

QUICK START

This section is intended to help review the entire deployment process in a short summary. Let's get right to work configuring your system.

- Modify your NetBoot policy for redundancy if needed. Options include: RAID, load balancing, and 802.3ad Link Aggregation.
- Choose your disk configuration, and then install OS X Server. Make sure to use 10.4 if you want to take advantage of ASR multicasting.
- Use NetRestore Helper to build a master image of your clients. Remember to use an OEM disc and a freshly formatted hard disk. ASR post processing is necessary if you want to multicast.
- Become comfortable with the NetBoot service within Server Admin. Configure MAC filtering for clients to restrict specific clients from using the Diskless Booting service.
- Build two NetRestore sets and two master images to deal with heterogeneous Intel/PPC labs (or one of each if you are running ONLY PowerMacs OR Intel Macs, but not both).
- Use NetRestore Helper to build a NetInstall-Restore set. Move the set to /Library/NetBoot/NetBootSP0 folder on your server. Configure a read-only client user for AFP restores (AFP is by far the easiest protocol to configure on the server).
- Use ASR clients, such as NetRestore, to restore client configurations with your master image. Use protocols such as Multicast, AFP, HTTP or NFS. We recommend AFP for unicast sessions and Multicast for, well . . . multicast sessions.
- Configure your multicast sever using xml property lists. To do this, you can use the Property List Editor that comes with the free XTools from Apple's website. Once correctly configured, clients can restore faster than ever.
- Use Remote Desktop for lab management. The bless command allows you to restart machines directly into the server. Also use NBAS to help in this process. Learn about other third party utilities great for lab management.