



Back up to the cloud

ONTAP 9

NetApp
February 06, 2026

This PDF was generated from <https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/ontap/data-protection/install-snapmirror-cloud-license-task.html> on February 06, 2026. Always check docs.netapp.com for the latest.

Table of Contents

- Back up to the cloud 1
 - Install an ONTAP SnapMirror cloud license 1
 - Back up data to the cloud using ONTAP SnapMirror 2
 - Add a cloud object store 2
 - Back up using the default policy 2
 - Create a custom cloud backup policy 3
 - Create a backup from the **Volumes** page 3
 - Restore from the cloud 3
 - Delete a SnapMirror cloud relationship 4
 - Remove a cloud object store 4
 - Back up data using NetApp Backup and Recovery 4
 - Register the cluster with NetApp Console 5
 - Enable NetApp Backup and Recovery 5
 - Edit the protection policy used for NetApp Backup and Recovery 6
 - Protect new volumes or LUNs on the cloud 7
 - Protect existing volumes or LUNs on the cloud 7
 - Restore data from backup files 8

Back up to the cloud

Install an ONTAP SnapMirror cloud license

SnapMirror cloud relationships can be orchestrated using pre-qualified third-party backup applications. Beginning with ONTAP 9.9.1, you can also use System Manager to orchestrate SnapMirror cloud replication. Both SnapMirror and SnapMirror cloud capacity licenses are required when using System Manager to orchestrate on-premises ONTAP to object storage backups. You will also need to request and install the SnapMirror cloud API license.

About this task

The SnapMirror cloud and SnapMirror S3 licenses are cluster licenses, not node licenses, so they are *not* delivered with the ONTAP One license bundle. These licenses are included in the separate ONTAP One Compatibility bundle. If you want to enable SnapMirror cloud, you need to request this bundle.

Additionally, System Manager orchestration of SnapMirror cloud backups to object storage requires a SnapMirror cloud API key. This API license is a single-instance cluster-wide license, meaning it does not need to be installed on every node in the cluster.

Steps

You need to request and download the ONTAP One Compatibility bundle and the SnapMirror cloud API license and then install them using System Manager.

1. Locate and record the cluster UUID for the cluster you want to license.

The cluster UUID is required when you submit your request to order the ONTAP One Compatibility bundle for your cluster.

2. Contact your NetApp sales team and request the ONTAP One Compatibility bundle.
3. Request the SnapMirror cloud API license by following the instructions provided on the NetApp Support Site.

[Request SnapMirror cloud API license key](#)

4. When you've received and downloaded the license files, use System Manager to upload the ONTAP Cloud Compatibility NLF and the SnapMirror cloud API NLF to the cluster:
 - a. Click **Cluster > Settings**.
 - b. In the **Settings** window, click **Licenses**.
 - c. In the **Licenses** window, click **+ Add**.
 - d. In the **Add License** dialog box, click **Browse** to select the NLF you downloaded, and then click **Add** to upload the file to the cluster.

Related information

[Back up data to the cloud using SnapMirror](#)

[NetApp Software License Search](#)

Back up data to the cloud using ONTAP SnapMirror

Beginning with ONTAP 9.9.1, you can back up your data to the cloud and to restore your data from cloud storage to a different volume by using System Manager. You can use either StorageGRID or ONTAP S3 as your cloud object store.

Beginning with ONTAP 9.18.1:

- SnapMirror cloud supports backup and restore operations for FlexGroup volumes on MetroCluster configurations using the existing [ONTAP REST APIs](#). This functionality enables you to create SnapMirror cloud relationships for FlexGroup volumes on MetroCluster configurations that are maintained from the partner site after a switchover and switchback.

Beginning with ONTAP 9.16.1:

- SnapMirror cloud backup supports fan-out relationships. This means that SnapMirror backups can be created simultaneously on two different object stores. With ONTAP 9.16.1, SnapMirror cloud supports two fan-out relationships. Fan-outs can be to two object stores and to one or two buckets in two different object stores. Attempts to create more than two fan-out relationships will fail.
- SnapMirror cloud supports backups of volumes migrated to the cloud using a more efficient synchronization process using existing [ONTAP REST APIs](#). The functionality supports SnapMirror cloud backups from a migrated volume in the cloud to the same destination object store endpoint without the need for performing a re-baseline operation. Both FlexVol and FlexGroup volumes are supported.

Before using the SnapMirror cloud feature, you should request a SnapMirror cloud API license key from the NetApp Support Site: [Request SnapMirror cloud API license key](#).

Following the instructions, you should provide a simple description of your business opportunity and request the API key by sending an email to the provided email address. You should receive an email response within 24 hours with further instructions on how to acquire the API key.

Add a cloud object store

Before you configure SnapMirror cloud backups, you need to add a StorageGRID or ONTAP S3 cloud object store.

Steps

1. Click **Protection > Overview > Cloud Object Stores**.
2. Click **+ Add**.

Back up using the default policy

You can quickly configure a SnapMirror cloud backup for an existing volume using the default cloud protection policy, DailyBackup.

Steps

1. Click **Protection > Overview** and select **Back Up Volumes to Cloud**.
2. If this is your first time backing up to the cloud, enter your SnapMirror cloud API license key in the license field as indicated.
3. Click **Authenticate and Continue**.
4. Select a source volume.

5. Select a cloud object store.
6. Click **Save**.

Create a custom cloud backup policy

If you do not want to use the default DailyBackup cloud policy for your SnapMirror cloud backups, you can create your own policy.

Steps

1. Click **Protection > Overview > Local Policy Settings** and select **Protection Policies**.
2. Click **Add** and enter the new policy details.
3. In the **Policy Type** section, select **Back up to Cloud** to indicate that you are creating a cloud policy.
4. Click **Save**.

Create a backup from the Volumes page

You can use the System Manager **Volumes** page when you want to select and create cloud backups for multiple volumes at one time or when you want to use a custom protection policy.

Steps

1. Click **Storage > Volumes**.
2. Select the volumes you want to back up to the cloud, and click **Protect**.
3. In the **Protect Volume** window, click **More Options**.
4. Select a policy.

You can select the default policy, DailyBackup, or a custom cloud policy you created.

5. Select a cloud object store.
6. Click **Save**.


Restore from the cloud

You can use System Manager to restore backed up data from cloud storage to a different volume on the source cluster.



If you are using ONTAP 9.16.1 or later and you are performing a SnapMirror cloud single file restore to a FlexGroup volume, you should only restore files to a new directory in the FlexGroup volume, and granular data must be set to `advanced` on the destination FlexGroup volume. For more information about setting the `-granular-data` advanced option, see [Balance ONTAP FlexGroup volumes by redistributing file data](#).

Steps

1. From the source Cluster of a SnapMirror-to-Cloud relationship, click **Storage > Volumes**.
2. Select the volume you want to restore.
3. Select the **Back Up to Cloud** tab.
4. Click  next to the source volume you want to restore to display the menu, and select **Restore**.
5. Under **Source**, select a storage VM and then enter the name of the volume to which you want the data


restored.

6. Under **Destination**, select the snapshot you want to restore.
7. Click **Save**.

Delete a SnapMirror cloud relationship

You can use System Manager to delete a cloud relationship.


Steps

1. Click **Storage > Volumes** and select the volume you want to delete.
2. Click  next to the source volume and select **Delete**.
3. Select **Delete the cloud object store endpoint (optional)** if you want to delete the cloud object store endpoint.
4. Click **Delete**.

Remove a cloud object store

You can use System Manager to remove a cloud object store if it is not part of a cloud backup relationship. When a cloud object store is part of a cloud backup relationship, it cannot be deleted.

Steps

1. Click **Protection > Overview > Cloud Object Stores**.
2. Select the object store you want to delete, click  and select **Delete**.

Back up data using NetApp Backup and Recovery

Beginning with ONTAP 9.9.1, you can use System Manager to back up data in the cloud using NetApp Backup and Recovery service.

Backup and Recovery supports FlexVol read-write volumes and data-protection (DP) volumes. Beginning with ONTAP 9.12.1, Backup and Recovery supports FlexGroup volumes and SnapLock volumes.

Learn more about [NetApp Backup and Recovery](#).

Before you begin

You should perform the following procedures to establish an account in the NetApp Console. For the service account, you need to create the role as "Account Admin". (Other service account roles do not have the required privileges needed to establish a connection from System Manager.)

1. [Create an account in NetApp Console](#).
2. [Create a Console agent in NetApp Console](#) with one of the following cloud providers:
 - Microsoft Azure
 - Amazon Web Services (AWS)
 - Google Cloud Platform (GCP)
 - StorageGRID (ONTAP 9.10.1)



Beginning with ONTAP 9.10.1, you can select StorageGRID as a cloud backup provider, but only if NetApp Console is deployed on premises. The Console agent must be installed on premises and available through the NetApp Console software-as-a-service (SaaS) application.

3. [Subscribe to NetApp Backup and Recovery in NetApp Console](#) (requires the appropriate license).
4. [Generate an access key and a secret key using NetApp Console](#).

Register the cluster with NetApp Console

You can register the cluster with the NetApp Console by using either the Console or System Manager.

Steps

1. In System Manager, go to **Protection Overview**.
2. Under **NetApp Backup and Recovery**, provide the following details:
 - Client ID
 - Client secret key
3. Select **Register and Continue**.

Enable NetApp Backup and Recovery

After the cluster is registered with the NetApp Console, you need to enable NetApp Backup and Recovery and initiate the first backup to the cloud.

Steps

1. In System Manager, select **Protection > Overview**, then scroll to the **Cloud Backup Service** section.
2. Enter the **Client ID** and **Client Secret**.



Beginning with ONTAP 9.10.1, you can learn about the cost of using the cloud by selecting **Learn more about the cost of using the cloud**.

3. Select **Connect and Enable Cloud Backup Service**.
4. On the **Enable NetApp Backup and Recovery** page, provide the following details, depending on the provider you selected.

For this cloud provider...	Enter the following data...
Azure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Azure Subscription ID• Region• Resource group name (existing or new)
AWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AWS Account ID• Access key• Secret key• Region

Google Cloud Project (GCP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google Cloud Project name • Google Cloud Access key • Google Cloud Secret key • Region
StorageGRID (ONTAP 9.10.1 and later, and only for on-premises deployment of the NetApp Console)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Server • SG Access Key • SG Secret Key

5. Select a **Protection policy**:

- **Existing policy**: Choose an existing policy.
- **New Policy**: Specify a name and set up a transfer schedule.



Beginning with ONTAP 9.10.1, you can specify whether you want to enable archiving with Azure or AWS.



If you enable archiving for a volume with Azure or AWS, you cannot disable the archiving.

If you enable archiving for Azure or AWS, specify the following:

- The number of days after which the volume is archived.
- The number of backups to retain in the archive. Specify "0" (zero) to archive up to the latest backup.
- For AWS, select the archive storage class.


6. Select the volumes you want to back up.

7. Select **Save**.

Edit the protection policy used for NetApp Backup and Recovery

You can change which protection policy is used with NetApp Backup and Recovery.

Steps

1. In System Manager, select **Protection > Overview**, then scroll to the **Cloud Backup Service** section.
2. Select , then **Edit**.
3. Select a **Protection policy**:
 - **Existing policy**: Choose an existing policy.
 - **New Policy**: Specify a name and set up a transfer schedule.



Beginning with ONTAP 9.10.1, you can specify whether you want to enable archiving with Azure or AWS.



If you enable archiving for a volume with Azure or AWS, you cannot disable the archiving.

If you enable archiving for Azure or AWS, specify the following:

- The number of days after which the volume is archived.
- The number of backups to retain in the archive. Specify "0" (zero) to archive up to the latest backup.
- For AWS, select the archive storage class.

4. Select **Save**.

Protect new volumes or LUNs on the cloud

When you create a new volume or LUN, you can establish a SnapMirror protection relationship that enables backing up to the cloud for the volume or LUN.

Before you begin

- You should have a SnapMirror license.
- Intercluster LIFs should be configured.
- NTP should be configured.
- Cluster must be running ONTAP 9.9.1 or later.

About this task

You cannot protect new volumes or LUNs on the cloud for the following cluster configurations:

- The cluster cannot be in a MetroCluster environment.
- SVM-DR is not supported.
- FlexGroup volumes cannot be backed up using NetApp Backup and Recovery.

Steps

1. When provisioning a volume or LUN, on the **Protection** page in System Manager, select the checkbox labeled **Enable SnapMirror (Local or Remote)**.
2. Select the Backup and Recovery policy type.
3. If Backup and Recovery is not enabled, select **Enable Backup using NetApp Backup and Recovery**.

Protect existing volumes or LUNs on the cloud

You can establish a SnapMirror protection relationship for existing volumes and LUNs.

Steps

1. Select an existing volume or LUN, and select **Protect**.
2. On the **Protect Volumes** page, specify **Backup using NetApp Backup and Recovery** for the protection policy.
3. Select **Protect**.
4. On the **Protection** page, select the checkbox labeled **Enable SnapMirror (Local or Remote)**.
5. Select **Connect and enable NetApp Backup and Recovery**.

Restore data from backup files

You can perform backup management operations, such as restoring data, updating relationships, and deleting relationships, only when using the NetApp Console. Refer to [Restoring data from backup files](#) for more information.

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.