

AvePoint Cloud Backup vs. Native Microsoft 365 Backup & Restore Capabilities

Overview

AvePoint Online Services is a multi-tenant Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) offering from AvePoint, hosted on Microsoft's Azure Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) technology, and certified by ISO 27001:2013, FedRAMP, SOC 2 Type II, CSA, and IRAP. With a unified, browser-based user interface and a fully-distributed architecture, AvePoint Online Services integrates AvePoint's powerful data migration, management and protection technologies into a highly scalable solution for Microsoft 365 applications including SharePoint Online, Exchange Online, Project Online, Microsoft 365 Groups, Teams, OneDrive for Business, Planner, and Public Folders. No installation and minimal configuration makes getting to the cloud a breeze!

Product Comparison

AvePoint Cloud Backup empowers organizations with automatic backups and granular, item-level restoration capabilities according to organizational Service Level Agreements (SLAs) to satisfy data protection and retention requirements.

Retention policies and backup are two separate concerns, often managed by separate teams. Retention policies are managed by Compliance, Legal, and Records team that directly relate to content and legal discovery. This is truly designed to manage content "in place". While this can cover against the single use case of accidental deletion (see potential scenarios outlined below), it does not protect against all threats to document integrity. Backups are managed by IT and are intended to have a point-in-time recovery of content, independently managed and owned by a customer, that can be brought in for a number of use cases!

With AvePoint Cloud Backup...

- **Accident-proof SLAs**

Meet stringent SLAs with automatic backups up to four times a day (or every 6 hours*), and get the flexibility to customize your SLAs for RPO and RTO, instead of relying on Microsoft's default restoration and retention policy.

- **Own your data**

Maintain full access and control over your backup data, not just what's in your Recycle Bins. Need to store backup files for a longer term (than the 15-30 days provided by Microsoft)? No problem! Compress and encrypt on the storage platform of your choice.

- **Recover on your terms**

You select what and where. Need access to a backup from more than two weeks ago? Need access to files during any service disruption? Perform in-place or out-of-place restores for granular objects or content, without overwriting valuable data since the last backup or having to go through Microsoft Support.



What kinds of scenarios are you covered by Microsoft 365 and Cloud Backup?

Scenarios	M365 E3	M365 E5	AvePoint Cloud Backup
Ransomware attack	YES BUT... Within 30 days using Files Restore.	YES BUT... Within 30 days using Files Restore.	YES Multi-year, point-in-time recovery.
Microsoft 365 outage	NO	NO	YES AND... Can recover data on-prem.
Broken permissions	NO	NO	YES Security only restore to rollback unintended or broken permissions.
Corrupted files	YES View and restore from previous versions.	YES View and restore from previous versions.	YES Recover content to a specific point in time using a simple calendar based interface.
Staff turnover	YES Utilize retention policies.	YES Utilize retention policies.	YES Protect and retain their data.
Hold your own data	NO	NO	YES AND... Choose default AvePoint Azure storage or bring your own storage (BYOS).



Why do I need Microsoft 365 backup? Learn more from the detailed features comparison.

Features		M365 E3	M365 E5	AvePoint Cloud Backup
Automatic backup		YES BUT... Backups are automatically taken every 12 hours.	YES BUT... Backups are automatically taken every 12 hours.	YES AND... Backups are automatic, as often as every 6 hours, up to 4X per day.
Restore granularity	Site collection	YES BUT... Need to contact Microsoft with unknown RTO.	YES BUT... Need to contact Microsoft with unknown RTO.	YES AND... Restore the lost content from Cloud Backup directly and speedily.
	Site	YES	YES	YES
	List/Library	LIMITED SUPPORT From Recycle Bins only.	LIMITED SUPPORT From Recycle Bins only.	YES
	Folder			YES
	Item/Document			YES

Features		M365 E3	M365 E5	AvePoint Cloud Backup
	Document Version	LIMITED SUPPORT All versions will be automatically included if restoring the document from the recycle bin.	LIMITED SUPPORT All versions will be automatically included if restoring the document from the recycle bin.	YES AND... Support restoring only the latest version for the best performance.
	Mailbox	YES	YES	YES
	User Calendar	YES	YES	YES
	Teams Channel	YES BUT... Users can only restore channels that were deleted within up to 30 days. After 30 days, a deleted channel and its content are permanently deleted and no longer recoverable.	YES BUT... Users can only restore channels that were deleted within up to 30 days. After 30 days, a deleted channel and its content are permanently deleted and no longer recoverable.	YES
	Teams Conversations/chats	YES BUT... Conversations and chats will be permanently deleted after 1-7 days that the retention period expired.	YES BUT... Conversations and chats will be permanently deleted after 1-7 days that the retention period expired.	YES
Supported storage locations for backup data	Microsoft Azure	NO Customers have no access to their own backup data.	NO Customers have no access to their own backup data.	YES AND... AvePoint Cloud Backup supports data encryption and compression on numerous storage platforms.
	Amazon S3			
	Dropbox			
	FTP			
	SFTP			
Preserve workflow definitions		LIMITED SUPPORT Microsoft manages backups of Microsoft 365 databases and content. All content and configurations are backed up. However, users can only restore entire site collections or individual lists/libraries from the recycle bin, overwriting data since the last backup.	LIMITED SUPPORT Microsoft manages backups of Microsoft 365 databases and content. All content and configurations are backed up. However, users can only restore entire site collections or individual lists/libraries from the recycle bin, overwriting data since the last backup.	YES

Features		M365 E3	M365 E5	AvePoint Cloud Backup
Restore methods	Time-based restore – Restore any object based on specified backup time	LIMITED SUPPORT Backups are performed every 12 hours and retained in recycle bins for 30 days for some Exchange items, and up to 93 days for SP and OD items. Specific items, files, lists, or libraries can be restored directly from the SharePoint Online recycle bin.	LIMITED SUPPORT Backups are performed every 12 hours and retained in recycle bins for 30 days for some Exchange items, and up to 93 days for SP and OD items. Specific items, files, lists, or libraries can be restored directly from the SharePoint Online recycle bin.	YES
	Object-based restore – Directly locate the objects you want to restore by utilizing full-text search capability	NO	NO	YES
Restore types	In-place restore	YES	YES	YES
	Out-of-place restore	NO For Microsoft-maintained backup data, out of place restore is not permitted.	NO For Microsoft-maintained backup data, out of place restore is not permitted.	YES
	Restore to storage location	NO	NO	YES AND... Export without Microsoft 365 being activated.
Container level conflict resolution when restoring	Merge	NO	NO	YES
	Replace	NO	NO	YES
	Append container level content named “_1”	YES	YES	YES
Content level conflict resolution when restoring	Skip	NO	NO	YES
	Overwrite	NO	NO	YES
	Overwrite by last modified time	NO	NO	YES
	Append an item/document named “_1”	YES	YES	YES

Features		M365 E3	M365 E5	AvePoint Cloud Backup
Conflict Resolution for App Data	Skip	NO	NO	YES
	Overwrite	YES	YES	YES
Version restore	Restore all versions	YES	YES	YES
	Restore a specified number of latest versions	NO	NO	YES
Granular restore of security (user/group permission)		NO	NO	YES
Granular restore of item/object properties				YES
Granular restore of views				YES
Granular restore of workflow definition and item history				YES
Data encryption		YES	YES	YES AND... AvePoint provides unique keys for each client by default, ensuring data can't be decrypted without their prior authorization.
Unlimited retention for backup data		NO	NO	YES AND... AvePoint provides long-term retention policies out-of-the-box and supports defining custom retention terms for backup data.
End user restore		YES BUT... From Recycle Bins only, items will be retained for 30 days for Exchange and up to 93 days for SharePoint and OneDrive.	YES BUT... From Recycle Bins only, items will be retained for 30 days for Exchange and up to 93 days for SharePoint and OneDrive.	YES AND... AvePoint allows users to find and restore lost content via Teams chat-bot easily.

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