# Table of Contents

Protect data ......................................................................................................................... 1
  Data protection overview ................................................................................................. 1
  Configure Snapshot copies ............................................................................................. 1
Recover from Snapshot copies .......................................................................................... 1
Prepare for mirroring and vaulting .................................................................................... 2
Configure mirrors and vaults ............................................................................................... 2
Serve data from a SnapMirror destination ........................................................................ 3
Restore from a SnapMirror destination to original source .............................................. 4
Roll back data to an earlier version from a vault .............................................................. 4
Protect data

Data protection overview

Protect your data by creating and managing Snapshot copies, mirrors, vaults, and mirror-and-vault relationships.

SnapMirror is disaster recovery technology, designed for failover from primary storage to secondary storage at a geographically remote site. As its name implies, SnapMirror creates a replica, or mirror, of your working data in secondary storage from which you can continue to serve data in the event of a catastrophe at the primary site.

A vault is designed for disk-to-disk Snapshot copy replication for standards compliance and other governance-related purposes. In contrast to a SnapMirror relationship, in which the destination usually contains only the Snapshot copies currently in the source volume, a vault destination typically retains point-in-time Snapshot copies created over a much longer period.

Configure Snapshot copies

You can create Snapshot copy policies to specify the maximum number of Snapshot copies that are automatically created and how frequently they are created. The policy specifies when to create Snapshot copies, how many copies to retain, and how to name them.

This procedure creates a Snapshot copy policy on the local cluster only.

Steps

1. Click Protection > Overview > Local Policy Settings.
2. Under Snapshot Policies, click ➔, and then click Add.
3. Type the policy name, select the policy scope, and under Schedules, click Add to enter the schedule details.

Recover from Snapshot copies

You can recover a volume to an earlier point in time by restoring from a Snapshot copy.

This procedure restores a volume from a Snapshot copy.

Steps

1. Click Storage and select a volume.
2. Under **Snapshot Copies**, click ⬅️ next to the Snapshot copy you want to restore, and select **Restore**.

**Prepare for mirroring and vaulting**

You can protect your data by replicating it to a remote cluster for data backup and disaster recovery purposes.

Several default protection policies are available. You must have created your protection policies if you want to use custom policies.

![Diagram](image)

**Steps**

1. In the local cluster, click **Protection > Overview**.
2. Expand **Intercluster Settings**. Click **Add Network Interfaces** and add intercluster network interfaces for the cluster.
   
   Repeat this step on the remote cluster.
3. In the remote cluster, click **Protection > Overview**. Click ⬅️ in the Cluster Peers section and click **Generate Passphrase**.
4. Copy the generated passphrase and paste it in the local cluster.
5. In the local cluster, under Cluster Peers, click **Peer Clusters** and peer the local and remote clusters.
6. Optionally, under Storage VM Peers, click ⬅️ and then **Peer Storage VMs** to peer the storage VMs.
7. Click **Protect Volumes** to protect your volumes. To protect your LUNs, click **Storage > LUNs**, select a LUN to protect, and then click ⬉️ **Protect**.
   
   Select the protection policy based on the type of data protection you need.
8. To verify the volumes and LUNs are successfully protected from the local cluster, click **Storage > Volumes** or **Storage > LUNs** and, expand the volume/LUN view.

**Configure mirrors and vaults**

Create a mirror and vault of a volume to protect data in case of a disaster and to have multiple archived versions of data to which you can roll back. Only the combined mirror-and-vault policy is supported. You cannot specify separate mirror
and vault policies.

This procedure creates a mirror-and-vault policy on a remote cluster. The source cluster and destination cluster use intercluster network interfaces for exchanging data. The procedure assumes the intercluster network interfaces are created and the clusters containing the volumes are peered (paired). You can also peer storage VMs for data protection; however, if storage VMs are not peered, but permissions are enabled, storage VMs are automatically peered when the protection relationship is created.

Steps
1. Select the volume or LUN to protect: click Storage > Volumes or Storage > LUNs, and then click the desired volume or LUN name.
2. Click Protect.
3. Select the destination cluster and storage VM.
4. The asynchronous policy is selected by default. To select a synchronous policy, click More Options.
5. Click Protect.
6. Click the SnapMirror (Local or Remote) tab for the selected volume or LUN to verify that protection is set up correctly.

Serve data from a SnapMirror destination

To serve data from a mirror destination when a source becomes unavailable, stop scheduled transfers to the destination, and then break the SnapMirror relationship to make the destination writable.

Steps
1. Select the desired protection relationship: click Protection > Relationships, and then click the desired volume name.
2. Click ✗.
3. Stop scheduled transfers: click Pause.
4. Make the destination writable: click **Break**.

5. Go to the main **Relationships** page to verify that the relationship state displays as "broken off".

**Next steps:**
When the disabled source volume is available again, you should resynchronize the relationship to copy the current data to the original source volume. This process replaces the data on the original source volume.

**Restore from a SnapMirror destination to original source**

When your original source volume is available again after a disaster, you can resynchronize data from the destination volume and reestablish the protection relationship.

This procedure replaces the data in the original source volume in an asynchronous relationship so that you can start serving data from the original source volume again and resume the original protection relationship.

**Steps**
1. Click **Protection > Relationships** and then click the broken off relationship you want to resynchronize.
2. Click **⋯** and then select **Resync**.
3. Under **Relationships**, monitor the resynchronization progress by checking the relationship state. The state changes to "Mirrored" when resynchronization is complete.

**Roll back data to an earlier version from a vault**

When data in a volume is lost or corrupted, you can roll back your data by restoring from an earlier Snapshot copy.

This procedure replaces the current data on the source volume with data from an earlier Snapshot copy version. You should perform this task on the destination cluster.

**Steps**
1. Click **Protection > Relationships**, and then click the source volume name.
2. Click **⋯** and then select **Restore**.
3. Under **Source**, the source volume is selected by default. Click **Other Volume** if you want to choose a different volume.
4. Under **Destination**, choose the Snapshot copy you want to restore.
5. If your source and destination are located on different clusters, on the remote cluster, click **Protection > Relationships** to monitor the restore progress.
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