Microsoft Operations Management Suite
Pricing and Licensing FAQ

Common licensing questions regarding Operations Management Suite service offerings, the Operations Management Suite Subscription and System Center options.

Q. What service offerings are part of Operations Management Suite?

Insight & Analytics and Automation & Control are included in Operations Management Suite E1 along with subscription rights to Microsoft System Center. Operations Management Suite E2 includes everything in E1 and adds Security & Compliance and Backup & Recovery.

Q. Can I buy the services separately?

Yes, Insight & Analytics, Automation & Control, Security & Compliance, Backup and Site Recovery are each available as standalone services on Azure. When purchased as annual commitments they also include corresponding System Center component(s); see below for details.

Q. What is the difference between paying monthly for the individual services and buying the suite?

Buying the suite includes licenses for System Center and gives a discount, compared to paying for each service individually. Buying the suite also requires an annual commitment.

Q. Can I use these services with my Azure resources?

Yes, Operations Management Suite is a set of integrated Azure services for management and security across all your resources, in Azure, on-premises, in third-party datacenters, and across other clouds.

Q. Do I need an Azure subscription to access Operations Management Suite?

Yes, each of the service offerings in Operations Management Suite are Azure services and require an Azure subscription. Azure Monetary Commitment is not a requirement.

Q. How is System Center included in the Operations Management Suite subscriptions?

When purchased as an annual subscription, each OMS per node service offering includes related components of System Center as follows:

- Insight & Analytics includes System Center Operations Manager.
- Automation & Control includes System Center Configuration Manager, Orchestrator and Service Manager.
- Protection & Recovery includes System Center Data Protection Manager and Virtual Machine Manager.
- OMS E1 and OMS E2 include all components of System Center: Operations Manager, Configuration Manager, Endpoint Protection, Orchestrator, Services Manager, Data Protection Manager, and Virtual Machine Manager.

Please note that there are licensing differences in OMS through CSP, and System Center licenses are not included when purchasing through that program.

Q. Can I purchase individual System Center components separately?

System Center components are not sold separately. They can either be purchased as part of an OMS offering or as part of a System Center server license.

Q. If I am a Core Infrastructure Suite (CIS) customer, how should I purchase Operations Management Suite services?

CIS customers should take advantage of the Operations Management Suite add-on to System Center, which enables you to bring cloud management into your management portfolio.

Q. If I purchase OMS E1 or E2, or annual commitment suites, how do I implement this when I provision my OMS services?

The purchase of OMS is attached to the agreement with your Azure enrollment. The service entitlements from your OMS purchase are used when the OMS services are created on an Azure subscription that belongs to your agreement. For Insight & Analytics and Automation & Control it is necessary to select the "per node (OMS)" pricing tier to consume entitlements.

Q. Is there an extra charge for Linux?

Operations Management Suite covers both Linux and Windows Server nodes at the same price.

Q. Can I use these services with my AWS resources?

Yes, Operations Management Suite is a set of integrated Azure services for management and security across all your resources, in Azure, on-premises, in third-party datacenters, and across other clouds, including AWS.

Q. Can I use these services with my on-premises virtual machines, including those on VMware?

Yes, Operations Management Suite is a set of integrated Azure services for management and security across all your resources, in Azure, on-premises, in third-party datacenters, and across other clouds.

Q. Why would I purchase Insight & Analytics instead of Log Analytics?

Insight & Analytics builds on the functionality of Log Analytics with expanded network monitoring and dependency mapping capabilities. Log Analytics offers a basic platform for log collection and search. For deeper insight and enhanced ability to troubleshoot, Insight & Analytics offers the best option.

Q. Why would I purchase Automation & Control instead of Automation?

Automation & Control expands your ability to drive consistency across your environment with Automation, Configuration Management, and Update Management.

Q. What is a node? Can I add nodes during the annual subscription?

A node can be a virtual machine, a physical server, a network device or other instance. You can buy additional nodes either upfront through a suite or by purchasing a pay-as-you-go plan.

Examples of nodes include the following:

Insight & Analytics

- Windows and Linux computers with one of the OMS agents installed
- Azure classic cloud service web and worker role instances
- Azure service fabric cluster nodes
- Data sent through the data collector API with the "Computer" field populated
- Each device sending logs via a syslog forwarder

Automation & Control
- Computers with the Configuration Management agent installed
- Computers with an OMS agent collecting Change Tracking data
- Computers with an OMS agent collecting Update Management data
- Computers with Automation Hybrid Worker installed

Security & Compliance

- Windows computers sending Security Event logs
- Linux computers sending security/authorization syslog events
- Azure resources monitored by Security Center. Note that currently, only virtual machines are counted (each Azure VM counts as one node), but as more security monitoring capabilities are enabled for other types of services, like Azure Cloud Services or SQL databases, we may begin counting these resources as well.
- Computers sending antimalware information
- Devices sending Security logs, including:
    - Windows computers sending Security Event logs
    - Linux computers sending security/authorization syslog events
    - Devices, such as network devices, sending Common Event Format (CEF) logs
    - Devices, such as network devices, sending Cisco Adaptive Security Appliance (ASA) logs
    - Each device sending the above log types through a syslog forwarder

Q. How are node costs calculated for Insight & Analytics and Automation & Control?

For the per node (OMS) pricing tier, node charges are calculated hourly, based on unique computer name. Nodes that report using both a FQDN and hostname are only counted once, and the comparison is case insensitive.

A node that reports for only part of the month is charged only for the timeframe it sends data. A node that reports for 10 days in a month is charged approximately 1/3rd of the price of the full month (based on 31 days).

Q. What does the 500 MB daily allocation apply to?

For the per node (OMS) pricing tier, each Insight & Analytics node has a 500 MB daily allocation and each Security & Compliance node has a 500MB daily allocation. A node with both Insight & Analytics and Security & Compliance has a 1000MB allocation.

Ingestion for Automation & Control for change tracking and update management are included as part of that service.

Q. How does the pooling of data allocations from nodes work?

For each Log Analytics workspace on the per node (OMS) pricing tier, the daily allocation of data from the nodes goes into a pool of data. All data collected by the service (whether it is for a node or not) consumes from the pool of data. If OMS collects more data than was in the pool, then the additional data is charged as overage. Overages are charged at $2.30 GB/month.

Some examples that assume you are on the per node (OMS) pricing tier and send 1.5GB of data daily:

- If nothing counts as a node, there is a charge for 1.5GB of data overage and 0 nodes. This is the same cost as if you were on a per GB pricing tier.
- If you have one node, there is a charge for 1GB of data overage and one node
- If you have two nodes, there is a charge for .5GB of data overage and for two nodes
- If you have three nodes, there is a charge for 3 nodes but nothing for data overage
- If you have four nodes, there is a charge for 4 nodes but nothing for data overage

Q. Do I get charged overages if one of my nodes go over the 500MB per day allocation, while my other nodes may be lower than the 500MB allocation?

For the per node (OMS) pricing tier we calculate the total volume of data ingested during the 24 hour period across all nodes, and subtract the current daily allocation. Any positive value left over is emitted as overage for the day. In this example, if you have 10 nodes, as long as you remain under 5000MB of ingested data per day then overages for log ingestion will not occur for that day.

Q. Do SaaS and PaaS services count as nodes? How is the O365 solution charged?

For the per GB pricing tier (Standard, Premium, Standalone), there is no calculation of nodes, and charges are only for the data ingested. You can find more detail on the pricing tiers [here](#).

For the per node (OMS) pricing tier, data that comes from things that aren't nodes, such as the O365 Activity Log and most Azure services, do not count as a node. Their data usage consumes from the pool of data allocation.

Q. Where can I see how many nodes I am using?

The [usage page](#) in Log Analytics provides details on the number of Insight & Analytics, Automation & Control, and Security & Compliance nodes reporting to the workspace.

Q. If I have one computer that reports to multiple Log Analytics workspaces, how is this charged?

If you are on per GB pricing (Standard, Premium, Standalone), then you are charged for the data sent to each workspace (even if you send the same data to both workspaces).

If you are on per node pricing (OMS), then the computer will count as a node for each workspace (i.e. 1 computer reporting to 2 workspaces is charged as 2 nodes)

Q. What is the length of data retention in the OMS services?

Any data charges associated with Backup and Site Recovery are charged separately at regular Azure storage rates. Data ingested for all other services in OMS include 1 month of retention at no additional charge. Retention of data for longer than one month and up to 2 years is charged at $0.10/GB/month.

Q. Can I choose to store my data for 12 or more months?

Yes, for all OMS services you can choose to store data for 12 or more months. Storage for Backup and Site Recovery is charged separately at regular storage rates. For all other services in OMS, you can store data for up to two years charged at $0.10/GB/month.

Q. Can I choose to store my Log Analytics data for less than 1 month?

The Free pricing tier includes 7 days of data retention. All paid pricing tiers include at least 1 month of data retention, and it is not possible to reduce this period.

Q. Can I purchase new or premium services such as Service Map or Change Tracking independently?

Certain new solutions are designated as "premium" and are only available via the offerings priced per node: Insight & Analytics, Automation & Control, Security & Compliance, and Backup & Recovery. Today, those services are:

- As part of Insight & Analytics: Service Map, Network Performance Monitor
- As part of Automation & Control: Change Tracking, Update Management

This does not apply to Log Analytics included solutions, which are available through both the Log Analytics service and also Insight & Analytics.

Q. Are there free tiers for any of the services?

Log Analytics has a free tier with up to 500MB per day of data collection, storing data for 7 days. Automation offers up to 500 minutes per month for free, and up to 5 nodes of Configuration Management per day.

Q. What other evaluation options are available for OMS?

OMS also provides Site Recovery E2A free for all instances for first 31 days.

Q. How do I select the correct pricing option within Azure?

When you create a new workspace, you will be offered options depending on the service. To use Operations Management Suite entitlements, choose Per Node (OMS) in the drop down menu for the pricing tier. All solutions are available on Per Node (OMS) and Free tiers.

For Insights & Analytics / Log Analytics:

When selecting Log Analytics, you can choose between Free, Per GB (standalone) and Per Node (OMS).

- Free provides up to 500MB of total ingestion per day, 5 nodes of Service Map and Network Performance monitoring and 7 days of data retention.

- Standalone provides unlimited ingestion at $2.30 per GB, with 31 days retention included, and the ability to increase retention to 2 years. Also included is access to 90 days of Azure activity logs. Most management solutions are available. Learn more about available management solutions.

- Per Node (OMS) is charged $15 per node and includes an allocation of 500MB per node of data ingestion, which is pooled amongst nodes. Ingestion above the pooled data allocation is charged at $2.30 per GB. Data retention for 31 days is included, with the ability to increase retention to 2 years. Also included is access to 90 days of Azure activity logs. All management solutions are available.

To use Service Map or Network Performance monitoring solutions, choose Per Node (OMS) or Free.

For Automation & Control:

When selecting Automation & Control you can choose the Per Node (OMS) option.

- Per Node (OMS) provides unlimited nodes of Configuration Management, Change Tracking and Update Management at $6 per node, includes Unlimited minutes for out of box solutions
- 10 min/node/day for custom runbooks with additional automation minutes at $0.002 per minute

For Security & Compliance

In Azure Security Center, you can choose between Free and Standard

- Free (for details, see Security Center documentation)
- Standard

In Log Analytics, to use Security or Antimalware solutions choose Per Node (OMS) or Free.

- Free provides up to 500MB of total ingestion per day, shared with Log Analytics, and 7 days of data retention
- Per Node (OMS) provides unlimited nodes of Security and unlimited data ingestion with a charge of $15 per node.

For any additional questions, contact your Microsoft representative or Azure Support.