



# Select a network topology

## HCI

Michael Wallis  
October 09, 2020

This PDF was generated from [https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/hci/docs/task\\_nde\\_select\\_net\\_topology.html](https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/hci/docs/task_nde_select_net_topology.html) on November 23, 2020. Always check docs.netapp.com for the latest.

# Table of Contents

Select a network topology ..... 1

# Select a network topology

When cabling NetApp HCI nodes, you have the option of using different network cable configurations depending on your needs. For each compute node, you can use all six network ports, with different types of traffic assigned to each pair of ports, or you can use two ports with all types of traffic assigned to the ports. Storage nodes use the standard four-cable configuration. Your choice affects which compute nodes are selectable in the inventory.

## *What you'll need*

If you choose the two-cable network topology for compute nodes, consider the following requirements:

- You have a VMware vSphere Enterprise Plus license ready to apply after deployment is complete.
- You have verified that the configuration of your network and network switches is correct.
- VLAN tagging is required for storage and vMotion networks for all compute and storage nodes.

## *Steps*

1. On the **Network Topology** page, select a compute node topology that fits the way you installed compute nodes for NetApp HCI:
  - **6 Cable Option:** The six-cable option provides dedicated ports for each type of traffic (management, virtual machine, and storage). You can optionally enable vSphere Distributed Switch (VDS). Enabling VDS configures a distributed switch, enabling simplified, centralized management of virtual machine network configuration after NetApp HCI deployment is complete. If you enable it, you must have a vSphere Enterprise Plus license ready to apply after deployment.
  - **2 Cable Option:** The two-cable option combines management, virtual machine, and storage traffic on two bonded ports. This cabling option requires VDS, and automatically enables it. You must have a vSphere Enterprise Plus license ready to apply after deployment.
2. Some cabling options display multiple back panel views of different types of node hardware. Cycle through the back panel views to see how to connect the network cables for that specific node model and cabling option.
3. When finished, click **Continue**.

## Find more information

- [Firmware and driver versions in NetApp HCI and NetApp Element software](#)

## Copyright Information

Copyright © 2020 NetApp, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S. No part of this document covered by copyright may be reproduced in any form or by any means-graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or storage in an electronic retrieval system-without prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Software derived from copyrighted NetApp material is subject to the following license and disclaimer:

THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED BY NETAPP “AS IS” AND WITHOUT ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WHICH ARE HEREBY DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL NETAPP BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

NetApp reserves the right to change any products described herein at any time, and without notice. NetApp assumes no responsibility or liability arising from the use of products described herein, except as expressly agreed to in writing by NetApp. The use or purchase of this product does not convey a license under any patent rights, trademark rights, or any other intellectual property rights of NetApp.

The product described in this manual may be protected by one or more U.S. patents, foreign patents, or pending applications.

RESTRICTED RIGHTS LEGEND: Use, duplication, or disclosure by the government is subject to restrictions as set forth in subparagraph (c)(1)(ii) of the Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software clause at DFARS 252.277-7103 (October 1988) and FAR 52-227-19 (June 1987).

## Trademark Information

NETAPP, the NETAPP logo, and the marks listed at <http://www.netapp.com/TM> are trademarks of NetApp, Inc. Other company and product names may be trademarks of their respective owners.