees

- "The primary valuable feature of NGINX for me is its ability to provide a reverse proxy."

Michael Olayemi

Senior Software Engineer at Checkit

- "I receive very good support."

AnilKumar44

Executive Director at Geojit

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"The product is resilient."

Derrick Brockel

Senior Manager of Operations at a comms service provider with 10,001+ employees

"It performs very well. That's one of the primary reasons we use NGINX."

M.Umar Farooq

Senior Devops Engineer at Nisum

"I utilize NGINX for its capability to provide visibility and discovery options, helping discover and identify networks, which is crucial for ensuring application performance, managing latency, and checking server reachability."

NiteshSharma

Pre Sales Architect at network techlab

"Using NGINX Plus for web traffic distribution is fantastic. It offers performance similar to physical load balancers but with added flexibility."

Vijay Muddu

Manager server admin and security at Vivaconnect

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What users had to say about valuable features:

"I need to highlight that the number one thing about NGINX is that it is free. Aside from that, for big companies who want a lot of traffic and a big work block, we can build the solution for them.."

Nguyen Kien
IT Manager at a comms service provider with 11-50 employees

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"NGINX can also be used for load balancing, which makes it better than Apache in a lot of cases. Additionally, it functions as both a reverse proxy and a web server, offering a lot of flexibility.

Moreover, it performs very well. That's one of the primary reasons we use NGINX.."

M.Umar Farooq
Senior Devops Engineer at Nisum

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"Using NGINX Plus for web traffic distribution is fantastic. It offers performance similar to physical load balancers but with added flexibility. However, I have faced challenges with DNS configurations. Sometimes, updates to domain name IPs take time to reflect, causing delays or caching issues.."

Vijay Muddu
Manager server admin and security at Vivaconnect

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"I use NGINX, which is integrated with our engineering server, SparkFi. We are using NGINX Plus, which functions as a responsible application, serving as a reverse proxy and a small web server. For API management, the WebSocket, and the WebServer, NGINX provides a cost advantage, value addition, and effective support.."

AnilKumar44
Executive Director at Geojit

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"The primary valuable feature of NGINX for me is its ability to provide a reverse proxy. I have found that this feature supports our local server, and I am able to connect through our DNS system, making it accessible publicly.

Additionally, the integration with SSL certificates and the configuration capabilities make it a valuable solution for my use case. Without NGINX, users would not be able to access our application, which means there is positive ROI from using NGINX as it is crucial for the functioning of my organization.."

Michael Olayemi
Senior Software Engineer at Checkit

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"Load balancing in NGINX Plus is used by the IT team mostly because they manage it; from the security perspective, I focus on the policies and the signatures and how they are configured.

"The web application firewall feature has helped enhance security for our applications because most of the attacks which are performed on our website are being blocked by it, so the web application firewall is good.

"Operation is very good; we have not much impact because most of our attacks from different countries are blocked to it, and we have also whitelisted and blacklisted some countries, so the traffic is also very minimal, and the attacks which have been detected are also from a region from where the traffic is allowed, but it is very minimal, and the detection capabilities are also good.."

Nadeem-Inamdar
Senior Information Security Engineer at a tech company with 10,001+ employees

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Other Solutions Considered

“I have evaluated many types of products that fall into this category. They are all far less superior than NGINX: F5 BIG-IP, HAProxy, Apache2, and IIS. I am sure the list goes on. .”

Derek DeJonghe
Director of Architecture at a tech services company with 11-50 employees

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“Previously, we used Apache and another solution, but I can't remember the name. It took roughly 30 minutes to scale up and down; that's one of the reasons why we switched to NGINX..”

Validated user
Head Of Technology at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

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“We tried to use some "golden bullet" solutions but we never needed most of their features (like a built-in database environment). NGINX is a direct way to satisfy a specific need..”

Darren Whitfield
CTO at a tech vendor

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"There were not any other real options.

Squid is too heavy. Apache in reverse proxy mode is also over-bloated, resource hungry, and not suitable for the task.."

Andrii Stesin
Startup Founder at a tech services company

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"I used Apache. I configured Apache as a web server for a front-end web application deployment. I used it on a Linux virtual machine.

I actively used Apache for over a year. We configured applications for front-end hosting and used Apache as a web server to route traffic from the public to the virtual machine. It was listening on port 80 or 443 and forwarding traffic to the internal application.

I used it more than a year ago. Since then, I've primarily been using NGINX.."

M.Umar Farooq
Senior Devops Engineer at Nisum

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ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

"Without NGINX, users would not be able to access our application, which means there is positive ROI from using NGINX as it is crucial for the functioning of my organization.."

Michael Olayemi
Senior Software Engineer at Checkit

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"Who calculates "ROI" for every single component of a large system with more than 100 components in it?

The whole system brought ROI even better than what was expected.."

Andrii Stesin
Startup Founder at a tech services company

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"The return on investment for NGINX Plus depends on factors like cost and management ease. Compared to hardware load balancers, NGINX Plus can be pricier, but it offers flexibility and scalability. However, other hardware load balancers like Array may have lower upfront costs and easier setup.."

Vijay Muddu
Manager server admin and security at Vivaconnect

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"We see an ROI on the solution. If we didn't use NGINX, the app teams and developers would have to find more resources for development. If we didn't have a layer that handled the transactions into Rancher, the developers would have to redo their API calls and increase development costs.."

Derrick Brockel
Senior Manager of Operations at a comms service provider with 10,001+ employees

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Use Case

"I am generally satisfied with NGINX Plus; it is good, the policies are fine-tuned and superb, but there are vulnerabilities in that platform which were exploited in the wild some months last year.."

Nadeem-Inamdar
Senior Information Security Engineer at a tech company with 10,001+ employees

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"I use NGINX to port our local server to a public server where people can access the URL. The main use case is for reverse proxy to support our local server, making it publicly accessible through our DNS system.."

Michael Olayemi
Senior Software Engineer at Checkit

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"I find NGINX Plus incredibly versatile. It is my go-to for serving web content efficiently, balancing loads across servers, and securely managing traffic as a reverse proxy. Plus, it is fantastic for streaming ports like SMTP and handling non-SAP protocol traffic.."

Vijay Muddu
Manager server admin and security at Vivaconnect

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"Proxy and load balance are the reasons why I use NGINX Plus. I use NGINX Plus to help me with a delivery app on the cloud for one of my company's customers.."

Franciso Serrano
Support Operation at dafnek it solutions

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"We use NGINX as a reverse proxy. For example, if you access www.google.com, NGINX accepts the external traffic and forwards it to the internal application servers.."

M.Umar Farooq
Senior Devops Engineer at Nisum

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"The primary use cases involve using NGINX for various features including WAF, API security, DDoS protection, and bot protection. Additionally, it facilitates network discovery and provides visibility into network activities, allowing us to uncover solutions and identify any areas we might have missed.."

NiteshSharma
Pre Sales Architect at network techlab

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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 initial setup is not difficult. You need to have some experience, of course. When installing the solution, you just edit some text files. It could be simpler if you have a user interface, but you must know how to edit a text file.."

RICARDO FILIPO

Wordpress Expert at Codeable

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"I've installed NGINX several times, and it was straightforward. It was not a tedious task, so the process was easy.

NGINX's graphical user interface is fine. I've deployed frontend applications. ."

M.Umar Farooq

Senior Devops Engineer at Nisum

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“Setup is very easy. It's easier to set up than Apache. There's a lot of documentation on the internet.

If someone is knowledgeable, they can implement the solution in 30 minutes. It depends on the infrastructure and the services in the company.

It's not a complicated solution. One or two people can implement it..”

ArashHaghighifard

Team leader at Dana energy

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“I was part of the configuration for the initial setup.

“It was not that straightforward, but it was fine; we were able to manage it, and it took time.

“Integrations were the difficulties I faced with the deployment..”

Nadeem-Inamdar

Senior Information Security Engineer at a tech company with 10,001+ employees

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"Setting up NGINX Plus is generally straightforward and not very complex. While some modules may not be included in the documentation, finding and installing them is manageable. The deployment process is relatively simple and can be started right away, especially if you have prior knowledge of NGINX.

For deploying and maintaining NGINX Plus, the team size varies based on the environment's scale. In a large setup, we might need four to five people, while in smaller environments, two technically sound individuals can handle it.."

Vijay Muddu

Read full review

Manager server admin and security at Vivaconnect

"The solution's implementation is very straightforward. The deployment takes around two to three days to complete. However, the solution's implementation will depend from organization to organization. Some of the packages can be blocked by their BLP. If a company has full internet access, one to two days would be enough to do the POC. In fact, one hour would be enough if the company has full internet access.

We use CLI-based installation process in docker. If you use docker filing for the solution, then the installation is too easy. You can build a server within two to three minutes if you have the image of the application.."

Saurav Kumar

Read full review

Senior security architecture at National Payment Corporation Of India

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Customer Service and Support

"We haven't used technical support. It's an open source solution, so we search the internet if we have any issues. We also do tests before implementing on a real server.."

ArashHaghighifard
Team leader at Dana energy

Read full review

"There have been multiple occasions where they have taken their sweet time. We had the cheapest license that we could buy from them; because of that, they have a turnaround time of seven days to respond.."

Validated user
Head Of Technology at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

Read full review

"We inquired about the procedure for official support from Wazyh itself. They provided us with a price quote based on the number of endpoints we would be covering. However, we haven't purchased that. We are currently using the open community and Slack for support.."

Muhammad Muaaz Bin Zaka
Software Engineer at a computer software company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"Support and troubleshooting could be a challenge. For each layer we go through, we need to get an SME. If it is F5, we need a person from F5. Then, if we get into NGINX, we need someone from NGINX. Sometimes, it can be the same person. Since it is another solution on a stack, it can be challenging. F5 has good support. It's been pretty good.."

Derrick Brockel
Senior Manager of Operations at a comms service provider with 10,001+ employees

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"I would rate their technical support an eight out of ten.

"Response time is good because they have assigned and dedicated support engineers to us, and we have weekly cadence calls. If we have any issues with the product, we discuss that, and they also provide us any updates if there are any major changes with new features or whatever we need.."

Nadeem-Inamdar
Senior Information Security Engineer at a tech company with 10,001+ employees

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Other Advice

"Applications were particularly problematic to integrate with NGINX Plus, and because sometimes there were customers facing applications which were not integrated properly. I would rate this review an eight out of ten overall.."

Nadeem-Inamdar
Senior Information Security Engineer at a tech company with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

"NGINX is a great product for anyone interested in reverse proxy. It is a reliable solution and has proven effective in my use case. I would recommend it to anyone considering similar needs.

The overall product rating is ten out of ten.."

Michael Olayemi
Senior Software Engineer at Checkit

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"Not much maintenance is required. My experience spans six to seven applications. Initially, I had hiccups whenever I installed the application. After receiving support, everything was rectified. I am happy with it now. For the initial hiccups, I received adequate support, and as of now, I am content with the solution.

Overall product rating: 8 out of ten.."

AnilKumar44
Executive Director at Geojit

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"I would recommend it because it's a very versatile tool for load balancing and other scenarios. For example, you can use it to host front-end applications.

I would give NGINX an eight out of ten. It's great for load balancing, reverse proxying, and serving as a web server. Its versatility makes it superior to Apache in many ways. I haven't tried other similar tools, so that's why I wouldn't give it a perfect ten.."

M.Umar Farooq
Senior Devops Engineer at Nisum

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“We are thinking about doing a service mesh. It's a pretty big architecture. It changes the whole front door and transactions. It will probably replace NGINX. People who want to use the solution must keep the hops to a minimum.

Every technology on the infrastructure adds some latency. Keep the transaction flows to less than three hops. Hit F5, hit NGINX, and then hit the app layer. If we get too fancy, we will face additional troubleshooting burdens and latency.

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

Derrick Brockel
Senior Manager of Operations at a comms service provider with 10,001+ employees

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“NGINX Plus greatly improved my API management and delivery. I configured multiple routes with load balancing and efficient logging, which helped troubleshoot issues effectively. While the dashboard lacked customization, the product performed well, offering about 80% similarity to NGINX open source with additional modules and support. Its scalability allowed me to upgrade server resources rather than invest in new hardware, saving costs as my traffic increased.

Using load balancing with NGINX, both in the open-source version and NGINX Plus, improved service reliability. While the open-source version required manual reconfiguration if a server went down, NGINX Plus's traffic monitoring automatically detects and removes faulty servers, ensuring seamless traffic management.

NGINX Plus's caching mechanism is highly effective in speeding up web content delivery.

I would recommend NGINX Plus to those seeking an alternative to hardware-based load balancers. However, it is important to note that NGINX Plus is quite technical, primarily command-line-based with less emphasis on GUI. While support is available, administrators should be comfortable with technical configurations. Compared to GUI-based load balancers, NGINX Plus offers flexibility but requires more technical expertise for setup and management.

Overall, I would rate NGINX Plus as a six out of ten..”

Vijay Muddu
Manager server admin and security at Vivaconnect

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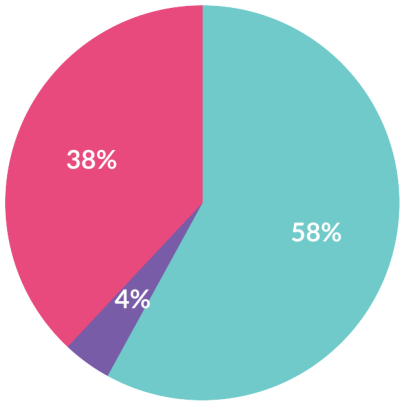

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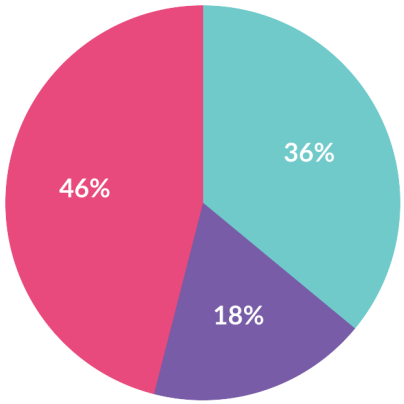

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