IBM Spectrum Protect Plus

Simplify data recovery and data reuse for VMs, databases, applications and containers

Organizations struggle with the cost and complexity of protecting data as they embrace digital transformation, manage massive data growth, and tackle the requirements of always-on services. Moreover, virtual machines (VMs) are ubiquitous and containerized workloads are becoming more prevalent, so providing backup and recovery for physical, virtual, and containerized workloads on-premises and in the cloud is critical to an organization’s success.

Given these challenges, companies seek an integrated data protection solution designed for hybrid multicloud environments.

IBM Spectrum Protect Plus provides near-instant recovery, replication, reuse, and retention for VMs, databases, applications and containers in hybrid multicloud environments. The solution is easy to deploy as a virtual appliance and the agentless architecture is easy to maintain. SLA-based policies automate data protection processes, including operational backups, data replication and data retention. Role-based access control (RBAC) and application integration enable self-service data reuse to improve the speed and efficacy of analytics, development, and testing.

Cost-effective data retention and disaster recovery are achieved via data copy and archival to on-premises and cloud-based object storage, as well as IBM Spectrum Protect for data archival on physical or virtual tape. Cyber resiliency is supported with object storage that utilizes write-once-read-many (WORM) technology and the ability to air-gap data on physical tape via integration of IBM Spectrum Protect.
Management simplicity

IBM Spectrum Protect Plus unifies protection for multiple workloads, including VMs, databases, applications, and containers.

The IBM Spectrum Protect Plus drilldown dashboard with built-in alerting provides timely status information.

SLA-centric management with pre-defined and custom policy workflows automates the entire data protection lifecycle, including operational data recovery, data replication and long-term data retention. Policy-based workflows also eliminate the need for specialized tools and scripting.

To streamline ongoing operations, IBM Spectrum Protect Plus has a drilldown dashboard with built-in alerting that provides status information, such as a quick view of storage utilization and data protection status. Alerts are tied to the event log, so administrators are notified before potential issues become a real problem, such as when storage threshold limits are approaching.

IBM Spectrum Protect Plus RBAC enables secure, self-service data reuse, while REST APIs simplify application and tool integration. This powerful combination improves DR testing, application development, reporting, and analytics.

Enhanced multicloud and container protection

IBM Spectrum Protect plus provides modern data protection for hybrid multicloud environments. For example, Amazon Web Services (AWS) workload support includes EC2 instances and databases like MS SQL, Oracle, MongoDB, etc. In hybrid cloud environments, enterprises can use IBM Spectrum Protect Plus deployed on-premises to manage protection of AWS EC2 instances by leveraging EBS snapshots or deploy IBM Spectrum Protect Plus on AWS for an “all in the cloud experience.”
IBM Spectrum Protect Plus also simplifies protection for containerized workloads. Application developers can easily back up, recover, and retain persistent container volumes by utilizing a native Kubernetes interface, pre-defined policies, and Container Storage Interface (CSI) snapshots. SLA management includes policy definition and assignment from the IBM Spectrum Protect Plus user interface. Developers use these policies to schedule persistent volume snapshots, replication to secondary sites, and copying data to object storage or IBM Spectrum Protect for secure long-term data retention.

For application owners and developers, Spectrum Protect Plus provides the ability to back up and recover logical persistent volume groupings using Kubernetes labels. This capability is key as applications built using containers are logical groups of multiple components. If these application components share a common label, users can use the Kubernetes label feature to select the logical application grouping instead of picking individual volumes that make up the application. Developers can also back up and recover logical persistent volumes associated with Kubernetes namespaces.

**Rapid data recovery**

The IBM Spectrum Protect Plus proactive catalog and global search enable administrators to quickly identify the data they want to recover across multiple VM hosts, hypervisors, applications and containers.

IBM Spectrum Protect Plus enables tremendous storage efficiency via snapshots, incremental forever technology, compression, and deduplication - and data is stored in native format. As a result, administrators can rapidly restore data and data owners have quick access to data copies.

IBM Spectrum Protect Plus provides application-consistent backup and recovery, and reuse for Microsoft SQL, Oracle, Db2, and MongoDB databases running on physical systems, virtual machines, and AWS. IBM Spectrum Protect Plus is a supported solution in the AWS Marketplace and the solution can be fully deployed within AWS to provide an “all in the cloud” data protection experience.

With the Spectrum Protect Plus agentless technology users can now back up, recover, reuse, and retain data in Windows file systems, including file-level backup and recovery of physical and virtualized file servers. IBM Spectrum Protect Plus also supports Microsoft Exchange on-premises, including individual mailbox item-level restore. IBM Spectrum Protect Plus also provides backup and recovery for Microsoft Exchange Online and Microsoft OneDrive, which enables operational efficiency and helps ensure compliance by protecting and retaining Microsoft Office 365 mailboxes, calendars, contacts, and shared folders as part of an overall data protection solution.\(^1\)
For developers building container-based applications, IBM Spectrum Protect Plus provides container backup for Kubernetes environments. Developers can easily back up and recover persistent container volumes using predefined policies, native Kubernetes integration, and CSI snapshots.

IBM Spectrum Protect Plus enables developers to back up and recover logical persistent volume groupings using Kubernetes labels. This capability is key because applications built using containers are logical groups of multiple components. For example, an app may have MongoDB containers, a web service container, and middleware containers. If these application components share a common label, users can leverage the Kubernetes label feature to select the logical application grouping instead of picking individual persistent volumes that make up the application. Developers can also back up and recover logical persistent volumes associated with Kubernetes namespaces.

**Cost-effective data retention**

Cost-effective data retention for VMs, databases and applications is achieved via data copy and archival to both on-premises and cloud-based object storage, as well as IBM Spectrum Protect for data archival on physical or virtual tape.

Data copy options supported include cloud services (IBM Cloud Object Storage service, AWS, and Microsoft Azure), on-premises object storage (IBM Cloud Object Storage) and IBM Spectrum Protect. Administrators can also recover data from replicated backup repositories on AWS.

Administrators can achieve cost-effective data archival through integration with Amazon S3 Glacier, Azure Archive, and IBM Cloud Object Storage Archive. Cyber resiliency support is enabled by locking down data on object storage using immutable storage and air-gapping data on physical tape via integration with IBM Spectrum Protect.
1 Support for Microsoft Office 365 applications requires a subscription license that is measured per protected Microsoft Office 365 user.

**Why IBM?**

IBM offers a vast portfolio of hardware, software and services, including industry-leading data storage products and solutions. Innovative technology, open standards, excellent performance, and a broad portfolio of proven storage offerings—all provided by IBM, a recognized industry leader—are just a few of the reasons to consider IBM Spectrum Protect Plus.

**For more information**

To learn more about IBM Spectrum Protect Plus, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit: ibm.com/us-en/marketplace/ibm-spectrum-protect-plus