NAKIVO® Backup & Replication

COMPARISON: Free vs. Paid

NAKIVO Backup & Replication Free Edition is an efficient Backup and Replication solution for protecting VMware infrastructures against VM data loss. How is it different from the paid version?

Both editions have been designed to protect VMware environments starting from vSphere Essentials to vSphere Enterprise+. Each can be fully installed on Windows or Linux OS in 60 seconds and supports vSphere 5.1, Windows 8, and Windows 2012 Server. Both can back up locally, remotely and to a public cloud, compress and de-duplicate your backups, provide VM recovery and replication, feature simple and intuitive Web 2.0 interface. Which edition is right for you? The table below details the differences between the free and paid editions of NAKIVO Backup & Replication:

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Free edition is great to:

- Back up running VMs ad hoc
- Archive VMs on demand before decommissioning
- Migrate VMs between hosts and storages even if they are located in different datacenters.

Paid edition is great to:

- Protect virtual environment by continuously backing up VMs
- Increase services availability by continuously replicating business-critical VMs.
- In case of a disaster or data loss, recover VMs from saved recovery points.

	FREE	PAID	DESCRIPTION
Backup			
Full backup	✔	✔	A full backup saves the entire VM (including disks and configuration files,) to a backup repository.
Incremental backup	✖	✔	Incremental backup detects changes made to the VM since the last job run and transfers only changed data to the backup repository.
Scheduled backup	✖	✔	Scheduled backup is started and stopped as per the schedule that you specify. After the first run, backups are forever incremental.
Recovery points	✖	✔	The ability to retain up to 100 recovery points for each backup and recover from any recovery point.
Skip VM disks	✖	✔	Per-VM, custom exclusion of VM disks from a backup job. Useful to skip disks with swap files or unimportant data.
Cloud support			
Amazon cloud	✖	✔	The ability to back up directly to fast, secure, and reliable Amazon cloud.
Dropbox cloud	✔	✔	The ability to back up directly to one of the most cost-effective public clouds.

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Replication			
Full replication	✓	✓	With full replication, an identical copy of the source VM (a replica) is created at the target site.
Incremental replication	✗	✓	Incremental replication detects changes made to the source VM since the last job run and transfers only changed data to the target site.
Scheduled replication	✗	✓	Scheduled replication is started and stopped as per the schedule that you specify. After the first run, replications are forever incremental.
Recovery points	✗	✓	The ability to save up to 30 recovery points and revert to any recovery point.
Skip VM disks	✗	✓	Per-VM, custom exclusion of VM disks from a replication job. Useful to skip disks with swap files or unimportant data.
Custom targets	✗	✓	Allows to assign different target datastores for replica disks, assign different networks for replica NICs, and to set custom replica names.
Recovery			
Single VM Recovery	✓	✓	Recovery of a single VM from a backup. Full production and synthetic recovery (with environment dependencies removed) are available.
Multi VM recovery	✗	✓	Recovery of multiple VMs in a single job. Useful for recovery after hardware failures, and for the restore of distributed apps and services.
Data			
Compression in flight	✗	✓	Compression of backup and replication data while traversing WAN or LAN. Decreases bandwidth utilization.
Compression at rest	✓	✓	Compression of data in the backup repository. Decreases the amount of space required to store backups.
De-duplication	✓	✓	Block level de-duplication of data in the backup repository. With this feature, only unique blocks of data are saved in a backup repository.
Encryption	✗	✓	Industry-standard AES 256 encryption of data while traversing WAN or LAN.
CBT	✗	✓	Returns blocks of data changed since the last job run. Decreases storage load and dramatically increases backup and replication speed.
Jobs			
Job grouping	✓	✓	Allows arranging jobs to represent locations, business services, or other logical structures and provides an overview of all jobs in a group.
Group actions	✗	✓	Allows to start, stop, enable, and disable all or selected VMs in a group with a single click.
VM sequencing	✗	✓	Custom order in which VMs are backed up or replicated. Allows processing more important VMs first.
Multiple VMs per job	✗	✓	Allows adding multiple VMs in a single job. Useful for protecting different VMs with similar options.
Automatic VM protection	✗	✓	When a job is set to protect VMware containers – such as resource pools or folders – new VMs are automatically added to the job.

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Scalability			
Multiple Transporters	✖	✔	Transporters are "data movers" that perform actual data read, transfer, and write. Multiple transporters allow distributing workload.
Multiple Backup Repositories	✖	✔	Adding more than one backup repository allows backing up to multiple destinations.