



Top Reasons

Why NetApp for Microsoft SQL Server 2012

NetApp® storage and data management solutions for Microsoft® SQL Server® 2012 help you achieve your business goals quickly, reduce costs, streamline storage and data management, and improve the scalability and data protection of your entire SQL Server environment.

1. Reduce Storage Costs

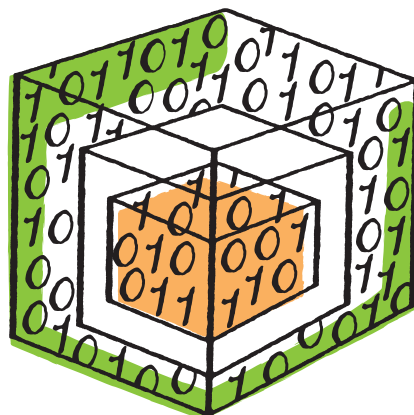
By consolidating SQL Server data onto NetApp unified storage, you have the flexibility of an iSCSI, Fibre Channel, or FCoE SAN, or SMB/NAS infrastructure. You can use thin provisioning to eliminate pools of unused storage and increase storage utilization, simplify data management, and reduce administrative overhead. NetApp SnapManager® for SQL Server can automatically move online backups to secondary storage and then deduplicate the archived backups. With the addition of NetApp SnapVault® backup software, you can store weeks, months, or even years of backups on secondary storage while reducing disk capacity requirements by up to 90%.

2. Support AlwaysOn Availability Groups

Meet your high-availability and disaster recovery objectives through our support for AlwaysOn Availability Groups (AGs) in SQL Server 2012. With SnapManager you can accelerate AG setup, rapidly back up and restore all databases in AGs, create space-efficient clones of databases in AGs, and quickly resynchronize databases within the AG. In addition, AGs can be mirrored to remote locations using NetApp SnapMirror technology.

3. Deploy SQL Server on SMB/NAS

SQL Server 2012 on NetApp SMB storage simplifies management, reduces storage infrastructure costs, and increases virtualization and consolidation capability with performance comparable to SAN. You can benefit from easier manageability of SMB shares compared with DAS/LUNs since PowerShell scripting, Snapshot, and FlexClone® technologies are integrated to support AGs on SMB files shares on NetApp storage. You also gain all of the storage-efficiency features of Data ONTAP. Additionally, with FlexClone you can rapidly provision space-efficient copies of databases for test and development purposes.



4. Deploy Federated Backups

With NetApp solutions, you get quick, space-efficient backups and a comprehensive set of PowerShell cmdlets for easy scripting of backup/restore workflows. You can add multiple SQL Server instances and databases to the same federated group and take a Snapshot™ copy to back up all databases in that group at the same time. SnapManager provides the capability to restore to a marker so you can tie recovery to a business event, which is particularly useful for applications that span multiple databases across multiple SQL Servers. In addition, you can enable disaster recovery for SQL Server databases using NetApp SnapMirror® technology, which integrates with SnapManager.

5. Achieve Nondisruptive Operations

With NetApp Data ONTAP® software operating in Cluster-Mode, you can maintain SQL Server uptime during storage infrastructure (hardware and software) maintenance and upgrades. In addition, DataMotion™ for Volumes software empowers storage administrators to proactively address space issues in storage arrays, storage layer load balancing, and resource optimization, all without affecting SQL Server availability.

6. Reduce Management Overhead

SnapManager helps you streamline tasks such as backup, restore, cloning, and disaster recovery so that administrators can focus on strategic tasks and business initiatives. With SnapManager federated backups you can simplify data protection of SQL Server applications where data is distributed across multiple SQL Server instances and databases. In addition, the combination of Data ONTAP and Windows® PowerShell 2.0 scripting enables DBAs to automate management of LUNs and volumes.

7. Accelerate Application Development

Accelerate the release and improve the quality of new applications based on SQL Server with FlexClone, which

helps you create space-efficient copies of SQL Server data in seconds. SnapManager also enables enterprise DBAs to offer on-demand, periodic, and customized staging and user-acceptance testing services quickly and without errors to other DBAs and end users via a policy-based clone automation framework.

8. Enable Multi-Tenant Deployments

Deploy cloud environments on your terms and achieve the high efficiency and cost savings that multi-tenancy can provide. Implement Vservers in Cluster-Mode to provide complete data compartmentalization for all tenants, with each granted access only to its designated Vservers. Rich PowerShell-based support for both Data ONTAP and SnapManager empowers administrators to develop appropriate workflows that support the needs of your multi-tenant environment.

9. Achieve Efficient Data Lifecycle Management

With SQL Server 2012, your DBAs can place archived data in table partitions that are backed by secondary data files and that can be easily moved to secondary storage through the SnapManager database migration wizard. Alternatively, DBAs can back up a database, archive the backup to secondary storage using SnapVault, and then purge old data from the database. In addition, NetApp deduplication can significantly reduce the storage footprint of the archived backups.

10. Accommodate Ad-Hoc Database Requests

With SnapManager's ability to move databases across LUNs, you can achieve greater flexibility in responding to ad-hoc database requests. Storage or systems administrators can develop predefined PowerShell scripts using SnapDrive® for Windows cmdlets to provision LUNs in sandboxed Data ONTAP volumes or qtrees. Scripting can also help DBAs manage data partitioning in SQL Server 2012 and

create LUNs on demand to place partitioned data into secondary files and different LUNs. By decoupling storage containers and host-side LUN provisioning you can reduce your operational expenses.

11. Respond Quickly to Growth

You can quickly and dynamically scale NetApp storage to meet your changing business needs. With FlexVol® technology, you can cost effectively expand and reallocate storage when and where you need it, without interfering with your business operations. Data ONTAP operating in Cluster-Mode helps you nondisruptively meet the needs of SQL Server data growth and increased and changing SQL Server application workloads.

12. Partner for Success

NetApp Professional Services for Microsoft Applications offers a wide range of services, including SQL Server implementation on the NetApp storage platform, disaster recovery, and high availability, as well as custom services to help customers successfully deploy SQL Server. To meet your interoperability and performance needs, we collaborate closely with Microsoft on key product integration efforts, including performance testing, product validation, and joint development. Service engagements are delivered through NetApp Professional Services in combination with a global partner ecosystem.

Contact your NetApp representative to learn more about why we are the smart choice for Microsoft SQL Server.

About NetApp

NetApp creates innovative storage and data management solutions that deliver outstanding cost efficiency and accelerate business breakthroughs. Discover our passion for helping companies around the world go further, faster at www.netapp.com.

Go further, faster*

