

Disaster Recovery Microsoft Licensing For VMware Cloud on AWS FAQ

Overview

Disaster recovery needs are continuing to increase for VMware Cloud on AWS customers. Our customers want to use VCDR for Disaster Recovery and seek ways to understand how to use Microsoft licensing to cover their VMware Cloud on AWS hosts/clusters as secondary sites. This FAQ is designed to answer those licensing questions and provide information on the VMware Cloud on AWS license included options.

Q. What Microsoft licenses do I need for DR scenarios on VMware Cloud on AWS?

A. If you are using VMware Cloud on AWS hosts or clusters for DR, fail over or back up and have Microsoft workloads on that environment, you need to have those workloads appropriately licensed with Microsoft licenses.

Q. Can I use my Microsoft Volume licenses on VMware Cloud on AWS for DR?

A. You can reassign your Microsoft licenses to a VMware Cloud on AWS host/cluster by utilizing Bring Your Own License (BYOL) if you have license that are still eligible BYOL use rights under Outsourcing Software Management rules for dedicated servers.

Q. Can I use Software Assurance Disaster Recovery use right for the DR cluster on VMware Cloud on AWS?

A. There is a separate DR for Servers use right under Software Assurance that allows for each Instance of eligible server software a customer runs in a Physical OSE or Virtual OSE on a Licensed Server, that allows temporarily use to run a backup Instance in a Physical OSE or Virtual OSE on Servers dedicated to disaster recovery. The dedicated DR server/host/cluster falls under the Outsourcing Software Management rules for dedicated servers

Q. What does Dedicated Outsourcing means in terms of Microsoft licenses for VMware Cloud on AWS?

A. Any dedicated Server used for DR purposes, that is under the management or control of an entity other than Customer or one of its Affiliates, is subject to the [Outsourcing Software Management](#) clause in the Microsoft Product Terms document.

Q. SQL server has additional DR and fail over rights, can I use those to cover my DR environment?

A. If a customer has BYOL use rights as described in the [Outsource Management for Dedicated servers](#) in the MS Product Terms, and they have active Software Assurance than they utilize the DR for SA for servers.

Q. Is there a difference in DR rights between using BYOL use rights and using Software Assurance for Server for DR?

A. Under BYOL terms you are reassigning your licenses, and you must follow the Microsoft reassignment use rights. If your licenses have active Software Assurance for DR for servers, you are using a temporary license allowance for your DR environment.

Q. What can I do if I don't have BYOL or Software Assurance license rights to cover my DR environment?

A. Customers can purchase the VMware Cloud on AWS SPLA licensed included offering. These are monthly Services Provider Licenses for consumption of Windows Datacenter and SQL Enterprise licenses. Those licenses include unlimited virtualization, and they cover certain DR events without the need to have additional licenses for the DR event.

Q. Does the VMware Cloud on AWS Services Provider Licenses also cover testing for DR?

A. No there are no test rights granted. We can always update

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Q. Do Microsoft per user licenses like Office have any DR rights?

A. No, only licenses licensed per server, per processor or per core licenses have DR rights.

Q. How does SQL Server fail over rights work on VMware Cloud on AWS as a secondary site?

A. SQL Server Volume Licenses with Software Assurance have additional use rights for failover, per the Microsoft Product use rights as of this date those are as follows:

- One [Fail-over OSE](#) for any purpose, including high availability, on any [Server](#) dedicated to Customer's use (subject to the [Outsourcing Software Management](#) clause); and
- Two [Fail-over OSEs](#) specifically for disaster recovery purposes:
 - one on any [Server](#) dedicated to Customer's use (subject to the [Outsourcing Software Management](#) clause).

Q. Can I use the DR through Software Assurance right and License mobility through Software Assurance for SQL Server at the same time to cover more DR instances?

A. No, These fail-over rights require SA for both the Licensed Server and CALs, if any, and do not apply when Customer deploys SQL Software under [License Mobility through SA](#).

Q. Does Windows Server have the same fail-over use rights?

A. No, Windows Server does not have DR through SA rights, but there are no License Mobility through SA rights for Windows Server.

Q. If a customer is using VMware Cloud on AWS as a secondary DR site, and on-prem licensing for primary site, are the rules the same as using VMware Cloud on AWS as both primary and secondary?

A. The licensing rules are the same, and customer must consider the [Outsource Software Management](#) rules when using VMware Cloud on AWS as a secondary site. If a customer is utilizing all on-premises servers for both primary and secondary site, then they only need to ensure they are following the DR rules for each Microsoft Licensed Server.

Q. Where can I go to get answers to questions not covered in this FAQ?

A. Please send questions to our alias dedicated to Microsoft licensing on VMware Cloud on AWS: vmc-microsoft-ext@vmware.com

