- The target nodes are scanned for disks to match specific criteria.
- The default namespace for the Local Storage operator is *openshift-local-storage*.

The `Internal` installation mode has the following advantages:

- Automated deployment of the Ceph cluster.
- Automated administrative tasks and monitoring.
- Integrated Dashboard with OpenShift Container Platform.
- Straightforward deployment with the OpenShift Container Platform back-end infrastructure.
- Hyperconverged infrastructure (with worker nodes).
- Lifecycle management and auto-update strategies.

> **Important**
>
> In an `Internal` storage installation, the integrated Ceph Storage cluster can be used only by the OpenShift Container Platform cluster where it is installed.

External installation mode

The `External` installation mode uses an existing Ceph Storage cluster that is expected to be in a healthy state. The OpenShift Container Platform cluster operates the resources that are created inside the storage cluster, but it does not monitor, update, or manage the cluster daemons or configuration.

The OpenShift Container Platform and the Ceph Storage cluster must meet certain conditions to correctly integrate the storage cluster.

- The OpenShift Container Platform version is 4.8 or above.
- OpenShift Container Storage 4.8 is installed.
- Ceph Storage 4.2z1 or later is installed. Ceph Storage 5 is not yet supported.
- The Ceph Storage dashboard is installed and configured.
- The external Ceph Storage cluster enables the PG Autoscaler with target_size_ratio of 0.49, as Red Hat recommends.
- The external Ceph cluster has an existing preconfigured RBD pool for use.

The `External` installation mode has the following advantages:

- The Ceph Storage cluster can use advanced customization.
- Storage can scale independently from the OpenShift Container Platform infrastructure.
- The external Ceph Storage cluster can support multiple OpenShift Container Platform clusters by creating separate pools.
- Object devices can be accessed and isolated between different OpenShift Container Platform clusters.
- OpenShift Container Platform Compute resource consumption is less than in `Internal` mode.