

# Smart Start

Start Planning for Novell BrainShare 2009

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**B**elieve it or not, BrainShare 2009 is less than four months away, which means it's already time to start planning your trip to one of the most popular and well-regarded technical conferences in the industry.

## Novell BrainShare 2009 Basics

Conference Dates: March 8-13, 2009

Location: Salt Lake City Salt Palace Convention Center

Early-bird Registration (US\$1,695):

Nov. 1 – Feb. 13

Full-price Registration (US\$1,895):

Feb. 14 – Mar. 13

[>Register Now!](#)

If you're a BrainShare veteran, you'll recognize all the things you've come to love about BrainShare—informative technical breakout sessions, in-depth workshops and hands-on training opportunities, and plenty of close, personal interaction with Novell partners and the company's top technical talent. But you'll also notice some new and exciting changes to the conference that will enhance your BrainShare experience.

## It's Your Conference. Vote Now!

For the 2009 conference, you get to determine which session proposals make the final cut. The process is easy:

- Read through a short abstract for each proposed session.
- Rate each proposed session topic based on your interest.
- The highest-rated proposals will be developed into actual breakout sessions at BrainShare.
- You can vote online any time between November 17 and December 5.

[>Start Now!](#)

For example, the BrainShare team has combined the Novell Technology Lab with the Exhibitor Showcase to create a comprehensive new "IT Central" area that will provide an even richer and more hands-on experience featuring solutions from Novell and its partners. And based on its overwhelming popularity last year, the Installation & Migration Depot will be expanded and open all week long in the South Lobby of the Salt Palace. They're also changing around the schedule just a bit, so make sure you visit the [Web site](#) to get up to speed.

## What's New at Novell BrainShare 2009?

Every year, the BrainShare team works hard to preserve the things you love about BrainShare and add new elements that make the experience even better. Here are a few of the additions and improvements planned for 2009:

- **IT Central**—This new area combines and expands the Novell Technology Lab with the Exhibitor Showcase to provide you with a richer and more unified experience.
- **Expanded Installation & Migration Depot**—Due to popular demand, an enhanced version of the hands-on depot will be open all week long.

If you're thinking about attending BrainShare for the first time, you'll quickly learn what long-time attendees have known for years: BrainShare is one of the best technical conference values you'll find anywhere. For the early-bird registration price of US\$1,695, you get six full days packed with more than 500 hours of educational content and training—and there are plenty of other things to look forward to: great food, entertaining and enlightening evening parties and events, and much more.

## Novell BrainShare Action Items for November and December

BrainShare is still a few months away, but here are a few things you can do now to improve your conference experience:

- **Register now** to reserve your spot and take advantage of the early-bird savings. [>Go](#)
- **Vote for the sessions** you'd like to see at BrainShare 2009. You can vote any time between November 17 and December 5. [>Go](#)
- Check out the **2009 week-at-a-glance schedule**. This will give you a good feel for the new changes and activities we have planned for 2009. [>Go](#)
- Look for more detailed information in upcoming editions of *Novell Connection*.

During the next few months, *Novell Connection* will feature a series of articles with more detailed information about the sessions and activities you can look forward to at BrainShare 2009—along with some suggestions for making 2009 your best BrainShare experience ever. In the meantime, make sure you check out the official BrainShare [Web site](#), [register quickly](#) to take advantage of the early-bird discount and [review and vote](#) on the session proposals for 2009. **N**