

SOLUTION BRIEF

Five Reasons to Manage Your Files with FlashArray

Break free from the complexity of legacy file storage with a system that's simple, flexible, and secure.

Introduction

At Pure Storage®, we've always focused on making things straightforward for our customers. Take file storage, for example. IT workers have been struggling with complex and inflexible legacy storage systems to manage their file data for decades, with many assuming that this complexity is simply unavoidable.

But there's a better way. Just as they did for block storage, when Pure Storage engineers wanted to reinvent file management, they looked at everything that wasn't working in traditional file storage systems. They examined things like needing to plan so much ahead of time, impractical data protection, and limited virtualization support. File management isn't "bolted on" in the Pure Storage platform: The same powerful, effortless flexibility that you are used to when managing block data is there for your file data, too.

Here are a few examples of how we've designed Pure Storage FlashArray™ File to solve the problems of traditional file storage, creating opportunities for you to do more than you thought possible.



Simplicity from the start

Remove complication and tedious manual work from file management.



Management that works for you

Get an intuitive interface that works across all of your datastores, including file.



Effortless flexibility

Manage your files without need for tiers or clustering, on a system that grows and changes as you do.

1 **Zero-headache startup**

Legacy file storage systems are rigid by design. They require you to know how your file system must be structured, down to the smallest detail, *before* you set it up. By contrast, Pure Storage only requires you know two things about your data: your root directories and your managed directories. No worrying about disks, RAID groups, aggregates, volumes, tree structures, and other legacy storage concepts. All management operations are done at the managed directory level in FlashArray File, so a single file system will suffice in most cases. There's no need for you to get out your crystal ball and plan ahead for all of the "what ifs" as your file data changes over time. The Purity operating system will adapt and keep pace as your data grows. With FlashArray File, you get up and running faster, allowing you to meet SLAs and spend your time on more important things.

2 **Stress-free management**

Because management operations are done in one place, you also save time and frustration over the long run with a native, intuitive management interface that works across all of your file stores. There are no artificial hierarchies of operations that can only be done at certain levels (like volume, disk, etc.). Policy-driven administration becomes much easier when you don't have to wrestle with spiderweb permissions and quotas. And with Pure Fusion™, our included intelligent control plane, you can manage a fleet of arrays with the same simplicity. You get peace of mind by applying policies and provisioning storage with a single command, across your entire fleet. You stay in control of your file data, without the surprises and stress that traditional file storage creates. Where else could you add value if you didn't have to spend all your time managing your file storage?

3 **Flexibility to grow**

With FlashArray File, once you set up a filesystem, you're only limited by the size of your array. There are no artificial limits placed on file size, or the number of files or volumes you can manage. There isn't even a minimum volume size required. And because we've made all-flash storage so economical and upgradable, you also don't have to bother with managing storage tiers or clustering. This means that you have far more flexibility as your file data grows and changes over time. You're not locked into a rigid system that keeps getting more complicated, requiring more and more of your time, effort, and infrastructure budget. With Pure Storage, you can rest assured that your file store will adapt to the inevitable changes ahead, giving you predictability and peace of mind.



4

Data protection you can actually use

Does your file storage make data protection so complex that your team can't make the time to test data resiliency, or have visibility into threats? Pure Storage helps protect your file data with powerful yet easy-to-manage snapshot and replication capabilities, and tight integration with cybersecurity tools like Superna. Gain real-time visibility into file storage threats, identify malicious users, and stop threats before they occur. Run tests as often as needed, without impacting system performance. Get faster recovery times that keep your business up and running. Be as granular as you need in your snapshots, without worrying about wasting storage space. You get powerful and easy-to-manage data protection that saves you time, space, and frustration, giving you peace of mind that your data will be available when you need it.

5

Virtualization made easy

With FlashArray File, virtualization running on NFS is taken to the next level. You get the same powerful VMware vSphere Virtual Volumes (vVols) capabilities that you're used to in the block world. We've removed the artificial limitations that legacy storage puts on your virtualized file data, so you don't need to do convoluted planning around VM snapshots to minimize their size or storage space needed. You can use the "unmap" command to free up space easily. Metrics, including reporting on available space, replication, and snapshots, are all managed at the VM level. We even include zero-touch provisioning with VMware vSphere. It's never been simpler to manage virtualized file data.

Pure Storage FlashArray: Simplicity within reach

With FlashArray File, you don't have to go to the cloud for simplified file management—we bring you the ease of a cloud-like experience on premises. Pure Storage has removed complication, guesswork, and menial work from your file management. No more gambling with your data—you know it's available, secure, and performant, no matter how your files change over time.

To learn more about how Pure Storage FlashArray File can work for you, [see the demo](#).

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