



Planning your Cloud Volumes ONTAP configuration in AWS

Cloud Manager

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Table of Contents

- Planning your Cloud Volumes ONTAP configuration in AWS 1
 - Viewing supported regions 1
 - Choosing a license type 1
 - Choosing a supported instance 1
 - Choosing a configuration that supports Flash Cache 1
 - Understanding storage limits 1
 - Sizing your system in AWS 1
 - Preparing to deploy Cloud Volumes ONTAP in an AWS Outpost 3
 - AWS network information worksheet 3
 - Choosing a write speed 4
 - Choosing a volume usage profile 4

Planning your Cloud Volumes ONTAP configuration in AWS

When you deploy Cloud Volumes ONTAP in AWS, you can choose a preconfigured system that matches your workload requirements, or you can create your own configuration. If you choose your own configuration, you should understand the options available to you.

Viewing supported regions

Cloud Volumes ONTAP is supported in most AWS regions. [View the full list of supported regions.](#)

Newer AWS regions must be enabled before you can create and manage resources in those regions. [Learn how to enable a region.](#)

Choosing a license type

A few licensing options are available for Cloud Volumes ONTAP. Each of these licensing options enables you to choose a configuration that meets your needs.

[Supported configurations for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in AWS](#)

Choosing a supported instance

Cloud Volumes ONTAP supports several instance types, depending on the license type that you choose.

[Supported configurations for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in AWS](#)

Choosing a configuration that supports Flash Cache

Some Cloud Volumes ONTAP configurations in AWS include local NVMe storage, which Cloud Volumes ONTAP uses as *Flash Cache* for better performance. [Learn more about Flash Cache.](#)

Understanding storage limits

The raw capacity limit for a Cloud Volumes ONTAP system is tied to the license. Additional limits impact the size of aggregates and volumes. You should be aware of these limits as you plan your configuration.

[Storage limits for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in AWS](#)

Sizing your system in AWS

Sizing your Cloud Volumes ONTAP system can help you meet requirements for performance and capacity. You should be aware of a few key points when choosing an instance type, disk type, and disk size:

Instance type

- Match your workload requirements to the maximum throughput and IOPS for each EC2 instance type.

- If several users write to the system at the same time, choose an instance type that has enough CPUs to manage the requests.
- If you have an application that is mostly reads, then choose a system with enough RAM.
 - [AWS Documentation: Amazon EC2 Instance Types](#)
 - [AWS Documentation: Amazon EBS–Optimized Instances](#)

EBS disk type

At a high level, the differences between EBS disk types are as follows. To learn more about the use cases for EBS disks, refer to [AWS Documentation: EBS Volume Types](#).

- *General Purpose SSD (gp3)* disks are the lowest-cost SSDs that balance cost and performance for a broad range of workloads. Performance is defined in terms of IOPS and throughput. gp3 disks are supported with Cloud Volumes ONTAP 9.7 and later.

When you select a gp3 disk, Cloud Manager fills in default IOPS and throughput values that provide performance that is equivalent to a gp2 disk based on the selected disk size. You can increase the values to get better performance at a higher cost, but we do not support lower values because it can result in inferior performance. In short, stick with the default values or increase them. Don't lower them. [Learn more about gp3 disks and their performance](#).

- *General Purpose SSD (gp2)* disks balance cost and performance for a broad range of workloads. Performance is defined in terms of IOPS.
- *Provisioned IOPS SSD (io1)* disks are for critical applications that require the highest performance at a higher cost.
- *Throughput Optimized HDD (st1)* disks are for frequently accessed workloads that require fast and consistent throughput at a lower price.



Tiering data to object storage is not recommended when using Throughput Optimized HDDs (st1).

EBS disk size

You need to choose an initial disk size when you launch a Cloud Volumes ONTAP system. After that, you can [let Cloud Manager manage a system's capacity for you](#), but if you want to [build aggregates yourself](#), be aware of the following:

- All disks in an aggregate must be the same size.
- The performance of EBS disks is tied to disk size. The size determines the baseline IOPS and maximum burst duration for SSD disks and the baseline and burst throughput for HDD disks.
- Ultimately, you should choose the disk size that gives you the *sustained performance* that you need.
- Even if you do choose larger disks (for example, six 4 TiB disks), you might not get all of the IOPS because the EC2 instance can reach its bandwidth limit.

For more details about EBS disk performance, refer to [AWS Documentation: EBS Volume Types](#).

Watch the following video for more details about sizing your Cloud Volumes ONTAP system in AWS:



Preparing to deploy Cloud Volumes ONTAP in an AWS Outpost

If you have an AWS Outpost, you can deploy Cloud Volumes ONTAP in that Outpost by selecting the Outpost VPC in the Working Environment wizard. The experience is the same as any other VPC that resides in AWS. Note that you will need to first deploy a Connector in your AWS Outpost.

There are a few limitations to point out:

- Only single node Cloud Volumes ONTAP systems are supported at this time
- The EC2 instances that you can use with Cloud Volumes ONTAP are limited to what's available in your Outpost
- Only General Purpose SSDs (gp2) are supported at this time

AWS network information worksheet

When you launch Cloud Volumes ONTAP in AWS, you need to specify details about your VPC network. You can use a worksheet to collect the information from your administrator.

Network information for Cloud Volumes ONTAP

AWS information	Your value
Region	
VPC	
Subnet	

AWS information	Your value
Security group (if using your own)	

Network information for an HA pair in multiple AZs

AWS information	Your value
Region	
VPC	
Security group (if using your own)	
Node 1 availability zone	
Node 1 subnet	
Node 2 availability zone	
Node 2 subnet	
Mediator availability zone	
Mediator subnet	
Key pair for the mediator	
Floating IP address for cluster management port	
Floating IP address for data on node 1	
Floating IP address for data on node 2	
Route tables for floating IP addresses	

Choosing a write speed

Cloud Manager enables you to choose a write speed setting for Cloud Volumes ONTAP. Before you choose a write speed, you should understand the differences between the normal and high settings and risks and recommendations when using high write speed. [Learn more about write speed.](#)

Choosing a volume usage profile

ONTAP includes several storage efficiency features that can reduce the total amount of storage that you need. When you create a volume in Cloud Manager, you can choose a profile that enables these features or a profile that disables them. You should learn more about these features to help you decide which profile to use.

NetApp storage efficiency features provide the following benefits:

Thin provisioning

Presents more logical storage to hosts or users than you actually have in your physical storage pool. Instead of preallocating storage space, storage space is allocated dynamically to each volume as data is written.

Deduplication

Improves efficiency by locating identical blocks of data and replacing them with references to a single shared block. This technique reduces storage capacity requirements by eliminating redundant blocks of data that reside in the same volume.

Compression

Reduces the physical capacity required to store data by compressing data within a volume on primary, secondary, and archive storage.

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