



Use snapshots to protect data

Workload Factory for NetApp Console

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Use snapshots to protect data

Use snapshots to protect data in NetApp Workload Factory

Protect volume data from accidental deletion or corruption by creating and managing snapshots in NetApp Workload Factory. You can create an on-demand snapshot of a volume, define a snapshot policy to automate snapshot creation and retention for storage VMs, and restore a volume from an existing snapshot to recover data at a specific point in time.

Create an on-demand snapshot of a volume

Create a manual snapshot of an FSx for ONTAP volume in NetApp Workload Factory. Snapshots are point-in-time versions of your volume's content.

Snapshots are resources of volumes and are instant captures of your data that consume space only for modified data. Because data changes over time, snapshots usually consume more space as they get older.

FSx for ONTAP volumes use just-in-time copy-on-write so that any unmodified files in snapshots don't consume any of the volume's capacity.



Snapshots aren't copies of your data. If you want to make copies of your data, consider using the volume backups or volume replication features.

Before you begin

You must associate a link to create a manual snapshot of a volume. [Learn how to associate an existing link or to create and associate a new link](#). After the link associates, return to this operation.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Storage > FSx for ONTAP**.
3. From **FSx for ONTAP**, select the actions menu of the file system that contains the volume to create a snapshot for and then select **Manage**.
4. In the file system overview, select the **Volumes** tab.
5. From the **Volumes** tab, select the actions menu for the volume to protect with snapshots.
6. Select **Data protection actions** and then **Manage snapshots**.
7. From the Manage snapshots page, select **Create snapshot**.
8. In the Create a snapshot dialog, do the following:
 - a. Enter a snapshot name in the **Snapshot name** field.
 - b. Optionally, select a label or create a new label.
 - c. Set the **Retention period** as a number of hours, days, months, or years.
 - d. Optional: **Make this snapshot immutable** to prevent the snapshot from being deleted during the retention period.

Accept the statement regarding immutable snapshots.

9. Select **Create**.

Create a snapshot policy for storage VMs

Create a custom snapshot policy for storage VMs in Workload Factory to manage snapshot creation and retention. A snapshot policy defines how the system creates snapshots for a storage VM. You can create a snapshot policy for a storage VM in an FSx for ONTAP file system. You can also share the policy across multiple storage VMs.

You can create a custom snapshot policy that differs from the three built-in snapshot policies for FSx for ONTAP:

- `default`
- `default-1weekly`
- `none`

By default, every volume is associated with the file system's `default` snapshot policy. We recommend using this policy for most workloads.

Customizing a policy lets you specify when to create snapshots, how many copies to retain, and how to name them.

Before you begin

- Once a snapshot policy is created, its association with the storage VM(s) cannot be modified, but you can always add or remove the policy from volumes.
- Consider the following about snapshot capacity before you use snapshots:
 - For most datasets, an additional capacity of 20% is enough to keep snapshots for up to four weeks. As data gets older, its use for restorations becomes less likely.
 - Overwriting all the data in a snapshot consumes significant volume capacity, which factors into provisioning volume capacity.
- To create a custom snapshot policy, you must associate a link. [Learn how to associate an existing link or to create and associate a new link](#). After the link associates, return to this operation.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads** > **Storage** > **FSx for ONTAP**.
3. From **FSx for ONTAP**, select the actions menu of the file system with the volume and then select **Manage**.
4. In the file system overview, select the **Storage VMs** tab.
5. From the **Storage VMs** tab, select the actions menu for the volume to protect with scheduled snapshots, then **Advanced actions**, and then **Manage snapshot policies**.
6. On the Snapshot policy management page, select **Create snapshot policy**.
7. In the **Snapshot policy name** field, enter a name for the snapshot policy.
8. Optionally, enter a description for the snapshot policy.
9. Under **Policy schedule and copies**, select when to create snapshots. For example, every minute or hourly.

You can select more than one frequency.

10. Under **Number of copies**, enter the number of copies to retain.

The maximum number of copies is 1,023.

11. Optional: Under **Naming convention**, enter a **Prefix** for the policy.

12. **Retention label** is automatically populated.

This label refers to the SnapMirror, or replication label that is used to select only specified snapshots for replication from the source to the target file system.

13. Optional: Enable **Immutable snapshots** for any schedules you need, set the **Retention period** for each schedule, and accept the statement to continue.

Enabling immutable snapshots locks all snapshots in this snapshot policy to prevent the snapshots from being deleted during the retention period.

14. **Share across storage VMs**: Enabled by default. When enabled, the snapshot policy is shared across all storage VMs in the file system. Disable to create a snapshot policy for a single storage VM.

15. Select **Create**.

Restore a volume from a snapshot

You can restore data from a snapshot to an existing volume or to a new volume. The restore operation enables point-in-time recovery when a volume contains deleted or corrupted files.

The creation of a new volume from a snapshot makes a copy of an entire volume within a few seconds independent of volume size. The newly created copy represents a new volume.

Before you begin

Consider the following limitations before you create a volume from a snapshot:

- You can only restore a volume from a snapshot if you have an existing snapshot copy of the volume.
- Changes to permission models: If you use this operation to switch the network-attached storage (NAS) protocol type, it might also switch the permission model that the security style provides. You might experience file access permission issues, which you can only fix manually with administrator access using the NAS client tools for permissions setting.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Storage > FSx for ONTAP**.
3. From **FSx for ONTAP**, select the actions menu of the file system with the volume and then select **Manage**.
4. In the file system overview, select the **Volumes** tab.
5. From the **Volumes** tab, select the actions menu for the volume to restore from a snapshot.
6. Select **Data protection actions** and then **Manage snapshots**.
7. From the Manage snapshots page, select the actions menu for the snapshot to restore, and then select **Restore**.
8. In the Restore volume from a snapshot dialog, select from the following options:

- Toggle to select **Restore as a new volume**.

In the **Restored volume name** field, enter a unique name for the volume to restore.

- Restore data from a snapshot to an existing volume. This operation permanently deletes any data that was modified after the snapshot creation time.

Accept the statement to proceed.

9. Select **Restore**.

Manage snapshot policies for volumes in NetApp Workload Factory

Manage snapshot policies for FSx for ONTAP volumes in Workload Factory. A snapshot policy defines how the system creates snapshots for a volume.

Snapshot management operations like assigning, changing, and deleting snapshot policies for volumes in an FSx for ONTAP file system are managed at the storage VM level. Snapshot policies can be shared with a single storage VM or with all storage VMs.

Some management tasks require you to associate a link with the FSx for ONTAP file system. [Learn about Workload Factory links](#).

By default, every volume is associated with the file system's default snapshot policy. We recommend using this policy for most workloads.

Assign a snapshot policy to a volume

You can assign a snapshot policy to a single volume to create scheduled snapshots for the volume.

Before you begin

You must associate a link to assign a snapshot policy. [Learn how to associate an existing link or to create and associate a new link](#). After the link associates, return to this operation.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Storage**.
3. From the Storage menu, select **Inventory**.
4. Select the actions menu of the file system that contains the volume to assign a snapshot policy to and then select **Manage**.
5. In the file system overview, select the **Storage VMs** tab.
6. From the **Storage VMs** tab, select the actions menu for the storage VM containing the volume to protect with scheduled snapshots, then **Advanced actions**, and then **Manage snapshot policies**.
7. On the Snapshot policy management page, select the actions menu of the snapshot policy and then select **Assign policy to volume**.
8. In the Assign snapshot policy dialog, select a snapshot policy to assign to the volume and review the policy schedule.

If the policy contains immutable snapshots, and you want use it, accept the statement.

9. Select **Assign**.

Result

The snapshot policy is assigned to the volume.

Change a snapshot policy

You can change the snapshot policy name, schedule, and number of copies to retain, and enable or disable immutable snapshots. It isn't possible to enable or disable policy sharing across storage VMs. This option is available only during snapshot policy creation.

Before you begin

To display existing snapshot policies, you must associate a link. [Learn how to associate an existing link or to create and associate a new link](#). After the link associates, return to this operation.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Storage**.
3. From the Storage menu, select **Inventory**.
4. Select the actions menu of the file system and then select **Manage**.
5. In the file system overview, select the **Storage VMs** tab.
6. From the **Storage VMs** tab, select the actions menu for the storage VM containing the volume to protect with scheduled snapshots, then **Advanced actions**, and then **Manage snapshot policies**.
7. On the Snapshot policy management page, select the actions menu for the snapshot policy to change and then select **Edit**.
8. In the Edit snapshot policy dialog, make the necessary changes to the snapshot policy.
9. Select **Apply**.

Result

The snapshot policy is updated.

Enable immutable snapshots

Lock snapshots to prevent them from being deleted during the retention period.

Before you begin

You must associate a link to enable immutable snapshots. [Learn how to associate an existing link or to create and associate a new link](#). After the link associates, return to this operation.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Volumes explorer**.
3. Select the actions menu of the volume to lock snapshots for.
4. Select **Data protection actions**, **Snapshots**, then **Make a snapshot immutable**.

5. In the Make a snapshot immutable dialog, do the following:
 - a. **Snapshot name:** Select the snapshot to lock.
 - b. Set the **Retention period** in number of hours, days, months, or years.
 - c. Accept the statement.
6. Select **Apply**.

Result

The volume snapshot is now locked.

Enable long-term snapshot retention in NetApp Workload Factory

In NetApp Workload Factory, you can enable snapshots for long-term retention, which lets you replicate specific snapshots for long-term disaster recovery.

Long-term retention enables business services to continue operating even in the event of a complete site failure, supporting transparent failover of applications using a secondary copy.

The same steps apply for enabling and editing snapshots for long-term retention.

When an on-premises ONTAP cluster is the target for the replication relationship, changing snapshots for long-term retention isn't supported.



Editing long-term retention isn't available when replicating storage VM data and configuration settings.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Storage > FSx for ONTAP**.
3. From the **FSx for ONTAP** menu, select **Inventory** and then select the actions menu of the file system to update and then select **Manage**.
4. From the file system overview, select the **Replication relationships** tab.
5. In the Replication relationships tab, select the actions menu of the replication relationship schedule to change.
6. Select **Edit long-term retention**.
7. In the Edit long-term retention dialog, enable or disable snapshots for long-term retention.
8. If you select to disable snapshots for long-term retention, select **Apply** to complete this operation.
9. If you select to enable snapshots for long-term retention, choose between selecting an existing policy or creating a new policy.
 - a. To use an existing policy, select it from the dropdown menu.
 - b. To create a new policy, provide the following:
 - i. **Policy name:** Enter a policy name.
 - ii. **Snapshot policies:** Select one or more snapshot policies.
 - iii. **Copies to retain:** Enter the number of snapshot copies to retain on the target file system.
10. Select **Apply**.

Remove a snapshot policy from a volume

Remove a snapshot policy from a volume because you no longer want snapshots of the volume or because you want to delete a snapshot policy that is assigned to multiple volumes. To [delete a snapshot policy](#) that is assigned to more than one volume, you must manually remove it from all volumes.

Before you begin

You must associate a link to remove a snapshot policy. [Learn how to associate an existing link or to create and associate a new link](#). After the link associates, return to this operation.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Storage > FSx for ONTAP**.
3. From the **FSx for ONTAP** menu, select **Inventory** and then select the actions menu of the file system to update and then select **Manage**.
4. In the file system overview, select the **Storage VMs** tab.
5. From the **Storage VMs** tab, select the actions menu for the storage VM containing the volume to protect with scheduled snapshots, then **Advanced actions**, and then **Manage snapshot policies**.
6. On the Snapshot policy management page, select the actions menu of the snapshot policy and then select **Assign policy to volume**.
7. In the Assign snapshot policy dialog, select **None** to remove the snapshot policy.
8. Select **Assign**.

Result

The snapshot policy is removed from the volume.

Delete a snapshot policy

Delete a snapshot policy when you no longer need it.

When a snapshot policy is assigned to more than one volume, you must manually [remove it](#) from all volumes to delete the snapshot policy. Alternatively, you can [assign a different snapshot policy](#) to the volumes.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Storage > FSx for ONTAP**.
3. From the **FSx for ONTAP** menu, select **Inventory** and then select the actions menu of the file system to update and then select **Manage**.
4. In the file system overview, select the **Storage VMs** tab.
5. From the **Storage VMs** tab, select the actions menu of the storage VM with the snapshot policy to delete, then **Advanced actions**, and then **Manage snapshot policies**.
6. On the Snapshot policy management page, select the actions menu for the snapshot policy to delete and then select **Delete**.
7. In the Delete dialog, select **Delete** to delete the policy.

Manage snapshots of an FSx for ONTAP volume

Edit snapshot settings, enable directory access, and delete snapshots to manage your snapshots and data protection in Workload Factory.

Edit a snapshot

Edit the name, label, and retention period of a snapshot. If the snapshot isn't already immutable, you can make the snapshot immutable.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Volumes explorer**.
3. Select the actions menu for the volume with the snapshot to edit.
4. Select **Data protection actions** and then **Manage snapshots**.
5. From the Manage snapshots page, select the actions menu for the snapshot to edit, and then select **Edit**.
6. In the Edit a snapshot dialog, you may edit the following:
 - a. Change the name.
 - b. Change the label.
 - c. Change the retention period.
 - d. Optional: **Make this snapshot immutable** to prevent the snapshot from being deleted during the retention period.

If the snapshot is already immutable, you can't edit this setting.

Accept the statement regarding immutable snapshots.

7. Select **Apply**.

Access a snapshot

Enable snapshot directory access to give users the ability access snapshots autonomously.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Volumes explorer**.
3. Select the actions menu for the volume with the snapshot to access.
4. Select **Data protection actions** and then **Manage snapshots**.
5. From the Manage snapshots page, select the actions menu for the snapshot to access, and then select **Access**.
6. In the Access snapshot dialog, select to **Enable snapshot directory access** to access this volume snapshot and all snapshots of the volume.
 - For NFS volumes: Select **NFS access path** to view the NFS path for the snapshot.

- For SMB/CIFS volumes: Select **SMB access path** to view the SMB path for the snapshot.

7. Copy the access path.
8. Select **Apply**.

Restore data from a snapshot

You have the option to restore data from a snapshot to an existing volume or to a new volume.

[Restore a volume from a snapshot](#)

Delete a snapshot

Delete a snapshot to free up space.

Immutable snapshots cannot be deleted until the retention period ends.

Steps

1. Log in to the [NetApp Console](#).
2. Select the menu , **Workloads > Volumes explorer**.
3. Select the actions menu for the volume with the snapshot to delete.
4. Select **Data protection actions** and then **Manage snapshots**.
5. From the Manage snapshots page, select the actions menu for the snapshot to delete, and then select **Delete**.
6. In the Delete snapshot dialog, type "delete".
7. Select **Delete** to confirm deletion.

Related information

- [Create a snapshot](#)
- [Create a snapshot policy](#)
- [Restore a volume from a snapshot](#)

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