

Windows workstation or laptop Terminal server

BACKUP PLAN: FILE-LEVEL	
WHAT	%USERPROFILE% All user folders (e.g. D:\Documents) Application templates
SCHEDULE	Monthly full Daily incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for the <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space or follow compliance requirements.
BACKUP PLAN: IMAGE-BASED (if needed)	
WHAT	System partitions Exclude user data - %USERPROFILE%\Desktop etc.
SCHEDULE	Weekly full Daily incremental Alternatively: Forever forward incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for the <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space or follow compliance requirements.
RESTORE PLAN: FILE-LEVEL	
WHAT	Files and folders
WHERE	▶ Original location ▶ Selected destination
RESTORE PLAN (DR): IMAGE-BASED	
WHAT	System partitions required to boot machine properly
WHERE	▶ Bare-metal ▶ Virtual disk ▶ vSphere VM ▶ EC2/Azure VM

Linux / MacOS workstation

LEGACY BACKUPFORMAT

NEW BACKUP FORMAT

BACKUP PLAN: FILE-LEVEL		
WHAT	UserData / Home Application/service data (e.g., /etc, /var, /usr in Linux) Exclude / Include -> Best practices	
SCHEDULE	Weekly incremental Daily block-level	Weekly full Daily incremental
RETENTION	Delete versions older than required time from backup date	Keep backup for required time
RESTORE PLAN (DR): FILE-LEVEL		
WHAT	Files and folders	
WHERE	▶ Original location ▶ Selected destination	

File Server

BACKUP PLAN: FILE-LEVEL	
WHAT	Files and folders which were excluded from Image-Based backup with enabled «Backup NTFS Permissions» option All user folders (e.g. D:\Documents) Application templates
SCHEDULE	Weekly full Daily incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for the <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space or follow compliance requirements.
BACKUP PLAN: IMAGE-BASED	
WHAT	All partitions or system required / boot partitions Exclude shared folders
SCHEDULE	Weekly full Daily incremental Alternatively Daily Forever Forward incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for the <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space or follow compliance requirements.
RESTORE PLAN: FILE-LEVEL	
WHAT	Files and folders
WHERE	▶ Original location ▶ Selected destination
RESTORE PLAN (DR): IMAGE-BASED	
WHAT	System partitions required to boot machine properly
WHERE	▶ Bare-metal ▶ Virtual disk ▶ vSphere VM ▶ EC2/Azure VM

Domain controller

BACKUP PLAN: FILE-LEVEL	
WHAT	Files and folders which were excluded from Image-Based backup with enabled «Backup NTFS Permissions» option All user folders (e.g. D:\Documents) Application templates
SCHEDULE	Weekly full Daily incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for the <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space
BACKUP PLAN: IMAGE-BASED	
WHAT	All partitions or system required/boot partitions Exclude shared folders
SCHEDULE	Weekly full «Daily incremental Alternatively:» Daily Forever Forward incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for the required time, GFS for long-term purposes to save space or follow compliance requirements.
RESTORE PLAN: FILE-LEVEL	
WHAT	Files and folders
WHERE	▶ Original location ▶ Selected destination
RESTORE PLAN (DR): IMAGE-BASED	
WHAT	System partitions required to boot machine properly
WHERE	▶ Bare-metal ▶ Virtual disk ▶ vSphere VM ▶ EC2/Azure VM

Hyper-V host

BACKUP PLAN: FILE-LEVEL

WHAT	Shared folders / user data, if applicable
SCHEDULE	Weekly/Monthly full Daily incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for the <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space or follow compliance requirements.

BACKUP PLAN: IMAGE-BASED

WHAT	All partitions or system required / boot partitions Exclude: Hyper-V VM folder (included in VM backups)
SCHEDULE	Weekly full «Daily incremental Alternatively:» Daily Forever Forward incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for the <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space or follow compliance requirements.

RESTORE PLAN:FILE-LEVEL

WHAT	Files and folders
WHERE	Original location Selected destination

RESTORE PLAN (DR): IMAGE-BASED

WHAT	System partitions required to boot machine properly
WHERE	▶ Bare-metal ▶ Virtual disk ▶ vSphere VM ▶ EC2/Azure VM

Hyper-V virtual machine

BACKUP PLAN: Hyper-V VM	
WHAT	CBT Enabled All, only running or selected virtual machines All/Selected disks of the VMs
SCHEDULE	Weekly/Monthly full «Daily incremental Alternatively:» Daily Forever Forward incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space
RESTORE PLAN (DR):	
WHAT	Virtual machines Item-level restore- Individual files / folders
WHERE	▶ VM ▶ Virtual disk ▶ EC2/Azure VM ▶ Selected destination (for files)

VMware virtual machines

BACKUP PLAN: ESXi host / vCenter	
WHAT	All, only running or selected virtual machines
SCHEDULE	Weekly/Monthly full Daily incremental Alternatively: Daily Forever Forward incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space
RESTORE PLAN (DR):	
WHAT	Virtual machines Item-level restore - Individual files / folders
WHERE	▶ VM ▶ Virtual disk ▶ EC2/Azure VM ▶ Selected destination (for files)

MS Exchange Server

BACKUP PLAN: Exchange	
WHAT	Exchange databases
SCHEDULE	Weekly incremental Daily block-level
RETENTION	Delete versions older than <i>required time</i> from <i>backup date</i>
BACKUP PLAN: IMAGE-BASED (if needed)	
WHAT	All or system required / boot partitions Exclude Exchange database folder (or Mailbox folder that contains several Exchange databases)
SCHEDULE	Full every 2 weeks Daily incremental Alternatively Daily Forever Forward incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space
RESTORE PLAN: FILE-LEVEL	
WHAT	Exchange databases
WHERE	▶ Selected destination
RESTORE PLAN (DR): IMAGE-BASED	
WHAT	System partitions required to boot machine properly
WHERE	▶ Bare-metal ▶ Virtual disk ▶ vSphere VM ▶ EC2/Azure VM

Notes:

During the first boot after the system restore, MS Exchange services can start, but without the database, the server won't be fully operational. Before restoring the database, be sure to stop the exchange services. After that, the Exchange database has to be restored (as a file-level restore plan), put in the "Clean Shutdown" state, and copied to the original location of the database.

Instructions on restoring MS Exchange Database to an original instance can be found in the "MSP360 backup and restore best practices guide".

MS SQL Server

BACKUP PLAN: SQL	
WHAT	All MS SQL databases
SCHEDULE	Weekly/Monthly incremental Daily differential backup Transaction logs every 15 minutes / 1-hour
RETENTION	Delete versions older than <i>required time</i> from backup date
BACKUP PLAN: IMAGE-BASED (if needed)	
WHAT	All or system required / boot partitions Exclude MS SQL databases
SCHEDULE	Weekly full «Daily incremental Alternatively:» Daily Forever Forward incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for the required time, GFS for long-term purposes to save space or follow compliance requirements
RESTORE PLAN: FILE-LEVEL	
WHAT	▶ MS SQL databases ▶ SQL Database Files
WHERE	Replace original database, or restore with a different name
RESTORE PLAN (DR): IMAGE-BASED	
WHAT	System partitions required to boot machine properly
WHERE	▶ Bare-metal ▶ Virtual disk ▶ vSphere VM ▶ EC2/Azure VM

NAS devices

BACKUP PLAN: FILE-LEVEL (via network/SMB by the backup server)	
WHAT	NAS network shared folder
SCHEDULE	Weekly full Daily incremental
RETENTION	Keep backup for <i>required time</i> , GFS for long-term purposes to save space
RESTORE PLAN: FILE-LEVEL	
WHAT	Files and folders
WHERE	▶ Original location ▶ Selected destination