

Here are five **Dos and Don'ts** for developers using Google Cloud Platform (GCP) to avoid extra costs:

Dos

1. **Use the Free Tier:**
Take advantage of GCP's free tier services (e.g., Compute Engine, Cloud Storage) and monitor usage to stay within limits.
 2. **Set Budget Alerts:**
Create a budget in GCP Billing and set alerts to notify you when your spending reaches certain thresholds.
 3. **Right-size Resources:**
Select the smallest machine types and configurations needed for your workload. Scale up only when necessary.
 4. **Turn Off Idle Resources:**
Stop or delete resources (e.g., VMs, Cloud Functions) that aren't being used to avoid paying for idle time.
 5. **Use Preemptible VMs for Batch Jobs:**
For non-critical tasks, use preemptible VMs—they are significantly cheaper than regular VMs.
-

Don'ts

1. **Don't Forget to Set Up Auto-scaling:**
Not setting auto-scaling can lead to over-provisioning and higher costs when traffic spikes.
2. **Don't Store Data Without Lifecycle Rules:**
Storing data indefinitely without applying lifecycle policies can lead to ballooning storage costs.
3. **Don't Ignore Network Costs:**
Be cautious about data egress charges (data leaving GCP). Keep data processing within the same region.
4. **Don't Overlook Billing Reports:**
Regularly review billing reports to spot unusual charges or unnecessary resources.
5. **Don't Leave Default Settings:**
Default configurations (e.g., high-tier VM instances or unused APIs) might cost more. Always review and customize settings.