



## **Get started**

### Lifecycle planning

NetApp  
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# Get started

## Learn about Lifecycle planning

Lifecycle planning assesses your storage assets with current or forecasted low capacity and provides recommendations on data tiering options that meet your business needs.

### NetApp Console

Lifecycle planning is accessible through the NetApp Console.

The NetApp Console provides centralized management of NetApp storage and data services across on-premises and cloud environments at enterprise grade. The Console is required to access and use NetApp data services. As a management interface, it enables you to manage many storage resources from one interface. Console administrators can control access to storage and services for all systems within the enterprise.

You don't need a license or subscription to start using NetApp Console and you only incur charges when you need to deploy Console agents in your cloud to ensure connectivity to your storage systems or NetApp data services. However, some NetApp data services accessible from the Console are licensed or subscription-based.

Learn more about the [NetApp Console](#).

### What can you do with Lifecycle planning?

Lifecycle planning can help you accomplish the following goals.

#### Capacity information

- Identify storage assets in your environment that are showing low capacity.
- Review assets for current and forecasted capacity.

### Benefits of Lifecycle planning

Lifecycle planning offers the following benefits:

- Identifies systems that are approaching lifecycle events to help you plan for a technology refresh
- Offers a trusted advisor's recommendations to address capacity issues in your environment
- Reduces the time spent in planning for additional storage

### Cost

NetApp doesn't charge you for using Lifecycle planning.

If you decide to tier cold data to cloud storage, you'll need to check your cloud provider for applicable charges.

### Access

You can access this feature either through the NetApp Console (**Storage > Lifecycle planning**) or through Active IQ Digital Advisor (also known as Digital Advisor) (**Dashboard > Planning widget > Tech refresh**).

# Lifecycle planning prerequisites

Get started with Lifecycle planning by verifying the readiness of your operational environment, login, and network access. To use Lifecycle planning, you should ensure that your environment meets all requirements.

- Your environment must meet all NetApp Console requirements including a login and network access from a web browser.

Refer to the [NetApp Console Quick start](#) and [NetApp Console networking information](#).

- You need to have access credentials to the clusters.
- While not a requirement, it is helpful if the NetApp Console agent is in place and enabled and the ONTAP system is discovered. If not, the service walks you through those processes.
- If you plan on tiering cold data to cloud storage, ensure that the cluster is eligible per the license.

## Quick start for Lifecycle planning

Here's an overview of the steps needed to get started with Lifecycle planning. The links within each step take you to a page that provides more details.

1

### Review prerequisites

Ensure your environment meets these requirements.

2

### Set up lifecycle planning

Complete steps to set up Lifecycle planning.

3

### What's next?

After you set up Lifecycle planning, here's what you might do next.

- [Review capacity status](#).
- [Tier cold data to cloud storage to free up storage](#).
- [Optionally, set reminders to check again](#).

## Set up Lifecycle planning

To use Lifecycle planning, perform a few steps to set it up.

- Review [prerequisites](#) to ensure that your system is ready.
- Create a Console agent in the NetApp Console.
- Discover the cluster in the Console.

You can create a Console agent directly in the Console and use that agent later in BlueXP economic efficiency.

Or, you can create the Console agent in the middle of the capacity remediation process.

Similarly, you can discover the cluster ahead of time using the Console or during the capacity remediation process.

## Create a Console agent in the NetApp Console

A NetApp Console agent includes credentials to NetApp ONTAP machines.

To create a Console agent in the Console before using the service, refer to the the Console documentation that describes [how to create a NetApp Console agent](#).

## Discover the cluster in the NetApp Console

Part of the setup involves identifying the cluster name, IP, user name, and password within the Console.

For instructions before using Lifecycle planning, refer to [Discover on-premises ONTAP clusters](#).

## Access Lifecycle planning

You use the NetApp Console to access Lifecycle planning.

To log in to the Console, you can use your NetApp Support Site credentials. [Learn more about logging in](#).



You can access this feature either through the NetApp Console (**Storage > Lifecycle planning**) or through Digital Advisor (**Dashboard > Planning widget > Tech refresh**).

### Steps

1. Open a web browser and go to [the NetApp Console](#).  
The Console login page appears.
2. Log in to the Console.
3. From the Console left navigation, select **Storage > Lifecycle planning**.

## Frequently asked questions for Lifecycle planning

This FAQ can help if you're just looking for a quick answer to a question about Lifecycle planning.

### Access to Lifecycle planning

#### What's the Lifecycle planning URL?

For the URL, in a browser, enter: <https://console.netapp.com/> to access the the NetApp Console.

### Licensing

#### Do you need a license to use Lifecycle planning?

A NetApp License File (NLF) is not required.

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