DISASTER RECOVERY WITH IBM CLOUD VIRTUAL SERVERS

Phase 3

Overview

This disaster recovery plan outlines the procedures for recovering virtual machines (VMs) from a disaster using IBM Cloud Virtual Servers. The plan defines the disaster recovery strategy, including RTO (Recovery Time Objective), RPO (Recovery Point Objective), and VM priority. It also sets up regular backups of the on-premises VMs using backup tools or scripts.

Disaster Recovery Strategy

The disaster recovery strategy is based on using IBM Cloud Virtual Servers as a secondary site for replicating and recovering VMs. This strategy provides several benefits, including:

- High availability: IBM Cloud Virtual Servers offers high availability features, such as zone redundancy and load balancing, which can help to ensure that your VMs are always available.
- Scalability: IBM Cloud Virtual Servers can be easily scaled up or down to meet your changing needs.
- Cost-effectiveness: IBM Cloud Virtual Servers is a cost-effective solution for disaster recovery, as you only pay for the resources that you use.

RTO and RPO

RTO is the time it takes to restore your VMs to a usable state after a disaster. RPO is the maximum amount of data that you can afford to lose in a disaster.

The RTO and RPO for your VMs will depend on your specific business needs. However, a typical RTO for business-critical VMs is 4 hours, and a typical RPO is 24 hours.

VM Priority

Not all VMs are created equal. Some VMs are more critical to your business than others. Therefore, it is important to prioritize your VMs for recovery.

A typical VM priority scheme is as follows:

- Tier 1: High-priority VMs that must be recovered within minutes.
- Tier 2: Medium-priority VMs that must be recovered within hours.
- Tier 3: Low-priority VMs that can be recovered within days.

Backups

Regular backups of your on-premises VMs are essential for disaster recovery. You can use backup tools or scripts to automate the backup process.

The frequency of your backups will depend on your RPO. For example, if your RPO is 24 hours, you should back up your VMs at least once per day.

Recovery Procedure

In the event of a disaster, follow these steps to recover your VMs:

1. Assess the situation and determine the extent of the damage.
2. Declare a disaster and activate the disaster recovery plan.
3. Fail over your VMs to IBM Cloud Virtual Servers.
4. Restore data from your backups.
5. Validate that your VMs are functioning properly.
6. Notify all stakeholders that the disaster recovery has been completed.

Testing

It is important to test your disaster recovery plan regularly to ensure that it is effective. You can test your plan by simulating a disaster and recovering your VMs to IBM Cloud Virtual Servers.

Conclusion

By following this disaster recovery plan, you can help to ensure that your business can recover from a disaster quickly and minimize downtime.