



# **Cable storage arrays to FC switches in a MetroCluster configuration**

ONTAP MetroCluster

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# Cable storage arrays to FC switches in a MetroCluster configuration

## Cabling storage arrays to FC switches in a MetroCluster configuration

You must connect storage arrays to FC switches so that the ONTAP systems in the MetroCluster configuration can access a specific array LUN through at least two paths.

### Before you begin

- The storage arrays must be set up to present array LUNs to ONTAP.
- The ONTAP controllers must be connected to the FC switches.
- The ISLs must be cabled between the FC switches across the MetroCluster sites.
- You must repeat this task for each storage array at both of the MetroCluster sites.
- You must connect the controllers in a MetroCluster configuration to the storage arrays through FC switches.

### Steps

1. Connect the storage array ports to FC switch ports.

At each site, connect the redundant port pairs in the storage array to FC switches on alternate fabrics. This provides redundancy in the paths for accessing the array LUNs.

### Related information

- [Configuring switch zoning enables you to define which array LUNs can be viewed by a specific ONTAP system in the MetroCluster configuration.](#)

[Switch zoning in a MetroCluster configuration with array LUNs](#)

- In a MetroCluster configuration with array LUNs, you must connect the storage array ports that form a redundant port pair to alternate FC switches.

[Example of cabling storage array ports to FC switches in a two-node MetroCluster configuration](#)

[Example of cabling storage array ports to FC switches in a four-node MetroCluster configuration](#)

[Example of cabling storage array ports to FC switches in an eight-node MetroCluster configuration](#)

## Example of cabling storage array ports to FC switches in a two-node MetroCluster configuration

In a MetroCluster configuration with array LUNs, you must connect the storage array ports that form a redundant port pair to alternate FC switches.

The following illustration shows the connections between storage arrays and FC switches in a two-node fabric-attached MetroCluster configuration with array LUNs:



The connections between storage array ports and FC switch ports are similar for both stretch and fabric-attached variants of two-node MetroCluster configurations with array LUNs.



If you plan to use disks in addition to array LUNs in your MetroCluster configuration, you must use the switch ports specified for the configuration with disks.

[Port assignments for FC switches when using ONTAP 9.1 and later](#)

In the illustration, the redundant array port pairs for both the sites are as follows:

- Storage array at Site A:
  - Ports 1A and 2A
  - Ports 1B and 2B
- Storage array at Site B:
  - Ports 1A' and 2A'
  - Ports 1B' and 2B'

FC\_switch\_A\_1 at Site A and FC\_switch\_B\_1 at Site B are connected to form fabric\_1. Similarly, FC\_switch\_A\_2 at Site A and FC\_switch\_B\_2 are connected to form fabric\_2.

The following table lists the connections between the storage array ports and the FC switches for the example MetroCluster illustration:

Array LUN ports	FC switch ports	Switch fabrics
<b>Site A</b>		
1A	FC_switch_A_1, Port 9	fabric_1
2A	FC_switch_A_2, Port 10	fabric_2
1B	FC_switch_A_1, Port 10	fabric_1

2B	FC_switch_A_2, Port 9	fabric_2
<b>Site B</b>		
1A'	FC_switch_B_1, Port 9	fabric_1
2A'	FC_switch_B_2, Port 10	fabric_2
1B'	FC_switch_B_1, Port 10	fabric_1
2B'	FC_switch_B_2, Port 9	fabric_2

## Example of cabling storage array ports to FC switches in a four-node MetroCluster configuration

In a MetroCluster configuration with array LUNs, you must connect the storage array ports that form a redundant port pair to alternate FC switches.

The following reference illustration shows the connections between storage arrays and FC switches in a four-node MetroCluster configuration with array LUNs:



If you plan to use disks in addition to array LUNs in your MetroCluster configuration, you must use the switch ports specified for the configuration with disks.

[Port assignments for FC switches when using ONTAP 9.1 and later](#)

In the illustration, the redundant array port pairs for both the sites are as follows:

- Storage array at Site A:

- Ports 1A and 2A
- Ports 1B and 2B
- Ports 1C and 2C
- Ports 1D and 2D
- Storage array at Site B:
  - Ports 1A' and 2A'
  - Ports 1B' and 2B'
  - Ports 1C' and 2C'
  - Ports 1D' and 2D'

FC\_switch\_A\_1 at Site A and FC\_switch\_B\_1 at Site B are connected to form fabric\_1. Similarly, FC\_switch\_A\_2 at Site A and FC\_switch\_B\_2 are connected to form fabric\_2.

The following table lists the connections between the storage array ports and the FC switches for the MetroCluster illustration:

Array LUN ports	FC switch ports	Switch fabrics
<b>Site A</b>		
1A	FC_switch_A_1, Port 7	fabric_1
2A	FC_switch_A_2, Port 11	fabric_2
1B	FC_switch_A_1, Port 8	fabric_1
2B	FC_switch_A_2, Port 10	fabric_2
1C	FC_switch_A_1, Port 9	fabric_1
2C	FC_switch_A_2, Port 9	fabric_2
1D	FC_switch_A_1, Port 10	fabric_1
2D	FC_switch_A_2, Port 8	fabric_2
<b>Site B</b>		
1A'	FC_switch_B_1, Port 7	fabric_1
2A'	FC_switch_B_2, Port 11	fabric_2
1B'	FC_switch_B_1, Port 8	fabric_1
2B'	FC_switch_B_2, Port 10	fabric_2

1C'	FC_switch_B_1, Port 9	fabric_1
2C'	FC_switch_B_2, Port 9	fabric_2
1D'	FC_switch_B_1, Port 10	fabric_1
2D'	FC_switch_B_2, Port 8	fabric_2

## Example of cabling storage array ports to FC switches in an eight-node MetroCluster configuration

In a MetroCluster configuration with array LUNs, you must connect the storage array ports that form a redundant port pair to alternate FC switches.

An eight-node MetroCluster configuration consists of two four-node DR groups. The first DR group consists of the following nodes:

- controller\_A\_1
- controller\_A\_2
- controller\_B\_1
- controller\_B\_2

The second DR group consists of the following nodes:

- controller\_A\_3
- controller\_A\_4
- controller\_B\_3
- controller\_B\_4

To cable the array ports for the first DR group, you can use the cabling examples for a four-node MetroCluster configuration for the first DR group.

### [Example of cabling storage array ports to FC switches in a four-node MetroCluster configuration](#)

To cable the array ports for the second DR group, follow the same examples and extrapolate for the FC-VI ports and FC initiator ports belonging to the controllers in the second DR group.

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