



Manage Flash Pool caching policies

ONTAP 9

NetApp
January 23, 2026

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Manage Flash Pool caching policies

Determine whether to modify the ONTAP caching policy of Flash Pool local tiers

You can assign cache-retention policies to volumes in Flash Pool local tiers to determine how long the volume data remains in the Flash Pool cache. However, in some cases changing the cache-retention policy might not impact the amount of time the volume's data remains in the cache.

About this task

If your data meets any of the following conditions, changing your cache-retention policy might not have an impact:

- Your workload is sequential.
- Your workload does not reread the random blocks cached in the solid state drives (SSDs).
- The cache size of the volume is too small.

Steps

The following steps check for the conditions that must be met by the data. The task must be done using the CLI in advanced privilege mode.

1. Use the CLI to view the workload volume:

```
statistics start -object workload_volume
```

2. Determine the workload pattern of the volume:

```
statistics show -object workload_volume -instance volume-workload -counter sequential_reads
```

3. Determine the hit rate of the volume:

```
statistics show -object waf1_hya_vvol -instance volume -counter read_ops_replaced_percent|wc_write_blks_overwritten_percent
```

4. Determine the Cacheable Read and Project Cache Alloc of the volume:

```
system node run -node node_name waf1 awa start aggr_name
```

5. Display the AWA summary:

```
system node run -node node_name waf1 awa print aggr_name
```

6. Compare the volume's hit rate to the Cacheable Read.

If the hit rate of the volume is greater than the Cacheable Read, then your workload does not reread random blocks cached in the SSDs.

7. Compare the volume's current cache size to the Project Cache Alloc.

If the current cache size of the volume is greater than the `Project Cache Alloc`, then the size of your volume cache is too small.

Related information

- [statistics show](#)
- [statistics start](#)

Modify caching policies of ONTAP Flash Pool local tiers

You should modify the caching policy of a volume only if a different caching policy is expected to provide better performance. You can modify the caching policy of a volume on a Flash Pool local tier.

Before you begin

You must determine whether you want to modify your caching policy.

About this task

In most cases, the default caching policy of `auto` is the best caching policy that you can use. The caching policy should be changed only if a different policy provides better performance for your workload. Configuring the wrong caching policy can severely degrade volume performance; the performance degradation could increase gradually over time. You should use caution when modifying caching policies. If you experience performance issues with a volume for which the caching policy has been changed, you should return the caching policy to `auto`.

Step

1. Use the CLI to modify the volume's caching policy:

```
volume modify -volume volume_name -caching-policy policy_name
```

Example

The following example modifies the caching policy of a volume named `vol2` to the policy `none`:

```
volume modify -volume vol2 -caching-policy none
```

Set the cache-retention policy for ONTAP Flash Pool local tiers

You can assign cache-retention policies to volumes in Flash Pool local tiers. Data in volumes with a high cache-retention policy remains in cache longer and data in volumes with a low cache-retention policy is removed sooner. This increases performance of your critical workloads by making high priority information accessible at a faster rate for a longer period of time.

Before you begin

You should know whether your system has any conditions that might prevent the cache-retention policy from having an impact on how long your data remains in cache.

Steps

Use the CLI in advanced privilege mode to perform the following steps:

1. Change the privilege setting to advanced:

```
set -privilege advanced
```

2. Verify the volume's cache-retention policy:

By default the cache retention policy is "normal".

3. Set the cache-retention policy:

```
volume modify -volume volume_name -vserver vservers_name -caching-policy  
policy_name
```

4. Verify that the volume's cache-retention policy is changed to the option you selected.

5. Return the privilege setting to admin:

```
set -privilege admin
```

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