

VMware App Volumes

Support for Microsoft Azure

Q. What is App Volumes?

A. VMware App Volumes™ is a portfolio of application and user management solutions that works across all VMware Horizon® environments, including VMware Horizon® Cloud on Microsoft Azure. These solutions take desktop and application environments to the next level by providing radically faster application delivery, while reducing IT costs by up to 70 percent.

Q. What are the benefits of using App Volumes?

A. App Volumes app delivery architecture helps IT reduce costs and increase productivity by

- Reducing storage and operational costs by up to 70 percent with one-to-many provisioning, painless packaging, and stable installation.
- Simplifying management by packaging once and deploying everywhere. Manage application inventory and streamline assignment of applications and application updates to end users with zero downtime and quick rollbacks.
- Increasing employee productivity and satisfaction, without increasing IT staff, by delivering personalized applications that drive the business forward rather than maintaining dated architectures.

Q. How does App Volumes work?

A. With App Volumes, IT can instantly deliver or upgrade applications to virtual desktop and published application environments in seconds and at scale. Applications are stored in read-only virtual disks that, with the click of a button, instantly attach to individual or groups of virtual desktops, published application servers, or users. To the end user, applications perform like natively installed applications. The platform that App Volumes is built on also supports user profile and policy management and application isolation.

Q. What's new in App Volumes 4?

A. App Volumes 4 simplifies application management by introducing powerful new management capabilities that reimagine and streamline application management.

A new application inventory construct enables admins to more easily manage the lifecycle of an application from installation to retirement. In addition, innovation in app assignments and delivery allows a new version to be easily be rolled out to end users.

With our new marker technology, an app package within an inventory can be designated as the “current” version and all users who are assigned to the “current” version will be updated at their next login.

Together, these new innovations speed up rollouts and allow for quick rollbacks if needed. Additionally, App Volumes is supported on Microsoft Azure and is included as a feature of Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure.

Q. How is App Volumes licensed for use with Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure?

A. App Volumes is included with the Horizon Universal and Horizon Apps Universal licenses, both of which also include Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure.

Q. Is App Volumes still available as a perpetual license?

A. Yes, but the perpetual license version does not work in Microsoft Azure. See the broader [App Volumes FAQ](#) for more information.

Q. How do Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure environments work with App Volumes?

A. App Volumes delivers native applications to Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure desktops on demand through VHDs stored in Azure Files. This is done without modifying virtual desktops or the applications.

Because App Volumes enables the benefits of a persistent desktop on top of a nonpersistent pool, significant storage and operational savings can be achieved. Published application environments benefit from a reduced number of images managed by decoupling operating system images and applications using App Volumes, which also removes repetitive application maintenance tasks.

Q. Can I use App Volumes with Windows Virtual Desktop and Windows 10 Enterprise multi-session?

A. Yes! Microsoft has partnered with VMware to extend the capabilities of Windows Virtual Desktop, including Windows 10 Enterprise multi-session, to Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure. If your Microsoft Enterprise Agreement includes a Windows Virtual Desktop benefit and you're a Horizon Universal License subscriber, you can use App Volumes.

Q. How is App Volumes for Microsoft Azure deployed?

A. Since App Volumes is integrated with Horizon Cloud, and Horizon Cloud is a managed service from VMware, there are no steps needed to deploy. For new customers adopting Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure, App Volumes will be available by default. For existing customers who have already deployed Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure, contact your Account teams, who will help enable the capability in within your Horizon Cloud deployment.

Q. Can App Volumes in Microsoft Azure deliver the same app packages as traditional App Volumes?

A. Yes! Horizon Universal License allows customers to run VMware Horizon in any environment. And because App Volumes is managed by the Horizon control plane, applications can be managed across Horizon environments. For details on how to bring your on-premises application packages into Horizon Cloud, check the [App Volumes Migration Utility fling](#).

Q. Will App Volumes work with MSIX app attach?

A. MSIX app attach is a method of deploying MSIX application packages to Windows desktops that was developed by Microsoft. This approach simplifies the deployment of MSIX packages but lacks advanced functionality like isolation and support for drivers.

VMware App Volumes will support assigning MSIX app attach packages from the same interface in which App Volumes assignments are done. This means customers have flexibility to choose the approach that makes the most sense, while knowing they have only one interface to manage all of their applications. VMware is currently working to add support for this new format within App Volumes. A technology preview of this capability will be available shortly.

Q. Where can I get access to demos and trials of this offering?

A. App Volumes for Microsoft Azure is built into Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure, so if you're already a customer, you can try it anytime. If you're new to the platform, you can try it out as part of a [90-Day Free Trial of Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure](#).