Space allocation for luns

In modern versions of NetApp ONTAP, space allocation is considered a core best practice and is even **enabled by default** for newly created LUNs across iSCSI, FC, and NVMe protocols.

Enabling space allocation provides two critical advantages for your SAN environment:

- **Enables Host Space Reclamation (SCSI UNMAP):** When a host deletes data inside the LUN, enabling this setting allows the host to send SCSI UNMAP commands back to ONTAP. ONTAP then automatically reclaims that dead space, preventing unnecessary volume growth and maximizing storage efficiency.
- **Prevents LUNs From Unexpectedly Going Offline:** If a volume completely runs out of space, the default behavior of a LUN with space allocation *disabled* is to immediately drop offline to prevent data corruption. With space allocation *enabled*, ONTAP sends a specific SCSI thin-provisioning notification to the host. This allows the host to react gracefully to the out-of-space condition while **keeping the LUN online**.