

# My Whitebox(s) Dell XPS 710 and 720H2C ...

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[Shane6712](#) 12 posts since

Jun 20, 2008 My Current lab:

- Dell XPS 710 Quad Core 6700 2.66Ghz
  - 8GB RAM
  - Promise TX2 controller
  - EMBEDDED NIC WORKS FINE
  - Could not get SATA Storage to work. Gave up and put in the promise.
  - HP NC 7170 Dual Port NIC
- Dell XPS 720 H2C (this is also my gaming machine)
  - 8 GB RAM
  - EMBEDDED NIC WORKS FINE
  - No local storage
  - HP NC 7170 Dual Port NIC
- Thecus 5200NB Pro
  - 2x1 TB R1 iSCSI targe
  - 2x 750 GB R1 Shared iSCSI - CIFS
  - Dual 1Gb NICs 802.3ad
- 2 3COM 4500G 24 port switches



[s1xth](#) 479 posts since

Jul 29, 2008 **1. Re: My Whitebox(s) Dell XPS 710 and 720H2C** Dec 23, 2008 4:54 PM

Damn you got a H2C? Thats a nice looking machine, I just read the review over at HotHardware. Very nice cooling setup.....:-)



[Shane6712](#) 12 posts since

Jun 20, 2008 **2. Re: My Whitebox(s) Dell XPS 710 and 720H2C** Dec 23, 2008 5:58 PM

in response to: [s1xth](#)

yeah it is a nice machine, i have two nVidia 8800 GTXs in SLI with a CoolIT SLI Cooler

CoolIT is actually who designed the H2C cpu cooler.. sadly it is an ESXi machine until I can bring up another whitebox host



[Jasemccarty](#) 3,806 posts since

Apr 5, 2005 **3. Re: My Whitebox(s) Dell XPS 710 and 720H2C** Dec 23, 2008 6:24 PM

Alright... I've got a question for you.

I have an XPS 720 (sadly not a H2C), but I picked it up on the Dell Outlet for around \$1050 a year ago.

I've got a Q6600, with 8GB RAM, an some 250GB and 500GB drives.

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My only question is... Do you have it setup in a dual boot configuration, or are you using a USB stick to boot ESXi off of?

Jase McCarty

<http://www.jasemccarty.com>


Co-Author of VMware ESX Essentials in the Virtual Data Center

(ISBN:1420070274) from Auerbach



[s1xth](#) 479 posts since

Jul 29, 2008 4. **Re: My Whitebox(s) Dell XPS 710 and 720H2C** Dec 23, 2008 6:34 PM


 in response to: [Shane6712](#) That's really nice setup there...that machine will be a nice whitebox host...what are you going to be runnin on that VM wise?? I can't wait for the xeon version of nehalem to see the light of day (1st quarter 09)...love to hear how the VM performance is with those nice new proc's..:-))

On Dec 23, 2008, at 8:58 PM, Shane6712 <communities-



[Shane6712](#) 12 posts since

Jun 20, 2008 5. **Re: My Whitebox(s) Dell XPS 710 and 720H2C** Dec 23, 2008 10:26 PM

 in response to: [Jasemccarty](#)

Hi Jase,

I messed around with trying to get ESX 3.5, U 2 & 3 and 3i Installable going. With ESXi USB, I could boot, mount a VMFS on the SATA and the host would lock up with an APIC error. I didnt spend a lot of time on it so I just put in a Promise TX2 and problem solved.

I got ESX to install only if I disabled USB and used a PS2 keyboard.

I wanted to get away from local storage anyway so I just put up a NAS and I also have an openfiler 2.3 box.

So no, I am not dual-booting, when I do want to boot the 720 to play games, I just remove the USB stick.

Hope this helps,

Shane