

# What is a ServiceNow MID Server and how does it work?

## Questions addressed:

Page 1:

- What is a MID Server?
- What is a MID Server used for?
- What are best practices for using a MID Server?

Page 2:

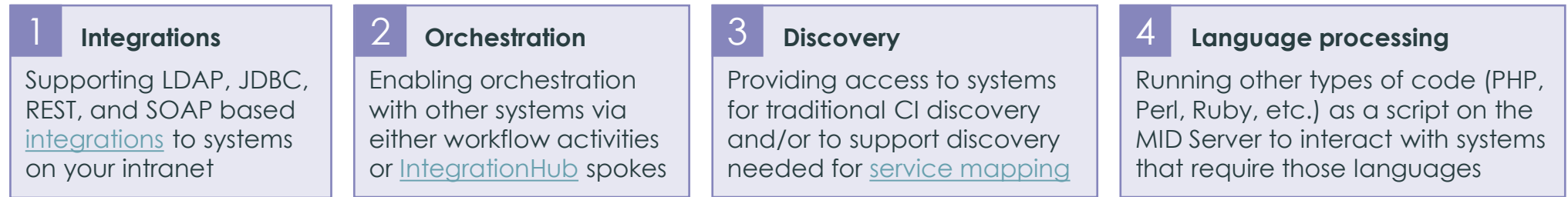
- How does a MID Server work with ServiceNow?

If you have any questions on this topic or you would like to be a contributor to future ServiceNow best practice content, please [contact us](#).

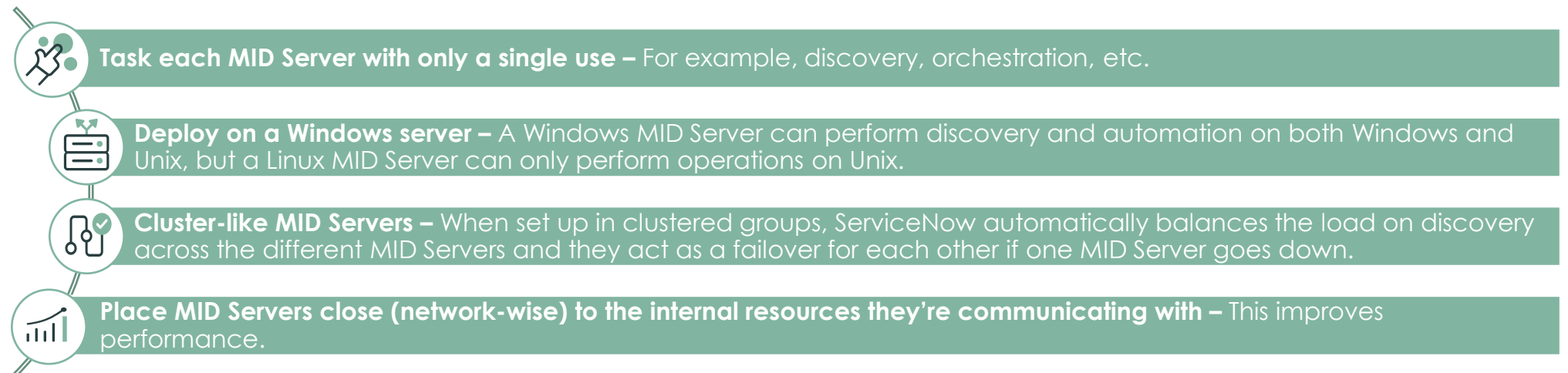
[A management, instrumentation, and discovery \(MID\) Server](#) is a Java application that runs on a server on your local network. MID Servers facilitate communication and data movement between a single ServiceNow® instance and external applications, data sources, and services.

## What is a MID Server used for?

MID Servers help you to control and secure how ServiceNow communicates with your organization's systems, especially those behind a firewall. This supports four primary use cases:



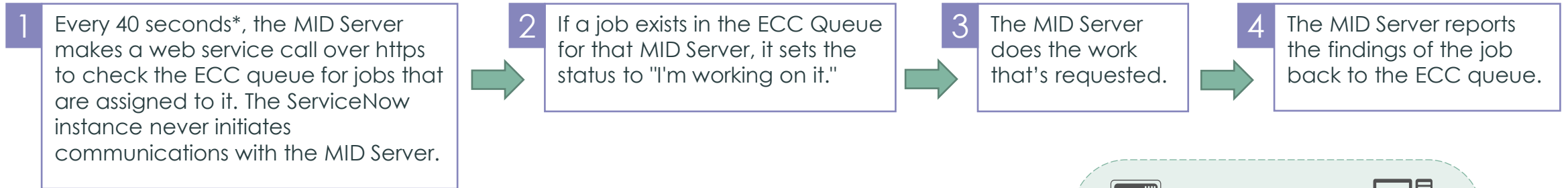
## What are best practices for using MID Servers?



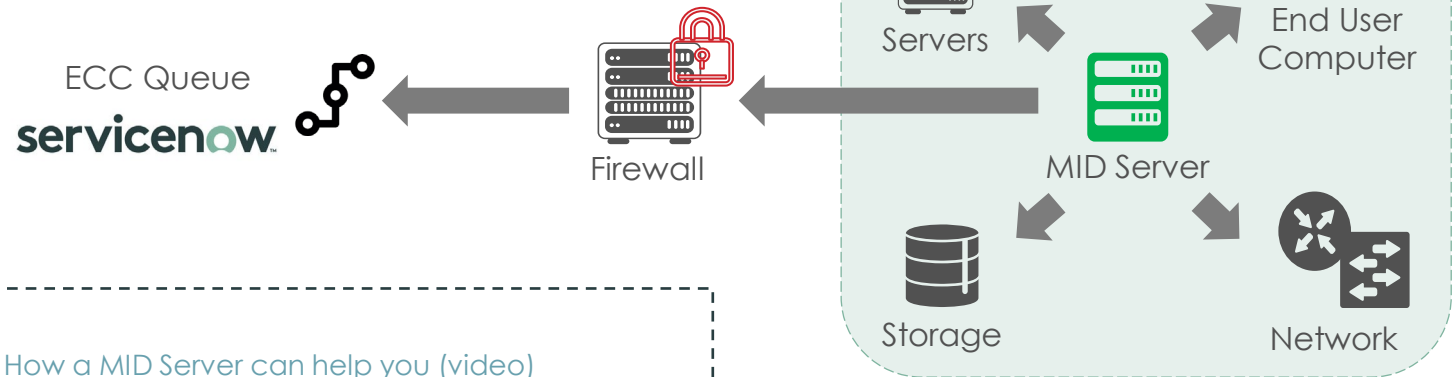
# What is a ServiceNow MID Server and how does it work? (Cont.)

## How does a MID Server work with ServiceNow?

The MID Server runs as a Windows service or UNIX daemon within your organization's network (behind the firewall) and is completely controlled by your organization with local configuration files. It initiates communications with the ServiceNow instance via the [MID Server External Communication Channel \(ECC\) Queue](#):



\* You can configure this to check at different intervals.



### Related resources

- [Product Docs – MID Server](#)
- [Product Docs – Install a MID Server on Windows](#)
- [Product Docs – Install a MID Server on Linux](#)
- [Product Docs – MID Server configuration](#)
- [MID Server overview \(video\)](#)
- [How a MID Server can help you \(video\)](#)
- [Now Community – Best practices for MID Server setup and tuning](#)
- [ServiceNow security best practice guide: Key elements to consider when securing your instance](#)