Creating retention policies

Snap Creator Framework

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Creating retention policies

If you plan to use policy objects instead of a local retention policy (which is contained in the configuration file), you can create a retention policy.

As part of creating a retention policy, you can create a backup type and a policy schedule.

Guidelines to define Snap Creator policies

Snap Creator policies are user-defined Snapshot copy retentions that apply to the Snapshot copies on the primary storage and SnapVault and SnapMirror copies on the secondary storage. You can use a policy to define the number of Snapshot copies that you want to retain and the Snapshot copy age.

You must define at least one policy in the **Snapshot Retention Count** field. For SnapVault, you can associate the same policy with different SnapVault retention periods. For example, to create daily Snapshot copies and retain them for seven days on the primary storage and one month on the secondary storage, you must use the following Policy options and settings:

- **Snapshot Retention Count**: daily:7
- **SnapVault Retention Count**: daily:28

You can also specify the minimum number of days after which a Snapshot copy is deleted. Based on the preceding example, you should use the following options and settings:

- **Snapshot Retention Age**: 7
- **SnapVault Retention Age**: 28

Additionally, you can specify the Snapshot copy deletion by age by setting the following parameter in the configuration file:

NTAP_SNAPSHOT_DELETE_BY_AGE_ONLY=PRIMARY|SECONDARY|BOTH

This parameter is not available through the Snap Creator GUI. See the related references for more information about configuration file parameters used to set up Snapshot copies.

Snap Creator can run only one policy at a time. The maximum age value is a global parameter that applies to all the policies. To configure an additional weekly policy, define the policy, and then call it in Snap Creator once a week by using cron or task manager with the Snap Creator variable %SNAP_TYPE set to weekly.

Related information

Parameters for setting up Snapshot copies

Creating backup types

You can optionally create a backup type using the Snap Creator GUI to help identify the purpose of a policy.

1. From the Snap Creator GUI main menu, select **Policy** > **Backup Type**.
2. From the **Backup type** tab, click **Add**.
3. Enter the new backup type name, and then click **OK**.

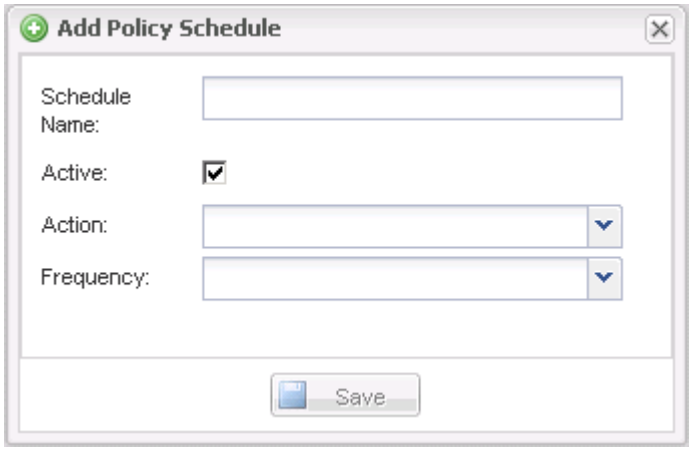
   The new backup type is listed under **Backup Type**.

Creating policy schedules

You can optionally create policy schedules by using the Snap Creator GUI.

1. From the Snap Creator GUI main menu, select **Policy** > **Policy Schedules**.
2. From the **Policy Schedules** tab, click **Create**.
3. Enter the schedule name and select the action and frequency, and then click **Save**.

   Depending on the frequency you select, you will need to select the appropriate time fields for running the scheduled job.

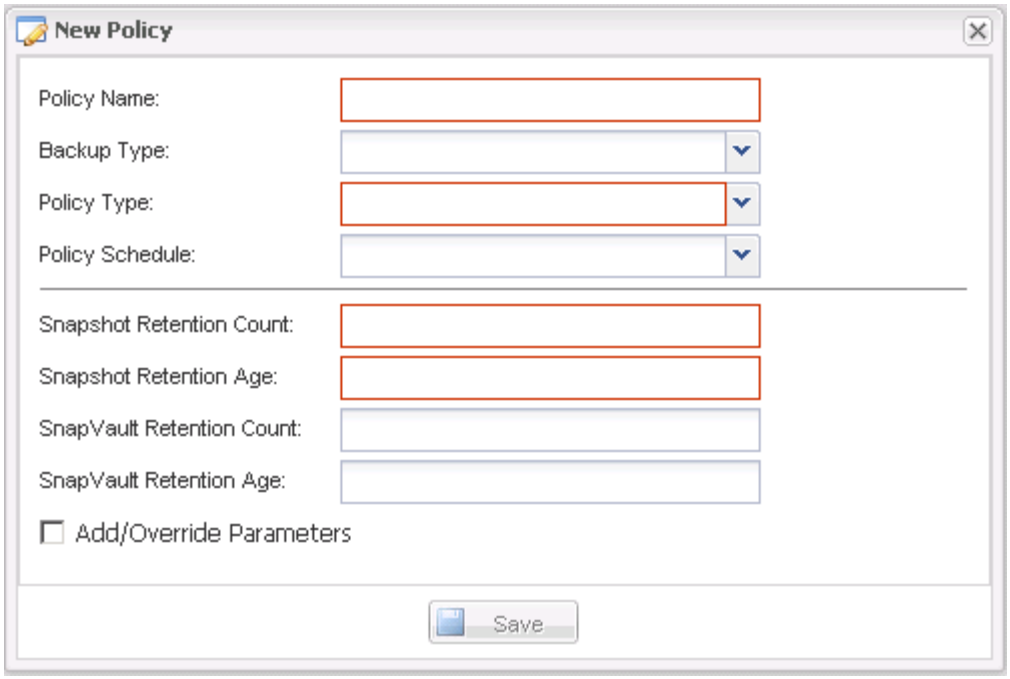


Creating policies

You can create a new retention policy by using the Snap Creator GUI to configure multiple Snapshot policies with different retention count.

You should understand the guidelines for defining Snap Creator policies.

1. From the Snap Creator GUI main menu, select **Policy** > **Policy Management**.
2. From the **Policy Manager** tab, click **Create**.
3. Enter the details, and then click **Save**.



Field	Description
Policy Name	Specify the name of the policy.
Backup Type	(Optional) Select the backup type.
Policy Type	Select the policy type: • **LOCAL** Takes a Snapshot copy on the primary storage. Select this type if there are no SnapMirror or SnapVault relationships. • SNAPVAULT Creates a Snapshot copy on the primary storage and performs a SnapVault update. SnapVault update must be enabled for all volumes in the configuration. • SNAPMIRROR Creates a Snapshot copy on the primary storage and performs a SnapMirror update. SnapMirror update must be enabled for all volumes in the configuration.
Policy Schedule	(Optional) Select the policy schedule to be used. If no policy schedule is specified, these actions do not run automatically.

Field	Description
Snapshot Retention Count	Enter the number of backups to be retained.
Snapshot Retention Age	Enter the minimum age that the backups must be retained before they can be deleted.
SnapVault Retention Count	If you selected SnapVault as the policy type, enter the retention count for SnapVault.
SnapVault Retention Age	If you selected SnapVault as the policy type, enter the retention age for SnapVault.
Add/Override Parameters	Certain parameters can be overridden for a policy. If desired, select this check box, and then add the parameters to be overridden.

Assigning policies

You can assign retention policies to the configuration files by using the Snap Creator GUI.

1. From the Snap Creator GUI main menu, select **Policy** > **Policy Assignments**.
2. Select a profile from the Profile pane.
3. Select a policy or policies to assign to the profile by selecting the appropriate check box on the right pane, and then click **Save**.

   If configuration files already exist in the profile, a message displays, informing you that the assigned policy will overrule the settings in the configuration file.

4. Click **Yes** to assign the policy.

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