

Symmetric Multiprocessing (SMP)

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Symmetric Multiprocessing (SMP) is the processing of programs by multiple processors that share a common [operating system](#) and memory. In symmetric (or “tightly coupled”) multiprocessing, the processors share memory and the I/O bus or data path. A single copy of the operating system is in charge of all the processors. SMP, also known as a “shared everything” system, does not usually exceed 16 processors.

SMP systems are considered better than [Massively Parallel Processing \(MPP\)](#) systems for online transaction processing (OTP) in which many users access the same database in a relatively simple set of transactions. An advantage of SMP for this purpose is the ability to dynamically balance the workload among computers (and as a result serve more users faster).¹⁾

Source:

https://searchdatacenter.techtarget.com/definition/SMP?_ga=2.233172572.392289681.1607438816-2133032675.1592258365

¹⁾

Rouse, Margret; [Definition of symmetric multiprocessing](#), WhatIs.com, Accessed 8 December 2020, https://searchdatacenter.techtarget.com/definition/SMP?_ga=2.233172572.392289681.1607438816-2133032675.1592258365

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