Planning your Cloud Volumes ONTAP configuration in Google Cloud

Cloud Manager

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October 01, 2021

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When you deploy Cloud Volumes ONTAP in Google Cloud, 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.

Choosing a license type

Cloud Volumes ONTAP is available in two pricing options: pay-as-you-go and Bring Your Own License (BYOL). For pay-as-you-go, you can choose from three licenses: Explore, Standard, or Premium. Each license provides different capacity and compute options.

Supported configurations for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in GCP

Supported machine types

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

Supported configurations for Cloud Volumes ONTAP in GCP

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 GCP

Sizing your system in GCP

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 a machine type, disk type, and disk size:

Machine type

Look at the supported machine types in the Cloud Volumes ONTAP Release Notes and then review details from Google about each supported machine type. Match your workload requirements to the number of vCPUs and memory for the machine type. Note that each CPU core increases networking performance.

Refer to the following for more details:

- Google Cloud documentation: N1 standard machine types
- Google Cloud documentation: Performance

GCP disk type

When you create volumes for Cloud Volumes ONTAP, you need to choose the underlying cloud storage that Cloud Volumes ONTAP uses for a disk. The disk type can be any of the following:

- *Zonal SSD persistent disks*: SSD persistent disks are best for workloads that require high rates of

random IOPS.

- *Zonal Balanced persistent disks*: These SSDs balance performance and cost by providing lower IOPS per GB.
- *Zonal Standard persistent disks* : Standard persistent disks are economical and can handle sequential read/write operations.

  For more details, see Google Cloud documentation: Zonal Persistent disks (Standard and SSD).

GCP disk size

You need to choose an initial disk size when you deploy 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.
- Determine the space that you need, while taking performance into consideration.
- The performance of persistent disks scales automatically with disk size and the number of vCPUs available to the system.

  Refer to the following for more details:

  - Google Cloud documentation: Zonal Persistent disks (Standard and SSD)
  - Google Cloud documentation: Optimizing Persistent Disk and Local SSD Performance

GCP network information worksheet

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

Network information for a single-node system

GCP information	Your value
Region	
Zone	
VPC network	
Subnet	
Firewall policy (if using your own)	

Network information for an HA pair in multiple zones

GCP information	Your value
Region	
Zone for Node 1	
Zone for Node 2	
Zone for the mediator	

GCP information	Your value
VPC-0 and subnet	
VPC-1 and subnet	
VPC-2 and subnet	
VPC-3 and subnet	
Firewall policy (if using your own)	

Network information for an HA pair in a single zone

GCP information	Your value
Region	
Zone	
VPC-0 and subnet	
VPC-1 and subnet	
VPC-2 and subnet	
VPC-3 and subnet	
Firewall policy (if using your own)	

Choosing a write speed

Cloud Manager enables you to choose a write speed setting for Cloud Volumes ONTAP, except for high availability (HA) pairs in Google Cloud. 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.