

Getting started with

IBM® Storage Insights

IBM Storage Insights is an IBM cloud service that can help you predict and prevent storage problems before they impact your business.

1 Sign up

Estimated time: 10 minutes

If you own IBM block storage systems and don't already have IBM Storage Insights, sign up at <https://ibm.biz/insightsreg>.

What you need to know about signing up:

- You'll need an IBM ID. Don't worry, it's easy. Just go to [Create your IBM account](#) and complete the form.
- When you register, specify an owner for IBM Storage Insights. The owner manages access for other users and acts as the main contact.
- You'll receive a Welcome email when IBM Storage Insights is ready. The email contains a direct link to your dashboard.

2 Collecting metadata

Estimated time: 10 minutes

IBM Storage Insights can collect metadata through IBM Call Home with cloud services or by data collectors that are deployed in your environment.

- **IBM Call Home with cloud services:** IBM Call Home with cloud services integrates IBM FlashSystem storage systems with IBM Storage Insights to collect detailed configuration, capacity, and performance metadata without needing a data collector.

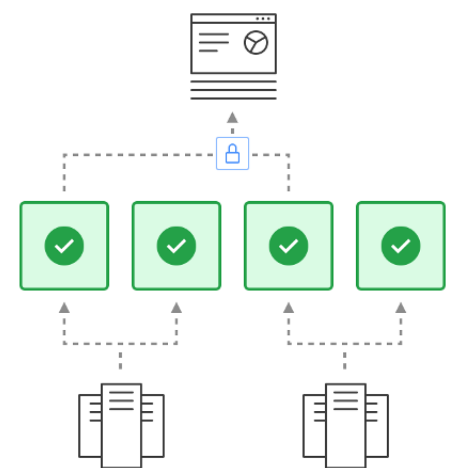
Learn more: https://ibm.biz/call_home

- **Data collector:** Deploy one or more lightweight data collectors in your data centers to stream performance, capacity, and configuration metadata to IBM Storage Insights.

1. Log in to IBM Storage Insights (the link is in your Welcome email).
2. Click **Main menu** > **Inventory** > **Data collectors**.
3. Click **Deploy Data Collector**.
4. Download the data collector for your operating system (Windows, Linux, or AIX).
5. Extract the contents of the data collector file on the virtual machine or physical server where you want it to run.
6. For Windows, run 'installDataCollectorService.bat'.
For Linux or AIX, run 'installDataCollectorService.sh'.

After a data collector is deployed, it attempts to establish a connection to IBM Storage Insights. When the connection is complete, you're ready to start adding your storage systems for monitoring!

Learn more: <https://ibm.biz/insightsdatacollector>



Data collector requirements

Provide at least 1 GB of RAM and 3 GB of disk space.

Operating systems:

- Windows Server 2016 and later
- Linux:
 - x86-64: RHEL7 and later, CentOS 7 and later
 - PPC64LE: POWER8 with RHEL7
- AIX: POWER6® or later systems with AIX® versions 7.x and later

3 Enable Call Home

Estimated time: 5 minutes per storage system

Get the most out of IBM Storage Insights by enabling Call Home on your IBM block storage systems. With Call Home, you'll be able to view a diagnostic feed of events and notifications about their health and status.

Stay informed so you can act quickly to resolve incidents before they affect critical storage operations.

Learn more: <https://ibm.biz/insightscallhome>

Sign up now!

<https://ibm.biz/insightsreg>

4 Add resources for monitoring

Estimated time: 1 minute per resource

Connect IBM Storage Insights to the storage systems, switches, fabrics, and VMware hosts that you want to monitor.

1. Click **Actions** on the home page.
2. Select **Add storage systems** and follow the prompts.

Learn more: <https://ibm.biz/insightsaddingdevices>

With Call Home enabled, you can connect IBM Storage Insights to **IBM Storage FlashSystem, Storwize and SAN Volume Controller family** that you want to monitor by using either its CLI or management GUI.

Learn more: https://ibm.biz/call_home

5 View your dashboards

Dashboards provide insights into key aspects of your storage at a glance. Identify resources that need attention, monitor notifications of events that occur, get an overview of your environment, and more. For example, on the Operations dashboard, you can view:

- The overall health of monitored block storage systems and their components.
- Key capacity metrics so you know whether you've got enough capacity to meet your storage demands.
- Key performance metrics so you can identify potential bottlenecks and high workloads.
- Notifications of Call Home events for a storage system.
- Tickets that were opened or closed for a storage system.

Learn more: https://ibm.biz/overview_dashboards

6 Add users to your dashboard

Estimated time: 1 minute per user

Optional: Add users, such as other storage administrators, IBM Technical advisors, and IBM Business Partners, at any time so that they can access your IBM Storage Insights dashboard.

1. In IBM Storage Insights, hover over the profile icon in the banner and click **Manage Users**.
2. On the My IBM website, click **Manage** for IBM Storage Insights.
3. Click **Manage users**.
4. Click **Add new user**.
5. Provide a first name, last name, and email address or IBM ID.
6. Assign the **Subscription administrator** or **License user** role to determine their level of access.
7. Click **Submit**.

Learn more: <https://ibm.biz/insightsmanageusers>

What's next?

After you're up and running with IBM Storage Insights, there's even more that you can do:

- Have an open ticket with a storage system? Upload logs with ease.
- Encounter an issue with your storage? Open a support ticket with just a few clicks.
- Create custom dashboards to model your data centers and environments.
- Try [IBM Storage Insights Pro](#). Get a free trial of its advanced monitoring and planning capabilities.

For your reference

Need more information? Explore these resources about IBM Storage Insights:

- [Troubleshooting](#) Having trouble getting started? Get answers here.
- [Security](#) Get a quick, high-level view of security in IBM Storage Insights.
- [FAQ](#) View answers to common questions.
- [Looking for help](#) Learn how to get help, where and when you need it.