

# Firestore Storage: Usage, Pricing & Setup Guide

This document explains how Firestore Storage works, its pricing structure, security, and setup process for client understanding.

## 1. What is Firestore Storage?

Firestore Storage is a secure cloud file storage service used to store images, documents, videos, and other media files for mobile and web applications.

## 2. Free Tier (Spark Plan)

Firestore provides a free quota suitable for small to medium applications:

- 1 5 GB total file storage
- 2 1 GB/day download bandwidth
- 3 Uploads included
- 4 No billing required

## 3. Pay-As-You-Go Pricing (Blaze Plan)

If usage exceeds the free limits, charges apply based on usage:

- 1 Storage: approx. \$0.026 per GB per month
- 2 Download bandwidth charges apply
- 3 Upload operations are typically free

## 4. Billing Requirements

- 1 The free Spark plan does NOT require payment details.
- 2 To exceed free limits, a Google Cloud billing account must be connected.
- 3 Charges occur only when usage exceeds the free quota.

## 5. Security & Access Control

Firestore Storage uses security rules to control access and ensure data protection.

- 1 Only authenticated users can access files.
- 2 Rules can restrict uploads, downloads, and file types.
- 3 Ensures protection against unauthorized access.

## 6. Setup Process

- 1 Open Firestore Console and enable Storage.
- 2 Choose storage location.

- 3 Configure security rules.
- 4 Integrate Firebase SDK in the application.
- 5 Upload and access files securely.

## **7. When to Upgrade**

- 1 Large number of users uploading files.
- 2 High download traffic.
- 3 Storage exceeding 5 GB.

## **Summary**

Firebase Storage provides a secure and scalable solution for storing application files. The free Spark plan is sufficient for initial deployment, while the Blaze plan allows scaling as usage grows.