

Backup - Management - Lifetime and Deletion

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Lösung (öffentlich)

Backup - Management - Lifetime and Deletion Lifetime & Extension

The lifetime of a backup node is limited, but can be adjusted and extended at any time before it expires by the responsible persons via the [1]Self-Service Portal (SSP). The new expiration date may be at most 2 years in the future (counted from today).

Retention Period

A maximum of 180 versions of each file are kept. The current (active) version is retained as long as the file exists on your system — it does not expire, even if the file doesn't change for a long time. Older (inactive) versions are deleted 180 days after they were replaced by a newer version.

If a file is deleted on your system (or excluded from the backup), its last version also becomes inactive on the next backup run and is deleted 180 days later. Deleted files can therefore only be restored for 180 days.

Expiration Process

Before the automatic expiration, the responsible persons (Administrator and Deputy) will be informed by email. A timely extension (or premature deletion) in the SSP stops the dispatch of further reminder emails and is recommended by us to avoid email spam. You will receive notifications at the following times:

-

30 days before expiration

-

15 days before expiration

-

7 days before expiration

-

1 day before expiration

-

On the day after the expiration date (notification of locking)

Locking

On the day after the expiration date, the backup node will automatically be locked. From this point on, no further backup is possible. The state of the last backup (the active versions) is retained; older (inactive) versions continue to expire as usual.

Deletion

A backup node is either deleted automatically after expiration (locking followed by later deletion) or by the administrator via the SSP.

A deletion by the administrator in the SSP initially corresponds technically to an immediate lock. A locked backup node is considered inactive and will continue to be shown in the SSP until it is finally deleted.

Backup nodes are kept for at least 200 days after being locked. After that, they are usually permanently deleted. Until then, the state of the last backup remains restorable, but older versions may already have been deleted due to the retention period.

Final Data Loss

After the final deletion (technical removal from the storage system), all data is irrevocably lost. A recovery is generally not possible.

[1] <https://selfservice.tu-dresden.de/services/backup/overview/>