VMware Site Recovery Manager
Licensing and Packaging
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Executive Summary
This guide provides an overview of the licensing, pricing, and packaging for VMware Site Recovery Manager. The key topics discussed in this guide include:

- VMware Site Recovery Manager
- Licensing Guide – licensing metric and license management
- Packaging features across editions
- Upgrades and Downgrades Entitlements for Existing Customers on edition and version

VMware Site Recovery Manager
VMware Site Recovery Manager™ is the industry-leading disaster recovery management solution. Site Recovery Manager offers automated orchestration and non-disruptive testing of centralized recovery plans for all virtualized applications.

Site Recovery Manager integrates with VMware vSphere® through VMware vCenter Server™ and an underlying replication technology. It can integrate natively with vSphere Replication™, vSphere Virtual Volumes Replication, and with a broad range of storage array-based replication solutions from leading storage vendors through storage replication adapters. Site Recovery Manager guides users through the process of configuring recovery plans. At the time of failover or testing, Site Recovery Manager automates the execution of the recovery plan.

Licensing Guide
VMware Site Recovery Manager Licensing: Per Protected Virtual Machine
The licensing metrics for Site Recovery Manager is “per protected virtual machine”. A “protected virtual machine” is defined as a virtual machine that is part of a Site Recovery Manager Protection Group, regardless of the state of the virtual machine.

License Model
We have two licensing models for Site Recovery Manager. The general Site Recovery Manager license is available as a perpetual license and Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers license is available as a 1- or 3-year subscription term license.

The hyperscaler cloud services currently supported are Microsoft Azure VMware Solution (AVS), Google Cloud VMware Engine (GCVE), and Oracle Cloud VMware Solution (OCVS). Contact VMware Alliance Executive if your company is interested in being added to the list.

License Management
Site Recovery Manager is licensed through vCenter Server. Site Recovery Manager uses the same license-key system used by vSphere and vCenter Server.

Licensing Requirement: vSphere
Site Recovery Manager requires at least one licensed vSphere server at both the protected site and the recovery site. Usage of vSphere Replication for disaster recovery with Site Recovery Manager does not
require additional licensing. vSphere Replication is included with vSphere Essentials Plus and higher editions.

Licensing Requirement: vCenter Server
Site Recovery Manager requires two active and licensed vCenter Server instances, one at each site (protected and recovery).

Licensing Requirement for Recovery Sites
With “per protected virtual machine” licensing, only virtual machines that are protected by Site Recovery Manager require Site Recovery Manager licensing. Licenses are required for all protected virtual machines, even if they are powered off.

There are two scenarios to consider:
For uni-directional protection (failover use case only), Site Recovery Manager needs only be licensed at the source, although it must be deployed at both the source and target site. For bi-directional protection (failover and failback), Site Recovery Manager must be licensed at both the source and target location (see chart below).

Uni-directional Protection: Site Recovery Manager is configured only to fail over virtual machines from site A to the site B. In this case, licenses are required only for the protected virtual machines at protected site A.

Bi-directional protection: Site Recovery Manager is configured to fail over virtual machines from site A to site B at the same time that it is configured to fail over a different set of virtual machines from site B to site A. In this case, Site Recovery Manager licenses must be purchased for the protected virtual machines at both sites.

Licensing Requirement for Recovery Sites
Shared Recovery Site: Site Recovery Manager licenses are required only for protected virtual machines. In a shared recovery site scenario (multiple protected sites configured to fail over into a shared recovery site), Site Recovery Manager licenses are required only at the protected sites. The shared recovery site does not require any additional Site Recovery Manager licenses to protect those sites.

To failback from site B to site A (after failover from site A to site B), Site Recovery Manager licenses are required for the “re-protected” virtual machines at Site B. The “per virtual machine” licenses originally used at site A can be used at site B for this purpose, as long as the licenses are no longer in use at site A.
Licensing Restriction
Site Recovery Manager perpetual licenses can only be used for the purpose of disaster recovery between customer’s on-premises environments only. It cannot be used for the purpose of disaster recovery to or within public cloud services environments.

Site Recovery Manager licenses cannot be reused in VMware Site Recovery, a robust disaster recovery as a service (DRaaS) offering that protects workloads between on-premises datacenters and VMware Cloud on AWS or VMware Cloud on Dell, as well as between different instances of VMware Cloud on AWS or VMware Cloud on Dell. To learn more about VMware Site Recovery, visit the VMware Site Recovery product page (https://cloud.vmware.com/vmware-site-recovery).

Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers subscription term licenses cannot be used for on-premises to on-premises disaster recovery; the protected and/or recovery site must be an eligible hyperscaler cloud SDDC. Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers term license can be used to protect (1) workloads running in an on-premises datacenter to a supported hyperscaler cloud SDDC, (2) workloads running on a supported hyperscaler cloud SDDC to an on-premises datacenter, and (3) workloads between two supported hyperscaler cloud SDDCs from the same hyperscaler (cross hyperscaler cloud configurations are not currently supported).

Packaging
VMware Site Recovery Manager is available in 2 editions: Standard and Enterprise. Both standalone editions are licensed per protected virtual machine and sold in packs of 25 virtual machines. Only one edition of Site Recovery Manager can be configured under a vCenter Server instance.

Site Recovery Manager for Hyperscalers term license is an enterprise edition and has the same features as the Site Recovery Manager perpetual license enterprise edition.

VMware Site Recovery Manager Standard Edition
Site Recovery Manager Standard is designed for smaller environments and is limited to 75 protected virtual machines per physical site and per Site Recovery Manager instance.

VMware Site Recovery Manager Standard Edition is subject to the following restrictions:
(a) protect up to seventy-five (75) virtual machines within a physical facility or building
(b) each running copy of VMware Site Recovery Manager Standard Edition manages up to seventy-five (75) protected virtual machines

If at any given time, the number of protected virtual machines in (a) or (b) exceeds seventy-five (75), customers are required to upgrade all VMware Site Recovery Manager Standard Edition licenses to VMware Site Recovery Manager Enterprise Edition.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, VMware Site Recovery Manager Standard Edition restriction shall not apply if a failover of protected virtual machines causes the number of protected virtual machines to exceed the VMware Site Recovery Manager Standard Edition restriction within a physical facility or building for a reasonable period.
VMware Site Recovery Manager Enterprise Edition

Site Recovery Manager Enterprise provides enterprise-level protection to all virtualized applications with no licensing restriction on the number of virtual machines that can be protected. It also provides advanced capabilities that are not available in the Standard Edition.

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Table 1. VMware Site Recovery Manager Editions

Upgrades and Downgrades Entitlements for Existing Customers

Edition Upgrades
Customers may upgrade from Site Recovery Manager Standard to Site Recovery Manager Enterprise in 25 virtual machine packs. VMware’s general policy does not allow for edition downgrades for any of its products; Site Recovery Manager is no exception.

Version Upgrades
Customers with a current Support and Subscription (SnS) contract for Site Recovery Manager are entitled to licenses of the latest version of the product at no additional charge through their subscription entitlement. Customers with current Support and Subscription (SnS) contracts for bundles that contain Site Recovery Manager are entitled to new versions and new licenses based on the subscription entitlement for the individual products in the bundle.

If a customer’s Support and Subscription (SnS) contract expired before the latest Site Recovery Manager release, they are not entitled to receive an upgrade to the latest version of Site Recovery Manager. They will need to renew their SnS and pay the appropriate back fees and penalties. If you are in this situation, you may request a Support Contract Renewal quote.
HOW TO BUY

To purchase VMware Site Recovery Manager, use the VMware Partner Locator (https://partnerlocator.vmware.com) to find an authorized reseller in your area.

LEARN MORE


Visit the Site Recovery Manager Product Evaluation Center (https://customerconnect.vmware.com/en/web/vmware/evalcenter) for your 60-day evaluation.

Call 877-4-VMWARE (outside of North America, +1-650-427-5000), visit vmware.com/products or search online for an authorized reseller.

Customers can choose to upgrade all, some, or none of their Site Recovery Manager licenses. For example, if customers have 50 Site Recovery Manager licenses of older version and want to upgrade only 30 of them, they will have 30 licenses of the latest version of Site Recovery Manager and 20 licenses of Site Recovery Manager old version after the upgrade process.

Customers can upgrade license keys in My VMware portal by following the instructions posted on VMware Knowledge Base article on “How to upgrade license keys in My VMware” (https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/2006974).

Version Downgrades

Customers are not required to use the latest version of Site Recovery Manager. Licenses of the latest version cannot be used with earlier versions of Site Recovery Manager. Customers will need to downgrade their Site Recovery Manager licenses via the My VMware portal. Site Recovery Manager Enterprise edition licenses may be downgraded with a conversion ratio of 1 virtual machine to 1 virtual machine. Licenses cannot be downgraded to versions earlier than Site Recovery Manager 6.5.

As long as you have an active SnS contract at the time of general availability of the latest version of Site Recovery Manager, you are entitled to perform a version upgrade on your licenses at any time.

Customers can downgrade license keys in My VMware portal by following the instructions posted on VMware Knowledge Base article on “How to downgrade license keys in My VMware” (https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/2006975).