



Data protection, disaster recovery, migration, and limitations for Nutanix with ONTAP

NetApp virtualization solutions

NetApp
October 28, 2026

This PDF was generated from <https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/netapp-solutions-virtualization/nutanix/nutanix-data-protection.html> on October 28, 2026. Always check docs.netapp.com for the latest.

Table of Contents

- Data protection, disaster recovery, migration, and limitations for Nutanix with ONTAP 1
 - Data protection 1
 - Disaster recovery 1
 - VM migrations 1
 - Features not supported at GA 1

Data protection, disaster recovery, migration, and limitations for Nutanix with ONTAP

Understand how data protection, disaster recovery, and VM migration work when you use ONTAP as external storage for a Nutanix compute cluster, and review the features that are not supported at general availability (GA).

Data protection

Prism-managed VM snapshots use ONTAP file-level clones of the VM disks rather than ONTAP volume snapshots. Prism manages the snapshot lifecycle, while ONTAP provides the underlying file-cloning capability.

A file clone is a writable copy in the active file system. On its own, it can't be locked against deletion, isn't an ARP recovery point, and isn't retained or vaulted independently through SnapMirror or SnapVault. Each disk is cloned separately, so recovery points across disks aren't captured at a single shared point in time unless that's coordinated. ONTAP volume snapshots provide these protections natively. Customers who need immutable, ransomware-resilient, long-term retained recovery points should consider waiting for ONTAP snapshot integration.



The GA limitation on ONTAP snapshot support is planned to be addressed in a future release.

Disaster recovery

Nutanix asynchronous DR is the only supported replication method during the GA release. ONTAP SnapMirror is not available.

SnapMirror is the established choice for replicating ONTAP data between sites. It replicates only changed blocks, keeps deduplication and compression savings in transit and at the destination, and can keep several recovery points on the secondary system. Because the replication runs on the storage system, the hosts don't have to copy the data. For customers using ONTAP as external storage, this means DR uses the same replication, retention, and recovery processes as the rest of their ONTAP environment.



SnapMirror integration is planned for a future release. Customers who want to standardize DR on ONTAP replication should consider waiting for SnapMirror integration.

VM migrations

In this release, VM migration uses Nutanix Move. The NetApp Shift toolkit is not supported. Shift toolkit integration with Nutanix Move is planned for a future release. It will use ONTAP cloning and allocated block mapping to avoid full data copies and speed up migrations.

Features not supported at GA

The following configurations, features, and integrations are not supported at GA for the NetApp and Nutanix integration:

- Configurations using multiple NetApp arrays, multiple storage virtual machines (SVMs) per Nutanix cluster, or multiple logical interfaces (LIFs)

- NetApp MetroCluster
- ONTAP snapshots and features that depend on them
- SnapMirror active sync
- ONTAP Select
- NetApp Trident for Nutanix Kubernetes Platform (NKP)
- NFSv4.1
- FlexGroup volumes
- NetApp Shift toolkit

Copyright information

Copyright © 2026 NetApp, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Printed in the U.S. No part of this document covered by copyright may be reproduced in any form or by any means—graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or storage in an electronic retrieval system—without prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Software derived from copyrighted NetApp material is subject to the following license and disclaimer:

THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED BY NETAPP “AS IS” AND WITHOUT ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WHICH ARE HEREBY DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL NETAPP BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

NetApp reserves the right to change any products described herein at any time, and without notice. NetApp assumes no responsibility or liability arising from the use of products described herein, except as expressly agreed to in writing by NetApp. The use or purchase of this product does not convey a license under any patent rights, trademark rights, or any other intellectual property rights of NetApp.

The product described in this manual may be protected by one or more U.S. patents, foreign patents, or pending applications.

LIMITED RIGHTS LEGEND: Use, duplication, or disclosure by the government is subject to restrictions as set forth in subparagraph (b)(3) of the Rights in Technical Data -Noncommercial Items at DFARS 252.227-7013 (FEB 2014) and FAR 52.227-19 (DEC 2007).

Data contained herein pertains to a commercial product and/or commercial service (as defined in FAR 2.101) and is proprietary to NetApp, Inc. All NetApp technical data and computer software provided under this Agreement is commercial in nature and developed solely at private expense. The U.S. Government has a non-exclusive, non-transferrable, nonsublicensable, worldwide, limited irrevocable license to use the Data only in connection with and in support of the U.S. Government contract under which the Data was delivered. Except as provided herein, the Data may not be used, disclosed, reproduced, modified, performed, or displayed without the prior written approval of NetApp, Inc. United States Government license rights for the Department of Defense are limited to those rights identified in DFARS clause 252.227-7015(b) (FEB 2014).

Trademark information

NETAPP, the NETAPP logo, and the marks listed at <http://www.netapp.com/TM> are trademarks of NetApp, Inc. Other company and product names may be trademarks of their respective owners.