

# Core Capabilities to Protect Microsoft 365 Data



Microsoft 365 (M365) is one of your most important SaaS applications with business-critical data and sensitive information. Unfortunately, Microsoft doesn't provide enterprise-grade backup, so a more comprehensive approach is required. Use this checklist to evaluate options and better protect your M365 data.

## Data security and visibility

Off-site backup and isolation	Look for a modern, cloud-based solution to simplify backups and move data off-site to another location.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Immutable backups that cannot be accidentally or maliciously modified or deleted	Insider threats and ransomware can target backup data for deletion or tampering. Solutions should provide immutable snapshots and features such as WORM (Write Once Read Many) to protect backups from accidental or malicious compromise.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proactive risk identification	Look for a data management solution that helps you identify sensitive data such as personally identifiable information (PII) and monitor user access patterns that detect abnormal behaviors that may indicate data exfiltration.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Data export/recovery for exit planning	Keep your options open if you need to move M365 data to another cloud or back on-premises. Look for the ability to restore individual files or bulk data to another location.	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Simple and unified protection

Comprehensive coverage	Find a solution that can back up a wide range of M365 applications, including; Exchange Online, OneDrive, SharePoint Online, and Teams while being simple to set up and providing a wide range of recovery options.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protect other cloud and on-premises data	Your organization likely has more than just M365, so look for a unified backup solution that can protect a wide range of data sources such as VM, databases, files, and other clouds such as AWS.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scale on demand	You may have tens of thousands of users, millions of files, and petabytes of data. Choose a solution built on a web-scale architecture that allows you to scale automatically on demand and without disruption.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flexible capacity and/or user pricing	If you license M365 based on the number of users, you may choose to license backup in the same way. Find a solution with the flexibility to choose between user-based pricing that aligns with M365 licensing or choose capacity-based pricing across a variety of data sources.	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Enterprise-grade hybrid cloud backup

Global backup across multiple clouds	Look for a solution that can globally consolidate backup for multiple M365 applications, multiple Azure accounts and services, and other clouds such as AWS on a single service platform that simplifies backup management and eliminates silos.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single UI for hybrid and multicloud data management	Simplify management across your hybrid and multicloud data estate with a solution that features a single UI to manage backups of your SaaS, cloud, and on-prem data as well as other data management services like data isolation and data governance.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meet custom RTO/RPO SLAs	Microsoft does not offer any recovery service-level agreements (SLAs). Instead, look for a solution that allows you to adjust your backup frequency to hit recovery point and recovery time objectives (RPOs/RTOs) and the ability to do mass restores so you can recover data quickly.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full or granular recovery to original source or a new location	Whether you need to recover a single email (or file) or an entire Teams site, you should be able to do so quickly and easily. Find a solution with the ability to restore to a new location so you have the option to get at your data even when there is an outage.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Search and data analysis	Don't be limited by M365. Choose a solution with global search to find the email or file you need to recover among all your backup data.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Learn more about Microsoft 365 Backup and Recovery for Exchange Online, OneDrive, SharePoint Online, Teams, and Groups [here](#).

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