

DATASHEET

ONTAP 9 data management software

Foundation for a seamless hybrid cloud



The Challenge

Businesses today are under pressure to quickly respond to new challenges and opportunities. To support their business, IT departments must simultaneously deliver on three key priorities:

- Reliably support today's business critical applications.
- Anticipate and prepare for a broad range of future requirements as data grows and their cloud strategy evolves.
- Seamlessly move, manage, and protect data wherever it lives across their hybrid cloud.

Plus, they typically must do all of this without additional IT budget.

The Solution

Create a storage infrastructure that is the foundation for your hybrid cloud and simplifies how you manage your data that is spread across your business. NetApp® ONTAP® 9, the industry's leading enterprise data management software, combines new levels of simplicity, flexibility, and security with powerful data management capabilities, proven storage efficiencies, and leading cloud integration.

With ONTAP 9, you can create an environment that is smart, powerful, and trusted that spans flash, disk, and cloud and is ready to handle your future requirements. Flexibly deploy storage on your choice of architectures—hardware storage systems, software-defined storage (SDS), and the cloud—while unifying data management across all of them. Accelerate your enterprise applications with flash, without compromising on the essential data services that you need. And seamlessly manage your data as it flows to wherever you need it most to help you make the best possible decisions for your organization.

Smart: Simplify Operations and Reduce Costs Streamline data management

Whether you're adding new workloads or managing your existing environment, it's important to simplify your processes to maximize the productivity and responsiveness of your staff. ONTAP gives you a common set of features across deployment architectures, which simplifies operations so that your IT team can focus on strategic business priorities. Unify data management across a hybrid cloud that can span flash, disk, and cloud running SAN, NAS, and object workloads. Easily move your data within or between storage clusters, or to the cloud—wherever it is most useful. ONTAP is the foundation for a Data Fabric that gives you flexibility, choice, and control across your storage environment.

Key Benefits

Smart: Simplify Operations and Reduce Costs

- Minimize capex and opex with leading storage efficiency.
- Provision storage in minutes for Oracle, SAP, Microsoft SQL, VMware, and other business apps.
- Tier your cold data to the cloud. Automatically.

Powerful: Respond to Changing Business Requirements

- Accelerate critical workloads with industry-leading performance.
- Scale capacity and performance without disruption.
- Deploy enterprise applications on NetApp storage systems, commodity servers, or in the cloud.

Trusted: Protect and Secure Your Data Across the Hybrid Cloud

- Guard against data loss and accelerate recovery with integrated data protection.
- Eliminate business disruptions due to failures, maintenance, and site disasters.
- Protect your sensitive company and customer information with built-in data security.
- Scale capacity and performance without disruption.
- Deploy enterprise applications on NetApp storage systems, commodity servers, or in the cloud.

Deploy workloads in less than 10 minutes

Built-in application workflows enable you to quickly and confidently provision storage for key workloads in less than 10 minutes—from power-on to serving data. These workloads include Oracle, SAP, SQL Server, and virtual desktops and servers. Years of NetApp experience and best practices are integrated into the System Manager wizard and factory configurations, enabling you to quickly set up your new configuration just by answering a few questions.

Get proven storage efficiency

With ONTAP, you get a comprehensive, industry-leading portfolio of storage efficiency capabilities. Inline data compression, deduplication, and compaction work together to reduce your storage costs and maximize the data you can store. Plus, you can multiply your savings with space-efficient NetApp Snapshot™ copies, thin provisioning, replication, and cloning technologies.

Tier automatically to cloud

Deliver high performance to your applications and reduce storage costs by automatically tiering cold data from the performance tier to a private or public cloud. FabricPool frees up space on your existing NetApp AFF or FAS infrastructure, so you can consolidate more workloads. For new all-flash purchases, FabricPool enables you to buy a smaller initial AFF configuration.

Maximize investment protection

ONTAP gives you the flexibility to create an integrated, scalable storage environment by clustering storage controllers from different families—AFF all-flash and FAS hybrid-flash systems— and from different generations. You can grow your system with the latest hardware, continue to use your older hardware, and connect all of it to the cloud. When it's time to retire a storage system, you can simply upgrade the controllers and keep data in place on the existing disk shelves.

Get simple, powerful management capabilities

NetApp data management infrastructure software is designed to manage hybrid clouds. You can centrally monitor the health of your environment by viewing metrics on capacity utilization, performance, availability, and data protection. It can also help automate your storage processes and integrate them into your data center orchestration platform for end-to-end service delivery for your private and hybrid cloud services.

In addition, NetApp Active IQ® is a digital advisor that uses AIOps to simplify and automate the proactive care and optimization of your NetApp environment. Continuous risk assessments, predictive alerts, prescriptive guidance, and automated actions help prevent problems before they occur, leading to improved system health, higher system availability and improved security.

Powerful: Respond to Changing Business Requirements

To support your critical applications, you need a storage environment that delivers high performance and availability. But you also need the versatility to scale and adapt as your business changes. ONTAP 9 delivers on all these requirements with flash performance for scalable, nondisruptive operations.

Get flash optimization

ONTAP 9 delivers the high throughput and low latency that enterprise applications require, while providing comprehensive data services. ONTAP 9 is optimized for flash, including AFF systems with NVMe solid-state drives (SSDs) and NVMe over Fabrics. AFF

running the most recent versions of ONTAP provide up to twice the throughput of the same workloads compared to running on prior ONTAP releases, while still delivering consistent submillisecond latency.

ONTAP 9 running on NetApp FAS hybrid-flash systems improves the performance of HDD storage by automatically caching hot read data in flash. This provides a balance between performance, capacity, and cost that is appropriate for many workloads.

Deliver consistent performance

To maintain high customer satisfaction, adaptive quality of service (QoS) helps you deliver consistent performance by automatically adjusting storage resource levels to respond to changes in workloads (number of terabytes of data, priority of the workload, and so on). Adaptive QoS simplifies the implementation of policies to keep your workloads within prescribed minimum and maximum throughput targets.

Stay ahead of business changes with seamless scalability

You can start small and grow with your business by using high-capacity SSDs or HDDs to scale your storage environment. Storage systems that run ONTAP can handle SAN, NAS, and object workloads that range from a few terabytes up to 176PB. You can scale by adding capacity to existing storage controllers or scale out by adding controllers to seamlessly expand your cluster up to 24 nodes.

ONTAP also supports massive NAS data containers that are easy to manage. With NetApp ONTAP FlexGroup, a single namespace can grow to 20PB or 400 billion files while delivering consistent high performance and resiliency.

Future-proof your data infrastructure

ONTAP 9 lets you design and deploy your storage environment across the widest range of architectures, so you can match the approach that's right for your evolving business needs:

- On NetApp hardware systems: AFF all-flash systems, for the best latency for demanding performance, and FAS systems, for a balance of performance and capacity.
- Within a converged infrastructure: FlexPod® converged infrastructure solution from NetApp and Cisco
- As software-defined storage on commodity servers: ONTAP Select
- In the cloud: Cloud Volumes ONTAP

You can move your data seamlessly between architectures to place it in the optimal environment for performance, capacity, and cost efficiency.

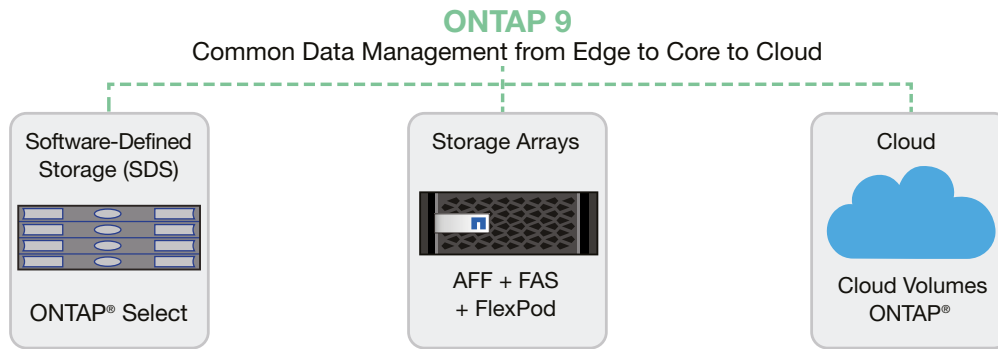


Figure 1) Standardize data management across architectures with a rich set of enterprise data services.

Trusted: Protect and Secure Your Data Across the Hybrid Cloud

Integrated data protection and nondisruptive operations

ONTAP provides NetApp integrated data protection (IDP) to safeguard your operations and keep them running smoothly.

Meet your requirements for local backup with nearly instantaneous recovery by using space-efficient Snapshot copies. Achieve remote backup/recovery and disaster recovery with NetApp SnapMirror® asynchronous replication or with SnapMirror Cloud when replicating data to a cloud object store in a public or private cloud. Or, to step up to zero data loss protection (RPO=0), leverage SnapMirror Synchronous replication.

For your critical applications that require continuous data availability, NetApp MetroCluster™ and SnapMirror Business Continuity technologies synchronously mirror between locations. The storage arrays can be deployed at a single site, across a metropolitan area, or in different cities. MetroCluster is robust, array-based infrastructure for your SAN and NAS workloads. SnapMirror Business Continuity enables flexibility to consolidate multiple workloads and then granularly choose the most critical SAN applications to support with continuous availability if a data center disaster occurs.

With ONTAP, you can service and update your infrastructure during regular work hours without disrupting your business. Dynamically assign, promote, and retire storage resources without downtime over the lifecycle of an application. Data can be moved between controllers without application interruption, so you can get the data on the node that delivers the optimal combination of speed, latency, capacity, and cost.

Robust security

The leading portfolio of security capabilities in ONTAP helps you integrate data security across your hybrid cloud to avoid unauthorized data access and ransomware attacks. With the NetApp Volume Encryption feature that is built in to ONTAP, you can easily and efficiently protect your at-rest data by encrypting any volume on an AFF or FAS system. No special encrypting disks are required. In-flight encryption for backup and replication protects your data in transit. Plus, other features such as multifactor authentication, role-based access control (RBAC), and onboard and external key management increase the security of your data.

Secure consolidation

You can save time and money by sharing the same consolidated infrastructure for workloads or tenants that have different performance, capacity, and security requirements. And with ONTAP, you don't have to worry that the activity in one tenant partition will affect another. With multitenancy, a storage cluster can be subdivided into secure partitions that are governed by rights and permissions.

Rigorous compliance

To meet your stringent compliance and data retention policies, NetApp SnapLock® software enables write once, read many (WORM) protected data for your ONTAP environment. NetApp also provides superior integration with enterprise backup vendors and leading applications. In addition, cryptographic shredding by the NetApp secure purge technology enables you to remediate data spillage online while the system is still in use. It also provides state-of-the-art "right-to-erasure" capability for General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Make a Simple, Straightforward Transition to ONTAP 9

No matter what your starting point is, NetApp streamlines your move to ONTAP 9.

Consult our experts to plan and implement your transition and gain the latest ONTAP advantages from day one. You can use NetApp Services or NetApp Services Certified Partners, you can do it yourself by using our proven tools and processes, or you can combine these approaches.

Plus, when you're running ONTAP, you can use the Managed Upgrade Service to get the most from your investment by ensuring that your ONTAP software is always up to date.

Make your move to ONTAP 9.

About NetApp

In a world full of generalists, NetApp is a specialist. We're focused on one thing, helping your business get the most out of your data. NetApp brings the enterprise-grade data services you rely on into the cloud, and the simple flexibility of cloud into the data center. Our industry-leading solutions work across diverse customer environments and the world's biggest public clouds. As a cloud-led, data-centric software company, only NetApp can help build your unique data fabric, simplify and connect your cloud, and securely deliver the right data, services and applications to the right people—anytime, anywhere.

ONTAP Software and Features

	Function	Benefits
Data compaction	Packs more data into each storage block for greater data reduction	Works with compression to reduce the amount of storage that you need to purchase and operate
Data compression	Provides transparent inline and postprocess data compression for data reduction	Reduces the amount of storage that you need to purchase and maintain
Deduplication	Performs general-purpose deduplication for removal of redundant data	Reduces the amount of storage that you need to purchase and maintain
FabricPool	Automates data tiering to the cloud (public and private)	Decreases storage costs for cold data
FlexCache®	Caches actively read datasets within a cluster and at remote sites	Accelerates read performance for hot datasets by increasing data throughput within a cluster, and improves the speed and productivity of collaboration across multiple locations
FlexClone®	Instantaneously creates file, LUN, and volume clones without requiring additional storage	Saves you time in testing and development and increases your storage capacity
FlexGroup	Enables a single namespace to scale up to 20PB and 400 billion files	Supports compute-intensive workloads and data repositories that require a massive NAS container while maintaining consistent high performance and resiliency
FlexVol®	Creates flexibly sized volumes across a large pool of disks and one or more RAID groups	Enables storage systems to be used at maximum efficiency and reduces hardware investment
MetroCluster	Robust infrastructure that combines array-based clustering with synchronous mirroring to deliver continuous availability and zero data loss for SAN and NAS workloads; up to 700km distance between nodes	Maintains business continuity for critical enterprise applications and workloads if a data center disaster occur

	Function	Benefits
Performance capacity	Provides visibility of performance capacity that is available for deploying new workloads on storage nodes	Simplifies management and enables more effective provisioning of new workloads to the optimal node
QoS (adaptive)	Simplifies setup of QoS policies and automatically allocates storage resources to respond to workload changes (number of terabytes of data, priority of the workload, and so on)	Simplifies operations and maintains consistent workload performance within your prescribed minimum and maximum IOPS boundaries
SnapCenter®	Provides host-based data management of NetApp storage for databases and business applications	Offers application-aware backup and clone management; automates error-free data restores
SnapLock	Provides WORM file-level locking	Supports regulatory compliance and organizational data retention requirements
SnapMirror	Provides integrated remote backup/recovery and disaster recovery with incremental asynchronous data replication; preserves storage efficiency savings during and after data transfer	Provides flexibility and efficiency when replicating data to support remote backup/recovery, disaster recovery, and data distribution
SnapMirror Business Continuity	Combines flexible array-based clustering with more granular synchronous mirroring to deliver continuous availability and zero data loss for SAN workloads	Consolidate all your workloads and decide on the most critical SAN applications to support with continuous availability to maintain business continuity if a data center disaster occurs
SnapMirror Cloud	Provides integrated remote backup/recovery and disaster recovery with incremental asynchronous data replication leveraging S3 cloud resources	Provides flexibility and efficiency when replicating data to a cloud object store in a public or private cloud, to support remote backup/recovery, disaster recovery, and data distribution
SnapMirror Synchronous	Delivers incremental, volume-granular, synchronous data replication; preserves storage efficiency savings during and after data transfer	Achieve zero data loss protection (RPO=0)
SnapRestore®	Rapidly restores single files, directories, or entire LUNs and volumes from any Snapshot copy	Instantaneously recovers files, databases, and complete volumes from your point-in-time Snapshot copy
Snapshot	Makes incremental data-in-place, point-in-time copies of a LUN or a volume with minimal performance impact	Enables you to create frequent space-efficient backups with no disruption to data traffic
NetApp Volume Encryption	Provides data-at-rest encryption that is built into ONTAP	Lets you easily and efficiently protect your at-rest data by encrypting any volume on an AFF or FAS system; no special encrypting disks are required

Table 1) ONTAP 9 offers a robust set of standard and optional features.

