Carbonite Server cloud failover and failback

How to keep critical data available with automatic or push-button failover

In addition to performing rapid disaster recovery during a data loss event, Carbonite Server also gives businesses the ability to immediately fail over to a secondary environment the moment there's an outage to a server. This advanced functionality helps IT organizations keep critical systems online and available with little to no interruption in service.

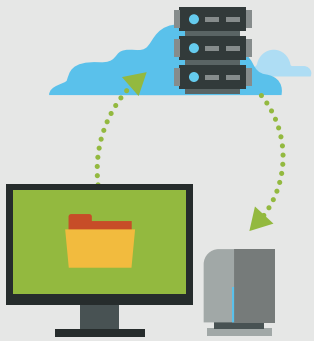
Real-time replication and near-zero downtime

The Carbonite Server replication engine creates and maintains a perfectly synchronized copy of source servers. The replica system is constantly communicating with the source, mirroring changes in real time and ensuring the source is always operating in a healthy state. Anytime the source server cannot communicate with the replica, the system enters an error state. Automatically – or at the click of a button, if so configured – the replica server assumes the identity of the source, and traffic is rerouted to the replica environment. Users and applications can continue operating using live data, while IT performs disaster recovery on the failed server.

Engineered for complex IT environments

The failover of a single server is fairly straightforward, but most systems are made up of interdependent, multi-tier applications. Carbonite Server is designed to support key requirements of complex IT environments, including:

- **Orchestration** – Multi-tier applications often have a specific boot order, and additional needs for custom automation, to ensure the application is reconstituted appropriately. The orchestration and automation built into Carbonite Server, along with custom script points, support these complex use cases across groups of servers.
- **Performance and bandwidth** – By sending tiny amounts of data across the wire on an ongoing basis, Carbonite Server minimizes performance impact, both on the servers being protected and on the network.
- **Security** – All data is secured by AES-256 encryption, both in flight and at rest.
- **DNS** – Once your systems fail over, Carbonite Server automates DNS updates to seamlessly redirect your users to the new systems.



Key benefits

- Recovery times and recovery points measured in minutes or seconds
- Orchestration for multi-tier applications, with boot order, scripting and automated discovery of systems in your environment
- Non-disruptive, self-service testing
- Bandwidth-optimized for limited network impact
- Built-in encryption, both at rest and in flight

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Testing that builds confidence

The best way to ensure the efficacy of systems devoted to data protection is through regular testing. Carbonite Server gives businesses the ability to perform self-service tests without disrupting operations. The best business continuity plans are tested once per quarter, so Carbonite Server is engineered to support regular testing at frequent intervals.

Failback

Once the original source server is repaired or replaced, replication is initiated from the failed over target back to the original source. Once the two systems are synchronized, users can be routed back to the original source again. This process is referred to as "failback," where the target releases the identity it assumed during failover and the source reclaims it. Reversing replication before failback reduces user downtime by allowing users to continue accessing their data on the failed over target during the resynchronization process. Once failback is complete, user and application requests are no longer routed to the target, but back to the original source.

To learn more, contact your Carbonite representative today.

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Supported platforms

- Windows
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux
- CentOS
- VMware and Hyper-V
- IBM iSeries and AIX
- HP-UX
- Solaris

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