

Dell Private Cloud - Microsoft



Enabled by Dell Automation Platform

A subscription for Dell Private Cloud software seamlessly ties together three essential components:

Storage: Leverage your existing Dell storage or invest in a new system. You can choose between platform-integrated storage, which offers automation and lifecycle workflows like deployment and updates, or platform-compatible storage that has been validated for Dell Private Cloud but is managed independently.

Compute: Optimize performance with Dell PowerEdge servers. Like Dell storage for Dell Private Cloud, you can leverage a new or existing PowerEdge server.

Azure Local license: Procure your own licensing through your preferred channels and achieve ease-of-use through familiar and consistent Azure Local management tools, allowing teams to leverage in-house knowledge and resources with no new training required.

With seamless integration, automation, intelligent lifecycle management, and system-level support, Dell Private Cloud simplifies IT while supporting your evolving business needs. Continuous validation and testing ensure greater reliability and predictability for your Azure Local environment.

Dell Private Cloud delivers the simplicity of an appliance-like experience combined with the flexibility of disaggregated infrastructure, empowering organizations to adapt to evolving IT needs. By integrating with Microsoft Azure Local, Dell Private Cloud accelerates deployments, simplifies operations, and ensures scalability for modern workloads – all while leveraging Dell's proven hardware and comprehensive support.

How Dell Private Cloud operates

The automation and orchestration engine working in the background facilitates the deployment and management activities of your Dell Private Cloud to ensure that you are operating with ease and executing with confidence. This includes the following:

Dell Automation Platform: A no-cost control plane and orchestrator that provides a centralized, unified experience for Dell customers by automating the deployment and management of both hardware and software. Dell Automation Platform onboards Dell infrastructure resources and provides access to this inventory. Included in Dell Automation Platform is a catalog of blueprints.

Validated blueprint: Dell-tested and validated build schemes that are a declarative representation of an environment that the Dell Automation Platform orchestrator uses to automate activities such as cluster deployment, cluster expansion, and PowerStore updates. These Dell-tested templates are written in TOSCA-based YAML files.

Dell Private Cloud: Dell Private Cloud deploying Azure Local is enabled through Dell Automation Platform and validated blueprints, tailored to deliver Azure Local outcomes. The solution integrates directly with the Azure Portal for Day 2 operations. This allows you to manage your infrastructure using familiar tools, including Azure Update Manager for routine system updates, Azure Monitor for visibility, and Azure Defender for security. For firmware and driver updates in Azure Local, Dell Private Cloud leverages the solution builder extension along with Windows Defender Application control (WDAC) supplemental policies, providing consistent and reliable management without requiring a hardware support manager plug-in.

Specifications for Dell Private Cloud - Microsoft

Dell Automation Platform Orchestrator			
SaaS	Dell-hosted platform accessible via Dell On-Premises Proxy & Accelerator	On-premises	Customer-hosted platform as a virtual appliance -or- Customer-hosted platform as a Kubernetes cluster

Disaggregated infrastructure			
PowerEdge	16G R660/R760 (Intel), 17G R670/R770 (Intel) 2 socket Intel Xeon Scalable CPUs (16+ cores) BOSS-N1 (2x 960GB M.2 configured for RAID 1) Redundant power supplies iDRAC Enterprise or Data Center license OCP 3.0 and PCIe GPU support	PowerStore	PowerStore OS version 3.5 or later LUN size for primary datastore >1TB Fibre Channel

Bring Your Own Networking

Azure Local deployment	
Azure Local cluster requirements	- Cluster size – 1 to 64 nodes - Cluster prepare and expansion– all nodes have homogeneous hardware configuration (nodes must be same model and manufacturer, use the same processor types and network adaptors) - Networking – Minimum of two 10GbE NICs required for compute and management purposes. Follow Microsoft Learn for Networking requirements.

Licensing for Dell Private Cloud - Microsoft

Dell Automation Platform	
Platform license	No-cost subscription added to sales order; only one instance required
Management host	Customer-provided infrastructure and licensing
Disaggregated infrastructure	
Private Cloud software	1-, 3-, 4-, or 5-year subscription Subscription licensed per PowerEdge node Licenses are portable between Private Clouds
PowerEdge	Requires iDRAC Enterprise or Datacenter license per node
Dell storage	Use standard storage licensing (e.g., PowerStore) No additional Private Cloud licenses required
Azure Local	
Azure Local	Bring your own license or OEM License for Azure Local with WS 2025 Guest VMs

Empowering IT with Automation and Flexibility

Intelligent lifecycle management:

- Dell Private Cloud offers automated, full-stack lifecycle management for both Dell hardware (compute/storage) and the private cloud software stack. This includes patching, updating, expansion, and component replacement—with blueprint-driven, validated routines.

Familiar management experience:

- Manage your environment using familiar tools in the Azure portal, like Azure Update Manager, Azure Monitor, and Azure Policy.
- Dell Automation Platform orchestrator acts as the central interface for administration, automation, and inventory for Dell Private Cloud clusters.

Automation and blueprints:

- Predefined, validated blueprint workflows handle day two activities, such as updating clusters, expanding clusters, retiring clusters, and upgrading Dell PowerStore storage. These blueprints automate multi-step operations and minimize risk.

Dynamic licensing:

- Automated process to apply licenses from Dell Digital Locker to cluster deployments for ease of use, tracking, and allocation of licenses. No need to manually download license files and paste keys.

Other typical day 2 tasks made easier:

- Cluster expansion or cluster retirement all managed from the central orchestrator, with blueprint automation mapping/unmapping resources.
- Storage system updates managed centrally—no need for cluster-specific manual steps.
- The ability to quickly re-provision, repurpose, or decommission infrastructure as workloads or business requirements change.

Dell Private Cloud support and deployment options

Dell provides a comprehensive suite of support and deployment services for Dell Private Cloud solutions. These services ensure streamlined installation, expert guidance, and a primary source of system-level support for customers.

Deployment Options with ProDeploy and ProDeploy Plus

A strong foundation ensures long-term success. Our ProDeploy services provide expert guidance to get your systems running quickly and correctly.

- **Dell Automation Platform**
Your deployment path depends on how you choose to run the platform. The Orchestrator is available as a SaaS service or can run on-premises. The Orchestrator or Orchestrator proxy is packaged as a virtual appliance or is available for installation on a Kubernetes cluster. Deployment services cover full implementation of the Dell Automation Platform.
- **Dell Private Cloud Software**
Deployment services are required for new clusters. Our team handles the heavy lifting so you can focus on your goals. This service includes physical and logical planning, racking, and cabling, and setting up the complete ecosystem.
- **PowerEdge Servers and Dell Storage**
We simplify your hardware setup. PowerEdge server deployment is included within your Private Cloud software deployment contract. For Dell Storage, we recommend professional deployment services for specific storage products to ensure a best practices set up.

Support Options with ProSupport and ProSupport Plus

We design ProSupport and ProSupport Plus to resolve issues quickly and keep your systems optimized. Support for Dell Private Cloud provides expert guidance and a primary source of system-level support.

- **Dell Automation Platform**
Support for both the on-premises and Software-as-a-Service versions of the Dell Automation Platform is included with your Private Cloud Software at no additional charge.

- **Dell Private Cloud Software**
For your Azure Local environment, the minimum requirement is ProSupport. Upgrading to ProSupport Plus provides full L1 and L2 support from Dell on Azure Local if you would like to contact Dell for all hardware and software issues. Please note that you must also maintain an active support contract directly with your software vendor.
- **PowerEdge Servers and Dell Storage**
Your hardware requires a minimum level of ProSupport to receive Dell Private Cloud solution support. We strongly recommend upgrading to ProSupport Plus for both your PowerEdge servers and Dell Storage solutions. This premium tier offers proactive monitoring, faster resolution times, and dedicated expertise to protect your vital data.

Dell Private Cloud deploying Azure Local advantages:

- **External Storage Flexibility:** Seamlessly pair Azure Local with Dell's industry-leading external storage solutions, such as PowerStore , to scale compute and storage independently for maximum efficiency.
- **Licensing Freedom:** Bring your own Azure Local licensing, free from hardware constraints, and take advantage of pay-as-you go via Azure subscription or the Azure Hybrid Benefit. Choose the OEM License for Azure Local with Windows Server 2025 Guest VMs and get the flexibility of a perpetual license.
- **Effortless Usability:** Empower your team to hit the ground running with familiar Azure tools and expertise—no additional training required.
- **Secure, Zero-Touch Deployment:** Deploy quickly and confidently with white-glove services, zero-trust security, and streamlined onboarding.
- **Simplified Operations:** Streamline daily management with automation, intelligent lifecycle tools, and comprehensive full-stack support.

Dell Private Cloud stands out for its exceptional flexibility in configurations and licensing, allowing customers to enable Azure Local deployment. An open and adaptable infrastructure approach provides robust investment protection with the ability to repurpose to different third party cloud ecosystems as workload and business needs change. This combination of flexibility, future-proofing, and comprehensive support makes Dell Private Cloud a unique and powerful Azure Local-based solution that leverages automation, intelligent lifecycle management, and enhanced security that customers have come to know and depend on for seamless operations and continued success.

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