

# Why a solid on-premises recovery plan for Azure AD isn't sufficient today



Although a solid on-premises AD backup and recovery plan is still necessary, it is no longer sufficient as the only recovery plan.

With the move to the cloud, organizations have increased the use of cloud-only objects like conditional access policies, Intune device policies, and BitLocker.

Unfortunately, those cloud-only objects are not covered by your on-premises Active Directory (AD) backup, as they only live in the cloud. And not all cloud objects go through the Azure AD recycle bin when they are deleted.

## 6 objects that aren't protected if you're using on-premises AD backup

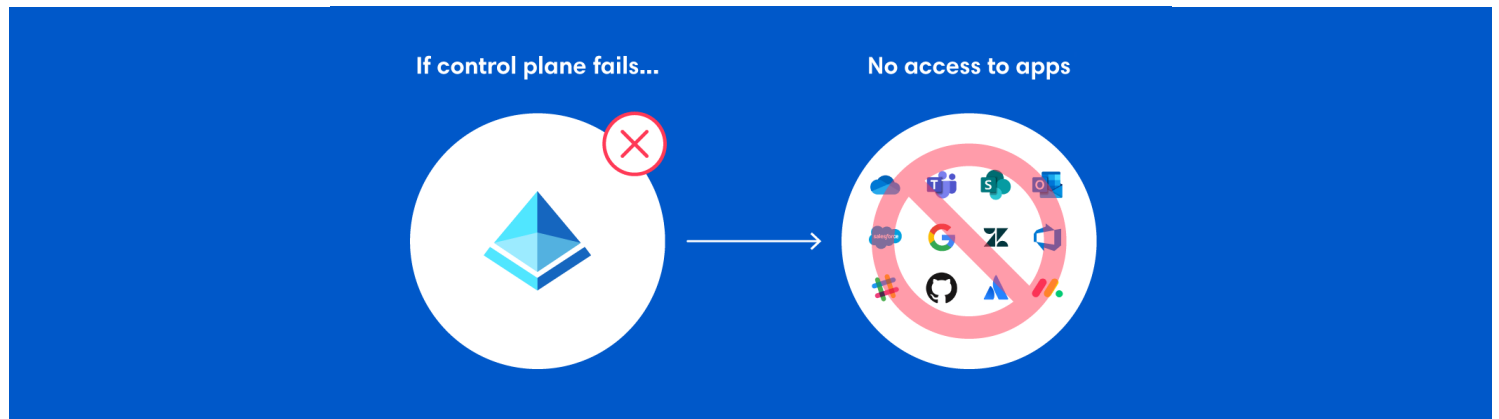
The core processes of authenticating a user and authorizing them to access the correct resources are similar in both on-premises AD and Azure AD, but there are also important differences. The main difference is that Azure AD has cloud-only objects and properties that do not exist in on-premises AD. Those cloud objects include:

Roles	Licenses	Policies	Applications and service principals	Dynamic group definitions	BitLocker Recovery Keys
Ensures users can perform specific tasks like adding users, resetting passwords, managing licenses, etc.	Only exist in the cloud. If a license attribute is lost, users can't access or use Microsoft's cloud services	Conditional Access policies and Intune device policies controls access by requiring/enforcing restrictions to get access to company resources.	Define how non-Microsoft 365 applications interact with Azure AD.	Automatically adjust a user's group membership.	Mitigate unauthorized data access to lost or stolen computers by encrypting all files on a device
No native retention in Microsoft	No native retention in Microsoft	No native retention in Microsoft	App registrations: 30 days native retention in Microsoft  Service principals: No retention in Microsoft	Groups: 30 days retention	No retention in Microsoft

## Why backup Azure AD cloud objects?













Your data may not be fully protected when you back up your cloud data with an on-premises AD oriented tool as your Azure AD backup solution—you simply do not have a complete and truthful copy of your data.

In 2023, Microsoft's threat intelligence team [identified large destructive attacks on hybrid environments](#). The attacker entered the network and compromised on-premises AD and used that access to pivot to and compromise Azure AD, and then deleted all of the target's Azure resources. If such an attack happened to you, how would you recover those critical Azure AD cloud-only objects?



## Defend against disaster with leading protection for Azure AD

Keepit's enterprise level backup and recovery protection for Azure AD helps you defend against disasters. Stay operational with the broadest and most advanced protection, which includes:

 Users	 Groups	 Roles	 Admin Units	 Audit logs	 Sign-in logs
 Conditional Access Policies	 App Registrations	 Enterprise Apps	 Bitlocker Recovery Key	 Intune Device Configuration	 Intune Device Compliance

Quick, secure, and comprehensive protection of Azure AD and Microsoft 365 to ensure your entire Microsoft tenant is fully protected. The benefits include:

- Back up cloud objects not covered by the Recycle Bin
- Extend the retention and the ability to recover Azure AD objects
- Ability to selectively roll back changes
- Preserve important records for compliance purposes
- Recover lost data in disaster scenarios
- Increase IT efficiency

## About Keepit

The world's only independent, vendor-neutral cloud dedicated to SaaS data protection, Keepit is trusted by thousands of companies worldwide to protect and manage their cloud data. Leading analysts agree Keepit is the fastest and most secure enterprise-class SaaS backup and recovery service. [keepit.com](https://keepit.com)



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