COHESITY

Checklist

Core Capabilities for Protecting Microsoft 365 Data

Microsoft 365 (M365) is one of your most important SaaS applications with business critical data and sensitive information. Nearly 2 billion new files are added to Microsoft 365 every day. Unfortunately, Microsoft doesn't provide enterprise-grade backup, so a more comprehensive approach is required. Microsoft 365 data is one of the top workloads enterprises secure and manage with Cohesity. Use this checklist to evaluate options and better protect your M365 data.

Simplify IT Operations		
Flexible deployment options	You may want to manage your data yourself or you might want a solution that does it for you (i.e., as a service), so look for a vendor that offers both options.	☐
Single UI for data management	Simplify data management with a solution that allows you to centralize various workloads (e.g., on-prem, SaaS, and cloud) and access other data management services in one place.	☐
Global backup across multiple silos and regions	Consolidate backup for multiple M365 applications, multiple Azure accounts and services, and other clouds onto a single service platform.	☐
Policy-driven automation	Protect any new mailbox, document, or file added to M365 with policy-based automation.	☐
AI-driven insights	Unlock additional value from your M365 backup data and improve decision-making speed and accuracy with Gen AI.	☐
Purchasable through the Microsoft Azure marketplace	See if you can purchase it through the Microsoft Azure Marketplace to help offset your Microsoft Azure Consumption Commitment (MACC).	☐
Comprehensive Secure Protection		
Coverage for M365 data	Find a solution that makes it easy to backup and protect data from Exchange Online, OneDrive, SharePoint Online, and Teams.	☐
Zero-trust security principles	Keep the bad guys out using access controls, like Multi-Factor Authentication, granular role-based access controls, and Quorum.	☐
Encryption and flexible key management	Strong 256-bit encryption for data in transit and at rest, preferably with a leading certification such as FIPS 140-2, is a must. Given data is in the cloud, look for flexibility to manage your own keys or use a cloud-based key management service to keep your data secure.	☐
Immutable snapshots	Protect backups from accidental or malicious compromise with immutable snapshots and features such as WORM (Write Once Read Many).	☐
Off-site backup and isolation	Look for a modern, cloud-based solution that allows you to move data off-site to another location for additional protection.	☐
Proactive risk identification	Readily identify sensitive data and monitor user access patterns to detect abnormal behaviors that may indicate data exfiltration.	☐

Fast, Flexible Recovery		
Recovery at scale	Rapidly recover hundreds (or thousands) of mailboxes or files in case of an incident. You should also be able to restore VMs, large databases, or large volumes of unstructured data to any point in time and target location.	☐
Rapid granular recovery	Recover within hours instead of days or weeks to a prior point-in-time to necessary granular level or at scale while ensuring the data is safe and clean before restoring operations with Microsoft 365 Backup Storage.	☐
Flexible retention periods	Go beyond Microsoft's native retention capabilities and choose how long you want to retain data, whether it's days, months, or years.	☐
Fast global search	Whether you need to recover a single email (or file) or an entire Teams site, you should be able to search for and restore it quickly.	☐
Full or granular recovery to original source or a new location	Find a solution with the ability to recover to a new location so in the event of an outage or attack, you can still access your data.	☐

Learn more about Microsoft 365 Backup and Recovery for Exchange Online, OneDrive, SharePoint Online, Teams, and Groups here.

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