



1



Introduction

1

Allows you to prevent the deletion of an object or the modification of its version for a fixed amount of time or indefinitely.

2

This can help you protect your data from accidental or malicious deletions and modifications.

2



Terminology

1

Retention mode

1



Introduction

Rules that determine how strictly an S3 object version is protected from modification or deletion for a set period of time.

2

Governance Mode

Objects are locked, but users with special permissions can change the lock settings or delete the object

1

[s3:BypassGovernanceRetention](#)

2

[s3:PutObjectRetention](#)

3

Compliance Mode

Objects are locked and cannot be changed or deleted by anyone, including the root account, until the retention period ends.

2

Retention period

Retention period in S3 Object Lock refers to the standard duration for which objects will be locked when you enable retention on a bucket.

3

Legal Hold

1

In addition to retention periods, you can also apply a legal hold on an object

2

A legal hold provides the same protection as a retention period but does not have a predefined expiration date.

3

This can be useful in scenarios such as legal investigations when you do not know when the need to retain the data will end.

1

Access Permissions

1

Ensure that you have the necessary permissions to manage Object Lock settings

2

This can be achieved through IAM permissions or by setting a bucket policy. Typically, the required permissions include

1

[s3:PutObjectLegalHold](#)

2

[s3:PutObjectRetention](#)

3

[s3:GetObjectRetention](#)

2

Versioning

Before you can turn on Object Lock, bucket versioning must be enabled.

3

Object Lock



1

Disable

By default, Object Lock is disabled on AWS S3 buckets

2

Enable

1 Enabling Object Lock on an AWS S3 bucket means activating a specific feature that allows you to apply retention policies and legal holds to objects stored in that bucket.

2 Once Amazon S3 Object Lock is enabled, you can't disable Object Lock or suspend Versioning for the bucket

4

Default Retention

1

Disable

1

You want complete control over which objects have Object Lock

2

You have varying object lifespan needs within a bucket

3

Flexibility to modify or remove protections easily is a priority

2

Enable

1

You want a consistent layer of protection for objects in a bucket

2

Compliance regulations mandate data immutability

3

You wish to streamline object protection and reduce manual configuration