

Set Object Lifecycle Rules to Auto-Delete Files

1. Here we are using a bucket from the previous lab, and it also has an object in it. Go to **Cloud Storage** → **Buckets** → click your bucket.

📁 gcs-lab-101

Location	Storage class	Public access	Protection
asia-south1 (Mumbai)	Standard	Not public	Soft Delete

Objects Configuration Permissions Protection Lifecycle Observability Inventory Reports Operations

Folder browser <

Buckets > gcs-lab-101 📁

Create folder Upload ▾ Transfer data ▾ Other services ▾ Learn

Filter by name prefix only ▾ Filter Filter objects and folders Show Live objects only ▾ ☰

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Size	Type	Created ⓘ	
<input type="checkbox"/>	📄 Athena_Report.pdf	1.5 MB	application/pdf	May 15, 2025, 10:49:46	⬇️ ⋮

2. Click on the **Lifecycle** tab. Click **Add a rule**.

← Bucket details [Go to path](#) [Refresh](#)

Location	Storage class	Public access	Protection
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Objects Configuration Permissions Protection **Lifecycle** Observability Inventory Reports Operations

ⓘ After you add or edit a rule, it may take up to 24 hours to take effect.

Lifecycle rules let you apply actions to a bucket's objects when certain conditions are met — for example, switching objects to colder storage classes when they reach or pass a certain age. [Learn more](#)

If an object meets the conditions for multiple rules:

- Deletion takes precedence over a change in storage class.
- Changing objects to colder storage classes takes precedence over changing to warmer ones (ex. objects will switch to the Archive storage class instead of Coldline if there are rules for both).

Rules **Add a rule** Delete all

Action	Object condition	Works with
You haven't added any lifecycle rules to this bucket.		

3. Our first option is to select an action for the object inside our bucket. So, we are choosing Delete object. Click on Continue.

After you add or edit a rule, it may take up to 24 hours to take effect.

• Select an action

- ☐ Set storage class to Nearline
Best for backups and data accessed less than once a month
- ☐ Set storage class to Coldline
Best for disaster recovery and data accessed less than once a quarter
- ☐ Set storage class to Archive
Best for long-term digital preservation of data accessed less than once a year
- ☒ Delete object



Objects cannot be restored after deletion, unless you have object versioning or soft delete enabled. You could also incur early deletion charges for objects set to Nearline, Coldline, or Archive storage classes.

[Learn more](#)

- ☐ Delete multi-part upload
Sets a time limit and removes unfinished or idle multi-part uploads

4. Then we are going to select object conditions, our first condition is the object name prefix (you can choose to give a suffix as well). Our second condition is the age of the object.

• Select object conditions

This rule will apply the action to current and future objects or multi-part uploads that meet all the selected conditions below. [Learn more](#)

Set Rule Scopes

Use prefix and suffix rule scopes to filter objects by their paths. You can specify up to 50 prefix and 50 suffix matches per bucket, across all rules.

- ☒ Object name matches prefix

Add prefixes *

Athena X

Beginning of the object path must match any of the specified prefixes exactly (case-sensitive) for the action to apply

[Clear All](#)

Set Conditions

☒ Age [?](#)

Enter age * days

Age is counted from when an object was uploaded to the current bucket, even if it moved from another

- ☐ Created before [?](#)
- ☐ Storage class matches
- ☐ Number of newer versions [?](#)
- ☐ Days since becoming noncurrent [?](#)
- ☐ Became noncurrent before [?](#)
- ☐ Live state
- ☐ Days since custom time [?](#)
- ☐ Custom time before [?](#)

[Continue](#)

[Create](#)

[Cancel](#)

5. In the end, we just create the condition to set lifecycle rules for the bucket. Below you can see our only rule.

Rules [Add a rule](#) [Delete all](#)

Action	Object condition	Works with
Delete object	7+ days since object was created Name matches prefix 'Athena'	 