

VMware App Volumes

Solution Overview

Q. What is App Volumes?

A. VMware App Volumes™ is a portfolio of application and user management solutions for VMware Horizon®, Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops, and RDSH virtual environments. These solutions take desktop and application environments to the next level by providing radically faster application delivery and simplifying and unifying application and user management, while reducing IT costs by up to 70 percent.

Q. What are the benefits of using App Volumes?

A. App Volumes app delivery architecture and user environment manager helps IT reduce costs and increase productivity. Here's how:

- Reduce storage and operational costs by up to 70 percent with one-to-many provisioning, painless packaging, and stable installation.
- Simplify 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.
- Free up crucial IT resources from repetitive application and user profile maintenance tasks, and decrease the time spent managing images by up to 95 percent.
- Increase employee productivity and satisfaction, without increasing IT staff, by delivering personalized applications and user environments 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.

Q. What are the App Volumes editions?

A. App Volumes is available in two editions: App Volumes Advanced and App Volumes Standard.

- App Volumes Advanced – An advanced application and user management solution for enterprise customers with virtual environments powered by Horizon, Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops, and RDSH.
- App Volumes Standard – An application and user management solution for virtual environments powered by Horizon, Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops, and RDSH.

Q. Is App Volumes Enterprise still available?

A. No, App Volumes Enterprise Edition (bundle) is no longer available for purchase. See the VMware KB article [End of Life for vRealize Operations for Published Applications and End of Availability for App Volumes Enterprise bundle](#) for more information.

Q. What Horizon editions include App Volumes?

A. The following perpetual bundles include App Volumes:

- Horizon Enterprise Edition
- Horizon Apps Advanced Edition
- VMware Workspace ONE® Enterprise Edition (perpetual)

And the following subscription licenses include App Volumes:

- Horizon Universal
- Horizon Apps Universal
- Workspace ONE Enterprise (SaaS)
- Workspace ONE Enterprise for VDI (SaaS)

Q. How do Horizon, Citrix, and RDSH environments work with App Volumes?

A. App Volumes delivers native applications to Horizon, Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops, and RSDH environments on demand through VMDKs or VHDs, without modifying virtual desktops, application servers, or the applications. Because App Volumes enables the benefits of a persistent desktop on top of a non-persistent 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. Using App Volumes, user profile and policy can be dynamically assigned to users as they move from desktop to desktop or application to application.

Q. How does App Volumes work with user data?

A. Each device or user optionally has a single writable volume that contains the device or user's data and user-installed applications. If a user moves from one virtual desktop to another, the data and user-installed applications follow that user. User profile and policy settings can be managed via user environment management services included with App Volumes.

Q. How does App Volumes compare to ThinApp?

A. App Volumes is a portfolio of application and user management solutions for virtual environments. VMware ThinApp® isolates applications from the operating system. This isolation provides benefits such as natively running legacy applications, such as IE6, on unsupported operating systems, such as Windows 7. ThinApp packages can be delivered through App Volumes as VMDKs instead of streamed across the network from a CIFS share. See [ThinApp Virtual Applications with CloudVolumes Shared VMDKs](#) for more information.

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

A. You can get access to App Volumes through the VMware Hands-on Labs or trial from my.vmware.com.

Licensing

Q. How can I purchase App Volumes?

A. You can purchase App Volumes through VMware or any VMware channel partner.

Q. How is App Volumes licensed?

A. Each edition of App Volumes is licensed on a named or concurrent user basis.