

IPMI Quick Reference

Intelligent Platform Management Interface — the standard that made out-of-band server management possible

What IPMI lets you do

Sensor readings

Temperatures, fan speeds, voltages, and power draw

Event log (SEL)

The hardware's own record of faults and warnings

Power control

Power on, off, and cycle a machine remotely

Console & inventory

Serial-over-LAN console and FRU hardware inventory

IPMI vs Redfish

	IPMI	Redfish
First published	1998	2015
Protocol	Binary	RESTful HTTPS + JSON
Status	Decades of deployed hardware still speak it	The modern successor (DMTF) — prefer for new integrations

Most servers support both; real-world monitoring speaks both.

Vendor flavors of the same BMC primitives

Dell iDRAC

→

HPE iLO

→

Lenovo XCC

→

Huawei iBMC

→

Supermicro IPMI

Security best practices

- Put BMCs on an isolated management network — never the internet
- Disable unused ciphers (older firmware suffers cipher 0 / RAKP flaws)
- Use strong credentials and keep firmware current
- Prefer Redfish over HTTPS where available

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