



Liferay DXP and Liferay CE

Comparison Guide

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Liferay's Commitment to Our Open Source and Enterprise Products

Since the beginning, Liferay has taken pride in being a key participant in the open-source community, dedicating ourselves to developing practical and impactful software for a wide range of project types and scales. Liferay is firmly rooted in open-source principles and has initiated numerous innovative projects that have contributed to the broader tech ecosystem.

Our powerful and flexible products – Liferay Portal Community Edition (CE) and Liferay Digital Experience Platform (DXP) – were created to empower your business to build and scale impactful digital experiences.

Let's explore both Liferay DXP and Liferay Portal CE to see which is the best fit for your organization's needs.

Liferay Digital Experience Platform (DXP)

As your organization's digital presence becomes increasingly critical to revenue generation, the internal demands of managing the underlying technology platforms can also escalate.

Ensuring uncompromising security, managing optimal performance for superior user experiences, implementing scalable infrastructure to support business growth, establishing reliable data backups, and keeping pace with essential software upgrades are just some of the responsibilities that will require significant internal resources and expertise.

But for businesses that have ambitious growth plans, you can get help delivering, managing, and supporting your digital solutions with an enterprise subscription for Liferay DXP. With Liferay DXP, you gain access not only to enterprise-grade software but also to a team of experts who know Liferay software the best.

You can deploy Liferay DXP Self-Hosted on premise or in your own cloud, giving you complete control over your application and infrastructure so that you can meet your specific IT requirements.

Alternatively, you can offload the management of your digital environment to a dedicated team and deploy Liferay DXP through one of Liferay's cloud subscription options: Liferay PaaS or Liferay SaaS.

With Liferay PaaS, rely on the Liferay team to handle infrastructure management, so you can focus on maintaining your application. With Liferay SaaS, the Liferay team will also take care of the management, hosting, and scaling of your application. This includes platform updates, security fixes, and general security tasks like backups, performance monitoring, and disaster recovery.

By entrusting the complexities of platform management to Liferay's specialists, your core teams can concentrate their efforts on driving innovation, developing new digital solutions, and continuously enhancing your online presence to directly support strategic business goals and revenue targets.

Liferay Portal Community Edition (CE)

Liferay Portal CE is a powerful and flexible platform that has successfully launched and grown many digital experiences globally — a testament to the strength and adaptability of Liferay's open-source foundation. But managing a solution on Liferay CE requires a team to ensure the security of your solution, optimize performance for seamless user experiences, implement scalable infrastructure to handle growth, establish reliable backups, and stay current with essential software upgrades. These responsibilities can become significant undertakings alongside your team's core projects.

If you have a team that can help you manage all the tasks related to maintaining your digital environment, then Liferay Portal CE can help provide an excellent foundation for your solutions.

However, if your business prioritizes accelerated growth and needs your teams to focus on strategic development and innovation rather than on managing the intricacies of your digital environment, a Liferay DXP subscription could be the better choice.

Enterprise Subscription Benefits

Liferay DXP is only sold through an enterprise subscription. You'll be able to see a greater return on investment when you can deliver digital solutions more efficiently.



Proactive Support

An enterprise subscription to Liferay DXP gives you exclusive access to Liferay's own support team, product experts, and validated partners to design your solutions effectively and achieve business value faster. By engaging with the team who created the platform, you can reduce your overall implementation costs and minimize technical debt, making sure you can continue to update and evolve your project in the future.



Best Practices and Trainings

To help you see success sooner, Liferay gives enterprise subscription customers access to our entire library of Help Center articles, which includes best practices and troubleshooting for setting up your site, building applications with objects, setting up user permissions, using our headless APIs, and more. Additionally, enterprise subscription customers can book Private Classroom trainings with expert Liferay instructors to walk their team through intensive Liferay courses packed with live demos, best practices, and hands-on exercises and examples.



Access to the Liferay Partner Network

As an enterprise customer, you can work with any of the partners in the Liferay Partner Network. Certified Liferay partners are equipped with official Liferay training and expertise needed to help you implement and support Liferay solutions for your industry or region. Being in the Liferay Partner Network gives our partners a direct line to Liferay product leadership, opening up a channel for feedback and collaboration. Some of our partners also have experts from the Liferay team embedded to help ensure projects start with the correct architecture and maximize the use of native Liferay features.



Additional Services

To help get your portal, website, commerce site, and other digital solutions up and running faster, enterprise subscription customers can take advantage of additional specialized services to:

- Get guided support through our Technical Account Management (TAM) add-on subscription. Have a dedicated Solution Architect walk you through solution planning, implementation, and optimization.
- Leverage solution design or performance review packages from our Global Services (GS) team.
- Offload the infrastructure management and security of your solution to an expert team with our Managed Services and Premium Security add-on subscriptions for Liferay PaaS.



Legal Assurance

As an enterprise subscription customer, you'll get protection from the Liferay team so you can maintain business continuity with your Liferay project. If an intellectual property infringement claim does arise, our goal is to keep our customers online. Liferay will:

- Repair or replace the code in question.
- Find an alternative solution to use.
- Purchase any necessary rights for continued use of the code.

If these efforts do not succeed in stopping a claimant from filing a claim, Liferay will step in, including litigating the claim and paying legal fees. For more information, read the full agreement on our website at liferay.com/legal.

The Legal Assurance Program is not geographically limited. Compared to similarly situated commercial open-source vendors, Liferay's Legal Assurance Program covers a broader range of intellectual property claims, including copyrights, trademarks, and patents.



Enterprise-Grade Security

With a Liferay subscription, you get the transparency of open source and the security and expertise of a trusted vendor. Instead of needing to handle security tasks on your own or stay on top of new vulnerabilities, you can rely on Liferay to protect the platform by monitoring for security vulnerabilities and implementing fixes for the software. Customers leveraging our SaaS subscription option will get these security patches and fixes applied for their instance by the Liferay team.

Additionally, Liferay DXP comes with exclusive security features, including multi-factor authentication, SAML, and protection against malicious code-injection attacks like SQL injections or XSS attacks.

Both cloud subscription options, Liferay PaaS and Liferay SaaS, are backed by Google Cloud, meaning data security, such as encryption at rest, is handled by a reliable vendor with world-class and secure technology. Our partnership with Google Cloud also allows us to provide additional security features to filter web traffic and secure your solutions from cyberattacks, such as DDoS protection, a CDN, load balancing, and a WAF.

With Liferay SaaS, general security tasks can be further offloaded to the Liferay team to handle, including performance monitoring, backups, platform upgrades, and disaster recovery. These tasks can also be offloaded to the Liferay team for Liferay PaaS customers with the [Premium Security add-on subscription](#).

Distinctions Between Liferay DXP and Liferay Portal CE

With an enterprise subscription, you can leverage out-of-the-box capabilities and features that are exclusive to Liferay DXP, including enterprise search and specific personalization, commerce, and analytics features. Additionally, we add new features and upgrades to the platform on a quarterly basis so that you can continually innovate and improve your solutions.

The following list is not comprehensive but highlights some of the key differences between Liferay Portal CE and Liferay DXP.

Feature	Liferay Portal CE	Liferay DXP	Description
Commercial Database Support		✓	Liferay DXP has out-of-the-box components that allow you to use commercial database systems, including Oracle, SQL Server, DB2, and Amazon Aurora.
Create and Edit Documents with Office 365™		✓	Liferay DXP provides the additional option to connect to Microsoft Office 365™ to create and edit Word™, Excel™, and PowerPoint™ files and store them in your Documents and Media library.
Cross-Cluster-Replication		✓ *	With the CCR module, you can achieve an alternate form of multi-data-center deployment; the module does not allow you to distribute an Elasticsearch cluster's nodes over multiple data centers but does allow you to configure and connect separate Elasticsearch clusters in each data center.
Search Blueprints		✓ *	Search Blueprints allow you to: • Override Liferay DXP's search behavior with a visual query builder with options to influence search with no code. • Provide personalized and context-aware search results. • Boost, hide, or filter results by various factors like proximity, categories, tags, user segment, etc.

Semantic Search	✓ *	Create search experiences that understand the meaning and the context of the content and users' searches leveraging new generation language models (LLMs) through third-party providers and the query builder of Search Blueprints.
Learning-to-Rank	✓ *	Learning-to-Rank harnesses machine learning to improve search result rankings. It combines the expertise of data scientists with machine learning to produce a smarter scoring function that's applied to search queries.
Elasticsearch Monitoring	✓ *	You can integrate Elastic's Kibana monitoring UI with Liferay DXP, so your monitoring activities can be done within Liferay itself.
Search Tuning: Synonym Sets	✓ *	Define a group of words or phrases with the same meaning so that when a user searches for a keyword or phrase, the synonymous terms in the set are also searched.
Search Tuning: Result Rankings	✓	Result Rankings are for curating the list of returned results for specific keywords. With Result Rankings, you can: • Designate results to pin to the top of the results list. • Hide certain results for a search. • Add results that normally wouldn't be returned for a certain keyword. • Re-order pinned results with a drag-and-drop interface.

Similar Results		✓	When viewing an asset like a blog or document, the Similar Results widget can show a list of relevant assets based on the similarity of specified fields like title or content.
Liferay Marketplace Plugins	Availability Varies	Availability Varies	There are many additional features available on Liferay Marketplace as plugins that are only supported for Liferay DXP. This includes Liferay Connectors to SharePoint, Liferay Reports, and more.
Workflow Metrics		✓	Define SLAs for your workflows and due dates for specific tasks within the workflow process. See the status of all open instances within the workflow process in real time and measure performance.
Workflow Designer Tool		✓	The Kaleo Workflow engine is available for both Liferay DXP and Liferay Portal CE, but only Liferay DXP includes a graphical workflow designer, which gives you a drag-and-drop interface to create workflows. Kaleo Workflow allows a user to define business workflows, publish them, and manage them through a portal interface.
Multi-Factor Authentication		✓	Multi-factor authentication is an architectural approach to accessing resources sequentially through multiple authentication verifiers.

Authentication with SAML 2.0	✓	Provides Single Sign-On (SSO) and Single Log-Off (SLO) in your deployment. Liferay DXP instances can serve as either the Service Provider (SP) or Identity Provider (IdP).
Content Performance Analytics	✓	Web content performance metrics such as views vs. reads and search engine traffic.
Interest Analytics	✓	As an individual interacts with the pages and assets, Liferay DXP notes the topics they contain. The more an individual visits pages and assets that contain a topic, the higher the topic's ranking is for that individual's Segments. Interests insight empowers you with rich, easy-to-understand visuals that help you find the topics users are interested in so you can relate your products and services to them.
Custom Event Tracking	✓	Event tracking leverages a custom code snippet that you add to the elements you want to track on your page. Whenever users interact with that element, Liferay DXP records the event. This allows you to get a full picture of user interactions and to track the performance of any user actions.
Asset Tracking	✓	Track the performance of any asset including Blogs, Forms, and Documents and Media. See how well your content is performing and quickly identify and resolve form abandonment issues.

A/B Testing	✓	With A/B Testing, you can determine the most effective version of your content by testing variations on different users. The majority of visitors see the current content and design of your page, while a select group sees an alternative Variant. You can then test the performance of the current page and the variant to determine which version performs better for a given goal, such as bounce rate or clickthrough.
Organization Chart Widget	✓	Use organizational charts to manage your sales network.
Shop by Diagram	✓	Provide diagrams for users to easily find parts for larger equipment.
Order Forecasting	✓	Show SKU, Account, and category forecasts.
Product Recommendations	✓	Create content- and user-based product recommendations.
Low Health Alerts	✓	Track the health of each account with smart alerts that detect dips in purchasing trends, signaling that they are at risk of churning.

*Available through the Liferay Enterprise Search Add-on Subscription.

Additional Resources

For more information about the benefits of Liferay DXP, please visit our website: liferay.com/dxp.

Join our community of developers and see what projects Liferay Portal CE supports around the world at community.liferay.com.

Liferay Enterprise Subscriptions include a full package of enterprise support and features for companies that intend to use Liferay in business-critical projects. Read more about subscription benefits in our whitepaper: [Liferay Enterprise Subscription Benefits](#).



Liferay helps organizations build for the future by enabling them to create, manage, and scale powerful solutions on the world's most flexible Digital Experience Platform (DXP). Trusted globally by over a thousand companies spanning multiple industries, Liferay's open-source DXP facilitates the development of marketing and commerce websites, customer portals, intranets, and more. Learn how we can use technology to change the world together at liferay.com.

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