

# Evaluating a Colocation Provider

## Checklist

When evaluating a colocation provider, it's vital to make sure they have the facilities, features, staff and attitude to service your business. As you research providers, use this checklist to ensure they meet your needs.

Before you discuss your specific colocation needs with the potential provider, ask a few general questions, including:

1. Have you been in business more than 5 years?
2. Are you the facility owner and not a reseller?
3. Are long-term references available?
4. Can we speak with members of the support staff?
5. Can you accommodate our future growth?
6. Can we extend our contract or lock in pricing?

The grid to the right provides technical information to help you decide which facility may be right for you.



|   | Yes                      | No                       |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Facility</b>                                 |                          |                          |
| Multiple locations                              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Geographic diversity                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SAS 70/SSAE 16 certified                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Space</b>                                    |                          |                          |
| Partial locked cabinets                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Full locked cabinets                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Custom cage build out                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Power</b>                                    |                          |                          |
| Power included in the price                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Diverse and redundant power feeds into facility | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Redundant power feeds to the cabinet            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Conditioned power with UPS                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Generator backup                                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| AC and DC power                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Connectivity</b>                             |                          |                          |
| Wide range of bandwidths available              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Session Initiation Protocol                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Multi-carrier fiber connectivity                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Multi-homed redundant Tier 1 internet providers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Major telecom carrier interconnect              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Comprehensive routing and switching             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Custom data, voice, wireless converged network  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bandwidth bursting                              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| End-to-end national MPLS connectivity           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Network monitoring, reporting                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

A row of black server racks with blue digital displays showing system status. The racks are arranged in a perspective view, receding into the distance. Each rack has multiple horizontal slots, some of which are occupied by components with glowing blue displays. The displays show various numerical and graphical indicators, suggesting a monitoring or control interface. The racks are set against a plain white background.



**Yes      No**



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