Billing

Keystone

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Billing

Keystone pricing

The NetApp Keystone STaaS pay-as-you-go subscription service offers flexible and scalable consumption with predictable and upfront pricing for your storage requirements.

Keystone provides you with the following billing facilities:

- You can pay based on IOPS and latency committed capacity to meet various workload needs. The different performance service tiers - Extreme, Premium, Standard, Value, Object, and Cloud Volumes ONTAP enable you to manage your storage based on your purchased performance service level.
- It presents predictable billing for the committed capacity and pay-per-use for variable (burst) capacity usage.
- You can select a bundle price for hardware, core OS, and support for one $/TiB price. You have a single invoice for each storage type, unified, block, optimized, object, or cloud storage services.
- You can select a flexible term for the services and payment options, such as monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual.

Keystone billing is based on committed capacity and variable burst consumption.

For information about different capacities supported in Keystone, see Supported storage capacities in Keystone.

Related information

- Billing based on committed capacity
- Metering based on consumed capacity
- Billing based on burst consumption
- Billing based on miscellaneous volume types
- Billing schedules

Billing based on committed capacity

Committed capacity is the capacity committed for a particular performance service level while purchasing the subscription.

Committed capacity can be the total capacity for various performance service levels in a single subscription, as accepted by you and NetApp/partner. This capacity is stated on each Keystone order and is billed, regardless of the actual capacity consumption.

For information about different capacities supported in Keystone, see Supported storage capacities in Keystone.

Metering based on consumed capacity

Keystone STaaS has metering based on the capacity consumed by you during your service usage. Consumed capacity is the capacity that your workloads actually use.

As a part of the Keystone service deployment, NetApp continuously monitors and measures the consumption of the service. At least once in every five minutes, a consumption record is generated by the system, detailing the current consumed capacity for your subscription. These records are aggregated over the billing period to generate invoices and usage reports.

For information about different capacities supported in Keystone, see Supported storage capacities in Keystone.

Billing based on burst consumption

Keystone STaaS billing is based on *burst capacity*, which is the capacity consumed by you, on top of the committed capacity of your subscription.

Your burst limit is determined and specified in your Keystone agreement. By default, it is set at 20% above the committed capacity. You also have the option to choose burst capacity limits of 40% or 60% of the committed capacity. To learn more, refer to Burst capacity increase options.

Committed capacity is the capacity committed to you while purchasing the subscription. The committed capacity and burst capacity are measured per performance service level. Consumed capacity is the capacity that your workloads actually use.

When the consumed capacity is greater than the committed capacity for a performance service level, burst consumption is recorded and charged accordingly. The usage above the burst capacity is indicated as "Above Burst Limit".

This process occurs for each consumption record generated. Burst consumption, therefore, is a reflection of both the amount and tenure of your over-consumed capacities on top of your committed capacities. To learn more, refer to View consumption trends of your Keystone subscriptions.

For information about different capacities supported in Keystone, see Supported storage capacities in Keystone.

Miscellaneous scenarios for Keystone billing

Understanding Keystone billing for specific configurations can help you optimize service usage and manage costs. The configurations include cloned volumes, temporary volumes, SnapMirror destinations, LUNs, and system/root volumes.

Billing for cloned volumes

If volumes are cloned in ONTAP and you use them for backing up and restoring your data, you can continue using the clones without any additional payments. However, cloned volumes used for any other purpose in your business for an extensive duration are charged.

Note the following:

- Clone volumes are free from charging as long as their size is less than 10% of the parent volume (the physical capacity used in the clone volume compared to the physical capacity used in the parent volume).
- There is no 24-hour grace period for cloned volumes. Only the size of the clone is considered.
- Once the clone volume exceeds 10% of the physical size of the parent, the clone is billed as a standard volume (logical used capacity).

Billing for temporary volumes

Occasionally, temporary (TMP) volumes are created by ONTAP when moving volumes. These temporary volumes are short-lived, and the consumption on these volumes is not measured for billing.

Billing for SnapMirror destinations

The pricing for SnapMirror destination volumes, whether used for disaster recovery or long-term retention, is based on the performance service level assigned to the destination. There is no extra fee for data protection.

Billing for LUNs

For LUNs, the billing is based on the performance service levels of the volume.

System and root volumes

System and root volumes are monitored as a part of the overall monitoring of the Keystone service but are not counted or billed. The consumption on these volumes is exempted for billing.

Billing schedules

Keystone STaaS subscriptions are billed on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually basis.

Monthly billing

Invoices are sent monthly. For the month in which the services are availed, an invoice is sent in the next month. For example, the invoice for the services you have used in January is delivered at the beginning of February. This invoice includes the charges for the committed capacity and if applicable, any burst usage.

Quarterly, semi-annually, and annually billing

For quarterly, semi-annually, and annually billing, the process is similar with slight variations in timing:

- **Quarterly billing**: An invoice is generated at the beginning of each subscription quarter for the minimum payment of the committed capacity. Another invoice is sent at the end of the quarter for any burst usage accrued.
- **Semi-annually billing**: An invoice is generated at the beginning of every six months for the minimum payment of the committed capacity. Another invoice is sent at the end of each quarter for any burst usage accrued.
- **Annually billing**: An invoice is generated at the beginning of each subscription year for the minimum payment of the committed capacity. Another invoice is sent at the end of each quarter for any burst usage accrued.

For quarterly, semi-annually, and annually billing, if the committed capacity is changed during a subscription, an invoice is sent on the same day for the prorated minimum payments for the rest of that subscription year. Billing is calculated from the day the change in committed capacity becomes effective.

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