



Get started with software updates

Software updates

NetApp

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Get started with software updates

Learn about software updates

You can use software updates to enable customers streamline ONTAP updates. This can help you reduce costs, accelerate critical workloads, and improve security.

Software updates automates the assessment, planning, and execution processes. The intelligent upgrade advisor predicts which versions best fit the specific system, recommending versions to remediate issues, improves efficiencies, and increases system security, allowing customers to determine the best option to meet their needs. Then it distributes the software package and automatically executes the automated non-distributive upgrade (ANDU), independent of support services.

NetApp Console

Software updates 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](#).

Supported ONTAP systems

You can complete the ONTAP update using software updates only if you are running on ONTAP 9.10.1 or later versions.

The following information provides the software update process for different ONTAP versions:

Current ONTAP version	Update process
9.12.1 and later	All steps of ONTAP update happen within the Console.
9.10.1 to 9.12.1	Preparation for ONTAP update happens within the software updates screens. You will be navigated to System Manager to perform the actual ONTAP update. To execute all steps of ONTAP update within the Console, you need to set up a Console agent .
9.8 to 9.10.1	Preparation for ONTAP update happens within the software updates screens. You will be navigated to System Manager to perform the actual ONTAP update.



Software Updates is not supported with Cloud Volumes ONTAP.

Benefits of using software updates

Updating your ONTAP storage system can help you improve the performance, security, and functionality of your storage system.

Some of the benefits of updating your ONTAP storage system are:

- You can access the latest features and enhancements that ONTAP offers, such as new protocols, data services, and cloud integration options.
- You can fix any bugs or vulnerabilities that may affect your system stability, reliability, or security.
- You can optimize your system performance and efficiency by applying the latest patches and improvements.
- You can ensure compatibility and interoperability with other NetApp products, third-party applications, and cloud providers.
- You can benefit from the ongoing support and maintenance that NetApp provides for the latest ONTAP OS versions.

Cost

NetApp doesn't charge you for using software updates.

Prepare to update ONTAP using software updates

You should review the prerequisites and requirements before proceeding with your ONTAP update. You can use software updates to verify the readiness of your system, login, network access, and web browser.

Required NetApp Console role:

Organization admin, Folder or project admin, Storage admin, Storage viewer, or System health specialist.
[Learn about Console access roles.](#)

To use software updates, you should ensure that your system meets all requirements.

- A system is set up in the Console.
- Administrator credentials are available for the desired cluster while performing software update.
- All the nodes in the cluster are sending AutoSupport data.
- All nodes should be running on ONTAP 9.10.1 or later versions.
- Nodes should not be in a MetroCluster configuration.

Quick start to update ONTAP using software updates

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

1

Review prerequisites

Ensure your system meets these requirements.

2

Update your ONTAP storage system

You should complete all the tasks to update the ONTAP storage system.

- [Identify ONTAP target version.](#)
- [Fix and acknowledge blockers.](#)
- [Complete ONTAP storage system updates.](#)

3

What's next?

After you update the ONTAP storage system, here's what you might do next.

[Validate the status of ONTAP storage system update.](#)

Access software updates

To access software updates, you must log in to the NetApp Console.

Log in with your NetApp Support Site credentials or sign up using your email and password. [Learn more about logging in.](#)

Steps

1. Open a web browser and go to the [Console](#).

The Console displays the login page.

2. Log in to the Console.
3. From the Console left navigation, select **Health > Software updates**.

Frequently asked questions for software updates

If you want to know more about software updates or require any help with troubleshooting, you can review these questions for a quick answer.

What's the software updates URL?

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

Do you need a license to use software updates?

A NetApp License File (NLF) is not required.

Why am I not able to view the cluster in the history tab even after updating the ONTAP version of the cluster?

It takes 2 to 3 hours for the cluster to appear in the history tab. Once the ONTAP version of the cluster is updated, AutoSupport is generated. It takes 2 to 3 hours to process the AutoSupport data and reflect the latest version of ONTAP.

Why am I seeing the older version of ONTAP in the software updates dashboard even after updating the ONTAP version of the cluster?

It takes 2 to 3 hours for the cluster to appear in the history tab. Once the ONTAP version of the cluster is updated, AutoSupport is generated. It takes 2 to 3 hours to process the AutoSupport data and reflect the latest version of ONTAP.

Why am I seeing different screens for different updates?

This is due to the current ONTAP version and unavailability of a Console agent for clusters. A Console agent performs the ONTAP update within the Console and does not require you to move out of the Console for an update. If you do not have a Console agent, you will be redirected to System Manager and are required to re-enter the ONTAP cluster credentials. For information about the ONTAP update process for different versions of ONTAP, see [Supported ONTAP systems](#).

What do I need to discover clusters?

To perform ONTAP update for your desired cluster, you need the ONTAP cluster IP and the admin credentials for connecting to the cluster. As part of cluster discovery, you need to provide these details so that ONTAP update can be executed automatically.

You also need to have one of the following access roles: Org admin, Folder or project admin, or Storage admin.

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