Licensing

Cloud Volumes ONTAP

NetApp
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Licensing

Licensing for Cloud Volumes ONTAP

Several licensing options are available for Cloud Volumes ONTAP. Each option enables you to choose a consumption model that meets your needs.

Licensing overview

The following licensing options are available for new customers.

Capacity-based licensing

Pay for multiple Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems in your NetApp account by provisioned capacity. Includes the ability to purchase add-on cloud data services. For more information about consumption models or purchase options in capacity-based licenses, refer to Learn more about capacity-based licenses.

Keystone Subscription

A pay-as-you-grow subscription-based service that delivers a seamless hybrid cloud experience for High Availability (HA) pairs.

The following sections provide more details about each of these options.

Support is not available for the use of licensed features without a license.

Capacity-based licensing

Capacity-based licensing packages enable you to pay for Cloud Volumes ONTAP per TiB of capacity. The license is associated with your NetApp account and enables you to charge multiple systems against the license, as long as enough capacity is available through the license.

For example, you could purchase a single 20 TiB license, deploy four Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems, and then allocate a 5 TiB volume to each system, for a total of 20 TiB. The capacity is available to the volumes on each Cloud Volumes ONTAP system deployed in that account.

Capacity-based licensing is available in the form of a *package*. When you deploy a Cloud Volumes ONTAP system, you can choose from several licensing packages based on your business needs.

While the actual usage and metering for the products and services managed in the NetApp Console are always calculated in GiB and TiB, the terms GB/GiB and TB/TiB are used interchangeably. This is reflected in the Cloud marketplace listings, price quotes, listing descriptions, and in other supporting documentation.

Packages

The following capacity-based packages are available for Cloud Volumes ONTAP. For more information about capacity-based license packages, refer to Learn more about capacity-based licenses.

For a list of supported VM types with the following capacity-based packages, refer to:

- Supported configurations in Azure

- Supported configurations in Google Cloud

Freemium

Provides all Cloud Volumes ONTAP features free of charge from NetApp (cloud provider charges still apply). A Freemium package has these characteristics:

- No license or contract is needed.
- Support from NetApp is not included.
- You're limited to 500 GiB of provisioned capacity per Cloud Volumes ONTAP system.
- You can use up to 10 Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems with the Freemium offering per NetApp account, for any cloud provider.
- If the provisioned capacity for a Cloud Volumes ONTAP system exceeds 500 GiB, the Console converts the system to an Essentials package.

  As soon as a system is converted to the Essentials package, minimum charging applies to it.

  A Cloud Volumes ONTAP system that has been converted into an Essentials package cannot be switched back to Freemium even if the provisioned capacity is reduced to less than 500 GiB. Other systems with less than 500 GiB of provisioned capacity stay on Freemium (as long as they were deployed using the Freemium offering).

Essentials

You can pay by capacity in a number of different configurations:

- Choose your Cloud Volumes ONTAP configuration:
  - A single node or HA system
  - File and block storage or secondary data for disaster recovery (DR)
- Add on any of NetApp's cloud data services at extra cost

Professional

Pay by capacity for any type of Cloud Volumes ONTAP configuration with unlimited backups.

- Provides licensing for any Cloud Volumes ONTAP configuration

  Single node or HA with capacity charging for primary and secondary volumes at the same rate

- Includes unlimited volume backups using NetApp Backup and Recovery, but only for Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems that use the Professional package.

  > A pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) subscription is required for Backup and Recovery, however no charges will be incurred for using this service. For more information on setting up licensing for Backup and Recovery, refer to Set up licensing for Backup and Recovery.

- Add on any of NetApp's cloud data services at extra cost

Availability of capacity-based licenses

The availability of the PAYGO and BYOL licenses for Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems requires the Console

agent to be up and running.

Learn about Console agents.

NetApp has restricted the purchase, extension, and renewal of BYOL licensing. For more information, refer to Restricted availability of BYOL licensing for Cloud Volumes ONTAPP.

How to get started

Learn how to get started with capacity-based licensing:

- Set up licensing for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in AWS
- Set up licensing for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in Azure
- Set up licensing for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in Google Cloud

Keystone Subscription

A pay-as-you-grow subscription-based service that delivers a seamless hybrid cloud experience for those preferring OpEx consumption models to upfront CapEx or leasing.

Charging is based on the size of your committed capacity for one or more Cloud Volumes ONTAP HA pairs in your Keystone Subscription.

The provisioned capacity for each volume is aggregated and compared to the committed capacity on your Keystone Subscription periodically, and any overages are charged as burst on your Keystone Subscription.

Learn more about NetApp Keystone.

Supported configurations

Keystone Subscriptions are supported with HA pairs. This licensing option isn't supported with single-node systems at this time.

Capacity limit

In the capacity-based licensing model, each Cloud Volumes ONTAP system supports tiering to object storage, and the total tiered capacity can scale up to the cloud provider's bucket limit. Although the license does not impose capacity restrictions, follow the FabricPool Best Practices to ensure optimal performance, reliability, and cost efficiency when configuring and managing tiering.

For information about the capacity limits of each cloud provider, refer to their documentation:

- AWS documentation
- Azure documentation for managed disks and Azure documentation for blob storage
- Google Cloud documentation

How to get started

Learn how to get started with a Keystone Subscription:

- Set up licensing for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in AWS
- Set up licensing for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in Azure

- Set up licensing for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in Google Cloud

Node-based licensing

Node-based licensing is the previous generation licensing model that enabled you to license Cloud Volumes ONTAP by node. This licensing model is not available for new customers. By-node charging has been replaced with the by-capacity charging methods described above.

NetApp has planned the end of availability (EOA) and support (EOS) of node-based licensing. After the EOA and EOS, node-based licenses will need to be converted to capacity-based licenses.

For information, refer to Customer communique: CPC-00589.

End of availability of node-based licenses

Beginning on 11 November, 2024, the limited availability of node-based licenses has been terminated. The support for node-based licensing ends on 31 December, 2024.

If you have a valid node-based contract that extends beyond the EOA date, you can continue to use the license until the contract expires. Once the contract expires, it will be necessary to transition to the capacity-based licensing model. If you don't have a long-term contract for a Cloud Volumes ONTAP node, it is important to plan your conversion before the EOS date.

Learn more about each license type and the impact of EOA on it from this table:

License type	Impact after EOA
Valid node-based license purchased through bring your own license (BYOL)	License remains valid till expiration. Existing unused node-based licenses can be used for deploying new Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems.
Expired node-based license purchased through BYOL	You won't be entitled to deploy new Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems using this license. The existing systems might continue to work, but you won't receive any support or updates for your systems post the EOS date.
Valid node-based license with PAYGO subscription	Will cease to receive NetApp support post the EOS date, until you transition to a capacity-based license.

Exclusions

NetApp recognizes that certain situations require special consideration, and EOA and EOS of node-based licensing will not apply to the following cases:

- U.S. Public Sector customers
- Deployments in private mode
- China region deployments of Cloud Volumes ONTAP in AWS

For these particular scenarios, NetApp will offer support to address the unique licensing requirements in compliance with contractual obligations and operational needs.

Even in these scenarios, new node-based licenses and license renewals are valid for a maximum of one year from the date of approval.

License conversion

The Console enables a seamless conversion of node-based licenses to capacity based through the license conversion tool. For information about EOA of node-based licensing, refer to End of availability of node-based licenses.

Before transitioning, it is good to familiarize yourself with the difference between the two licensing models. Node-based licensing includes fixed capacity for each ONTAP instance, which can restrict flexibility. Capacity-based licensing, on the other hand, allows for a shared pool of storage across multiple instances, offering enhanced flexibility, optimizing resource utilization, and reducing the potential for financial penalties when redistributing workloads. Capacity-based charging seamlessly adjusts to changing storage requirements.

To know how you can perform this conversion, refer to Convert a Cloud Volumes ONTAP node-based license to capacity-based license.

Conversion of a system from capacity-based to node-based licensing is not supported.

Learn more about capacity-based licenses for Cloud Volumes ONTAP

You should be familiar with the charging and capacity usage for capacity-based licenses.

Consumption models or license purchase options

Capacity-based licensing packages are available with the following consumption models or purchase options:

- **BYOL**: Bring your own license (BYOL). A license purchased from NetApp that can be used to deploy Cloud Volumes ONTAP in any cloud provider.

  NetApp has restricted the purchase, extension, and renewal of BYOL licensing. For more information, refer to Restricted availability of BYOL licensing for Cloud Volumes ONTAP.

- **PAYGO**: A pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) subscription is an hourly subscription from your cloud provider's marketplace.
- **Annual**: An annual contract from your cloud provider's marketplace.

Note the following:

- If you purchase a license from NetApp (BYOL), you also need to subscribe to the PAYGO offering from your cloud provider's marketplace. NetApp has restricted BYOL licensing. When your BYOL licenses expire, you are required to replace them with cloud marketplace subscriptions.

  Your license is always charged first, but you'll be charged from the hourly rate in the marketplace in these cases:

  - If you exceed your licensed capacity
  - If the term of your license expires

- If you have an annual contract from a marketplace, *all* Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems that you deploy are charged against that contract. You can't mix and match an annual marketplace contract with BYOL.
- Only single-node systems with BYOL are supported in China regions. China region deployments are exempt from BYOL licensing restrictions.

Changing of license packages

After deployment, you can change the package for a Cloud Volumes ONTAP system that uses capacity-based licensing. For example, if you deployed a Cloud Volumes ONTAP system with the Essentials package, you can change it to the Professional package if your business needs changed.

Learn how to change charging methods.

For information about converting node-based licenses to capacity-based, see

How you are charged for supported storage types and packages

Charging in Cloud Volumes ONTAP is based on a number of factors, such as packages and volume types. Capacity-based licensing packages are available with Cloud Volumes ONTAP 9.7 and later.

For details about pricing, go to the NetApp Console website.

Storage VMs

- There are no extra licensing costs for additional data-serving storage VMs (SVMs), but there is a 4 TiB minimum capacity charge per data-serving SVM.
- Disaster recovery SVMs are charged according to the provisioned capacity.

HA pairs

For HA pairs, you're only charged for the provisioned capacity on a node. You aren't charged for data that is synchronously mirrored to the partner node.

FlexClone and FlexCache volumes

- You won't be charged for the capacity used by FlexClone volumes.
- Source and destination FlexCache volumes are considered primary data and charged according to the provisioned space.

Read/write volumes

If you create or use a writable (read/write) volume, it is considered a primary volume and is charged for the provisioned capacity based on the minimum charge per storage VM (SVM). Examples include FlexVol read/write volumes, SnapLock audit volumes, and CIFS/NFS audit volumes. All user-created data volumes are charged per your subscription and package type. ONTAP internal volumes that are automatically created and cannot store data, such as SVM root volumes, are not charged.

Essentials packages

With the Essentials package, you're billed by the deployment type (HA or single node) and the volume type (primary or secondary). Pricing from high to low is in the following order: *Essentials Primary HA*, *Essentials Primary Single Node*, *Essentials Secondary HA*, and *Essentials Secondary Single Node*. Alternately, when you purchase a marketplace contract or accept a private offer, capacity charges are the same for any deployment

or volume type.

Licensing is based entirely on the volume type created within Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems:

- Essentials Single Node: Read/write volumes created on a Cloud Volumes ONTAP system using one ONTAP node only.
- Essentials HA: Read/write volumes using two ONTAP nodes that can fail over to each other for non-disruptive data access.
- Essentials Secondary Single Node: Data Protection (DP) type volumes (typically SnapMirror or SnapVault destination volumes that are read-only) created on a Cloud Volumes ONTAP system using one ONTAP node only.

  If a read-only/DP volume becomes a primary volume, the Console considers it as primary data and the charging costs are calculated based on the time the volume was in read/write mode. When the volume is again made read-only/DP, it considers the volume as secondary data again and charges accordingly using the best matching license in the Console.

- Essentials Secondary HA: Data Protection (DP) type volumes (typically SnapMirror or SnapVault destination volumes that are read-only) created on a Cloud Volumes ONTAP system using two ONTAP nodes that can fail over to each other for non-disruptive data access.

Capacity limit

In the capacity-based licensing model, each Cloud Volumes ONTAP system supports tiering to object storage, and the total tiered capacity can scale up to the cloud provider's bucket limit. Although the license does not impose capacity restrictions, follow the FabricPool Best Practices to ensure optimal performance, reliability, and cost efficiency when configuring and managing tiering.

For information about the capacity limits of each cloud provider, refer to their documentation:

- AWS documentation
- Azure documentation for managed disks and Azure documentation for blob storage
- Google Cloud documentation

Max number of systems

With capacity-based licensing, the maximum number of Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems is limited to 24 per NetApp Console organization. A *system* is a Cloud Volumes ONTAP HA pair, a Cloud Volumes ONTAP single-node system, or any additional storage VMs that you create. The default storage VM does not count against the limit. This limit applies to all licensing models.

For example, let's say you have three systems:

- A single node Cloud Volumes ONTAP system with one storage VM (this is the default storage VM that's created when you deploy Cloud Volumes ONTAP)

  This system counts as one system.

- A single node Cloud Volumes ONTAP system with two storage VMs (the default storage VM, plus one additional storage VM that you created)

  This system counts as two systems: one for the single-node system and one for the additional storage VM.

- A Cloud Volumes ONTAP HA pair with three storage VMs (the default storage VM, plus two additional storage VMs that you created)

  This system counts as three systems: one for the HA pair and two for the additional storage VMs.

That's six systems in total. You would then have room for an additional 14 systems in your organization.

If you have a large deployment that requires more then 24 systems, contact your accounts representative or sales team.

Learn about storage limits for AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud.

Minimum charge

There is a 4 TiB minimum charge for each data-serving storage VM that has least one primary (read-write) volume. If the sum of the primary volumes is less than 4 TiB, then the Console applies the 4 TiB minimum charge to that storage VM.

If you haven't provisioned any volumes yet, then the minimum charge doesn't apply.

For the Essentials package, the 4 TiB minimum capacity charge doesn't apply to storage VMs that contain secondary (data protection) volumes only. For example, if you have a storage VM with 1 TiB of secondary data, then you're charged just for that 1 TiB of data. With the Professional package type, the minimum capacity charging of 4 TiB applies regardless of the volume type.

Billing preferences and overages

You can choose how you want to be charged in the **Licenses and subscriptions** section in the Console. Overages occur when your usage exceeds the capacity specified in your license package or annual subscription.

- **NetApp licenses first**: In this model, your usage is first charged against the capacity of your license package (BYOL). If you exceed your license capacity, overages are charged based on your annual marketplace subscription or marketplace on-demand hourly rates (PAYGO). If your BYOL license expires, you must transition to a capacity-based licensing model through the cloud marketplaces. For information, refer to Convert a Cloud Volumes ONTAP node-based license to a capacity-based license.
- **Marketplace subscriptions only**: In this model, your usage is first charged against your annual marketplace subscription. Any additional usage is charged at marketplace on-demand hourly rates (PAYGO). Any unused license capacity is disregarded for billing.

For more information about billing preferences, refer to Learn about billing preferences for licenses and subscriptions.

How overages are charged for Essentials licenses

If you purchase an Essentials license from NetApp (BYOL) and you exceed the licensed capacity for a specific Essentials package, the Console charges overages against a higher-priced Essentials license (if you have one with available capacity). The Console first uses the available capacity that you've paid for before charging against the marketplace. If there is no available capacity with your BYOL license, the exceeded capacity is charged at marketplace on-demand hourly rates (PAYGO) and added to your monthly bill.

Similarly, if you have an annual marketplace contract or a private offer with multiple Essentials packages, and your usage exceeds the committed capacity for a deployment and volume type of a specific package, the Console charges overages against a higher-priced Essentials package based on its available capacity. After

that capacity is exhausted, the remaining overage is billed at marketplace on-demand (PAYGO) hourly rates and added to your monthly bill.

For information about Essentials licenses charging, refer to Essentials packages.

Here's an example. Let's say you have the following licenses for the Essentials package:

- A 500 TiB *Essentials Secondary HA* license that has 500 TiB of committed capacity
- A 500 TiB *Essentials Single Node* license that only has 100 TiB of committed capacity

Another 50 TiB is provisioned on an HA pair with secondary volumes. Instead of charging that 50 TiB to PAYGO, the Console charges the 50 TiB overage against the *Essentials Single Node* license. That license is priced higher than *Essentials Secondary HA*, but it's making use of a license you have already purchased, and it will not add costs to your monthly bill.

In **Administration > Licenses and subscriptions**, you can see 50 TiB charged against the *Essentials Single Node* license.

Here's another example. Let's say you have the following licenses for the Essentials package:

- A 500 TiB *Essentials Secondary HA* license that has 500 TiB of committed capacity
- A 500 TiB *Essentials Single Node* license that only has 100 TiB of committed capacity

Another 100 TiB is provisioned on an HA pair with primary volumes. The license you purchased doesn't have *Essentials Primary HA* committed capacity. The *Essentials Primary HA* license is priced higher than both the *Essentials Primary Single Node* and *Essentials Secondary HA* licenses.

In this example, the Console charges overages at the marketplace rate for the additional 100 TiB. The overage charges will appear on your monthly bill.

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