

AvePoint Online Services vs Office 365 – Sites, Files, Emails, and Groups Backup, Management and Archiving

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. 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 Office 365 applications including SharePoint Online, Exchange Online, Project Online, Office 365 Groups, OneDrive for Business and Public Folders. No installation and minimal configuration makes getting to the cloud a breeze!

Product Comparison:

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

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.

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.

Features		Office 365 Native	AvePoint Cloud Backup
Automatic Backup		Yes Backups are automatically taken every 12 hours.	Yes Backups are automatic, as often as every 6 hours.
Restore granularity	• Site collection	Yes	Yes
	• Site	Yes	Yes

	• List/Library	Limited Support from Recycle Bins Only.	Yes
	• Folder		Yes
	• Item/Document		Yes
	• Document Version	Limited Support All versions will be automatically included if restoring the document from the recycle bin.	Yes Supports restoring all versions or a specified number of the latest major and minor versions.
	• User Mailbox	Limited Support Users can restore entire mailboxes only, if it's within the 30-day retention window.	Yes Restore an entire mailbox, or individual calendar or item.
	• User Calendar		
Supported storage locations for backup data	• Microsoft Azure Blob Storage	No Customers have no access to their own backup data.	Yes 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 Office 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
Preserve list views		Limited Support Only when users restore entire site collections via MSFT, potentially overwriting data, or individual lists/libraries from the recycle bin.	Yes
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 14 days for SPO, OD items, up to 30 for some Exchange 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	Yes

Restore types	• In place restore	Yes	Yes
	• Out-of-place restore	No For Microsoft-maintained backup data, out of place restore is not permitted.	Yes
	• Restore to storage policy	No	Yes Restore to storage outside of Office 365.
Container level conflict resolution when restoring	• Skip	No	Yes
	• Merge	No	Yes
	• Replace	Yes	Yes
Content level conflict resolution when restoring	• Skip	No	Yes
	• Overwrite	Yes	Yes
	• Overwrite by last modified time	No	Yes
	• Append an item/document named “_1”	No	Yes
Conflict resolution for App Data	• Skip	No	Yes
	• Overwrite	Yes	Yes
Version restore	• Restore all versions	Yes	Yes
	• Restore a specified number of latest versions	No	Yes
Granular restore of security (user/group)	No		Yes
Granular restore of item / object properties			Yes
Granular restore of views			Yes
Granular restore of workflow definition and item history			Yes
Restore of item-dependent columns and content types			Yes
Schedule restore functions	No Backups are automatically taken every 12 hours. Customers are not able to control by themselves.		Yes
Data Encryption	Yes		Yes AvePoint provides unique keys for each client by default, with the ability for customers to bring their own encryption keys for maximum protection, ensuring data can't be decrypted without their prior authorization.

AvePoint Cloud Management vs. Native SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups Administration & Reporting Capabilities

Many out-of-the-box (OOTB) administration tasks require the use of PowerShell. An index of available PowerShell commands for managing SharePoint Online users, groups, and sites can be found here:

<https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/fp161364.aspx>

Use AvePoint Cloud Management to gain insight and control over users and data without the use of PowerShell. AvePoint Cloud Management allows you to gain insight into users and content, reporting and monitoring user activity, site usage, content lifecycle, and content type usage.

With AvePoint Cloud Management:

Batch control without using PowerShell.

- Add and modify users, and controls in batch without code. Quickly filter for sites or users where policies should be applied, and track all administrative actions that are performed through AvePoint Cloud Management to avoid conflicts and prevent conflicts.

Enforce governance policies for objects, sites, and security. Retain audit data on your terms.

- Define policies to revert or notify if end users modify permissions, object configurations, or features outside your governance policy parameters. Keep Audit data according to your organizational guidelines, not Microsoft's 90-day limit.

Migrate, restructure, or synchronize content within or across Office 365 tenants.

- Evolve your information architecture and site structure on demand, according to business requirements. Maintain valuable properties and metadata. Copy or move content easily to different Site Collections or Office 365 Tenants.

Centralized user and site monitoring within or across tenants, as well as Web analytics.

- Monitor and report on user and content lifecycles, user activity, and permissions or content type changes. Run configuration reports to understand current site configurations and storage utilization to track adoption over time. View visitor and page trends, including device and browser utilization.

Features	Office 365 Native	AvePoint Cloud Management
Permissions management	• Site Collection / Site Level Reporting	Yes
	• Cross-Site / Cross-Tenant Reporting	No
	• (BULK) Clone / Transfer Permissions	No
	• Grant Temporary Permissions	No
	• Report on External Users	No
Change management	• Bulk Deployment of Design Elements (CSS, Custom Pages, Web Parts, Apps, etc.)	No* Optionally use Patterns and Practices to create, deploy, and manage design elements. *This is a community-supported solution only.
	• Real-Time Comparison of Feature Differences Cross-Site / Cross-Tenant	No

Content move	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copy/Migrate SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, Office 365 Groups Content (Documents, Items, Folders, Lists, Libraries, Sites) within a single Site Collection 	Limited Support Move/ restructure sites, libraries, and documents through Explorer View, Site Content and Structure with limited fidelity	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copy/Migrate SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, Office 365 Groups Content (Documents, Items, Folders, Lists, Libraries, Sites) across Site Collections or O365 Tenants 	No	Yes
Automated Policy Enforcement to report on or revert unauthorized or out- of- policy changes to object configuration, security, and sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ability to Configure and Centrally Manage Policies for Configuration, Security, and Sites 	No Office 365 capabilities are often associated with Content Types at more granular levels.	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automatically Enforce Configurations Policies (Versioning, IRM, Content Types, etc.). Report on or revert out-of-policy objects in SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business and Office 365 Groups 	No Automated policy association for retention is based on Content Type.	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automatically Enforce Security Policies (Permission Level restrictions, Site Admin limit controls, restricted sharing, etc.) 	No Permissions policy associations are generally inherited from the parent object.	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automatically Enforce Site Policies (Site Feature Activation, Site Template, Site Settings, etc.) 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email Alerts and Notifications on Policy Violations 	No	Yes
Replication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replicate content across SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replicate SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups Security settings (Site Collection, Site, List, Folder, and Item permissions) 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replicate SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups Configuration settings (Site Collection, Site, List features, and properties) 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-way replication: Keep SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups content in sync from one site to another (publishing scenario) 	No	Yes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way replication; Keep SharePoint Online content in sync across multiple sites (collaboration scenario) 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real-time, event-driven replication from (trigger by upload, edit, metadata change, etc.) 	No	Yes
Content/item auditing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open/View/Download 	Yes In the Office 365 Compliance Center.	Yes These capabilities have been fully supported via utilizing newly available activity management API.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Item Move / Copy 	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edit / Check-Out / Check-In 	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delete / Restore 	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workflow / Content Type Changes 	Yes	Yes
Report types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auditing / Policy Changes 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security Settings Changes 	Yes	Yes
Report level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenant 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site Collection / Site 	Yes	Yes
Report viewing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excel 	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Export Report to SharePoint Library 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View Tenant Level Report in Web Interface 	No	Yes
Data Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit History 	90 Days	Unlimited Retention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage Locations 	Office 365 Compliance Center	SQL Azure , SQL Server Coming Soon
Web Analytics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitor Trends (Access times, conversions) 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Device Information (Device, Browser, Software, etc.) 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page Trends (Time on page, breadcrumb, user heat map) 	No	Yes

AvePoint Cloud Archiving vs. Native SharePoint Online, Office 365 Groups and OneDrive for Business Archiving

With AvePoint Cloud Archiving:

Centrally apply archive and retention policies at any object level maintaining metadata, workflow state, and permissions.

- Avoid creating and applying policies, site collection by site collection.

Archive based on built-in or customizable properties.

- Not just Content Type-driven or date-driven. Avoid reliance on users to assign correct Content Types or site policies to achieve content lifecycle management.

Automated control over your data.

- Store archived content in any cloud storage drive. Apply retention policies to preserve or remediate content in compliance with information management policies or to move stale content to less expensive storage tiers for reduced costs. Granularly restore archived content back to SharePoint Online.

Features		Office 365 Native	AvePoint Cloud Archiving
Archive/remove dormant content from SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business and Office 365 Groups (from site collection to item level)		Limited Support Microsoft policies encourage "in-place" records management, leaving content in view of end-users and creating clutter.	Yes Configure granular policies to archive site collections, sites, lists, libraries, items, document versions, and attachments based on built-in or customizable properties.
Criteria specified for archiving rules	• Name	No	Yes
	• Document Size	No	Yes
	• Modified Time	Yes Via Information Management Policies	Yes
	• Modified by	No	Yes
	• Created Time	Yes Via Information Management Policies	Yes
	• Created by	No	Yes
	• Content Type	No Via Information Management Policies	Yes
	• Column Field or Metadata (Text, Number, Yes/No, Date, and Time)	No	Yes
	• Parent List Type ID	No	Yes
	• Parent Folder Name	No	Yes
• Last Accessed Time	No	Yes	

Archiver options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Archive and Remove Data from SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business and Office 365 Groups 	Limited Support Document retention policies can be configured within site collections and applied at the item level based on Content Type or site level, according to created/modified date properties only.	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Archive and Keep Data in SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business and Office 365 Groups as a Read-only Copy 	Limited Support Configure document retention policies within site collections only, e.g. declare records after a set time frame. Can't archive in the meantime.	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Move Documents into Another Library and Declare as SharePoint Records 	No	Yes
Supported storage for archived data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SharePoint Online Records Center 	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Azure Storage 	No	Yes Compress and encrypt data on the storage device of your choosing.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amazon S3 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Box 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dropbox 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FTP 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rackspace Cloud File 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SFTP 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IBM Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM) 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NetApp AltaVault 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OneDrive 			
Granularly restore archived content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In place restore 	No	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of place restore 	No	Yes
E-mail alerts and notifications on archive and restore		Limited Support Site Policies include optional user notification. Workflow configuration is required to incorporate alerts or approvals into content deletion or records declaration processes.	Yes
Schedule archive and restore functions		No	Yes