

# Chromebook Collection Guide

USER GUIDE

An Absolute Guide to Successfully  
Reclaiming Student Devices with Ease

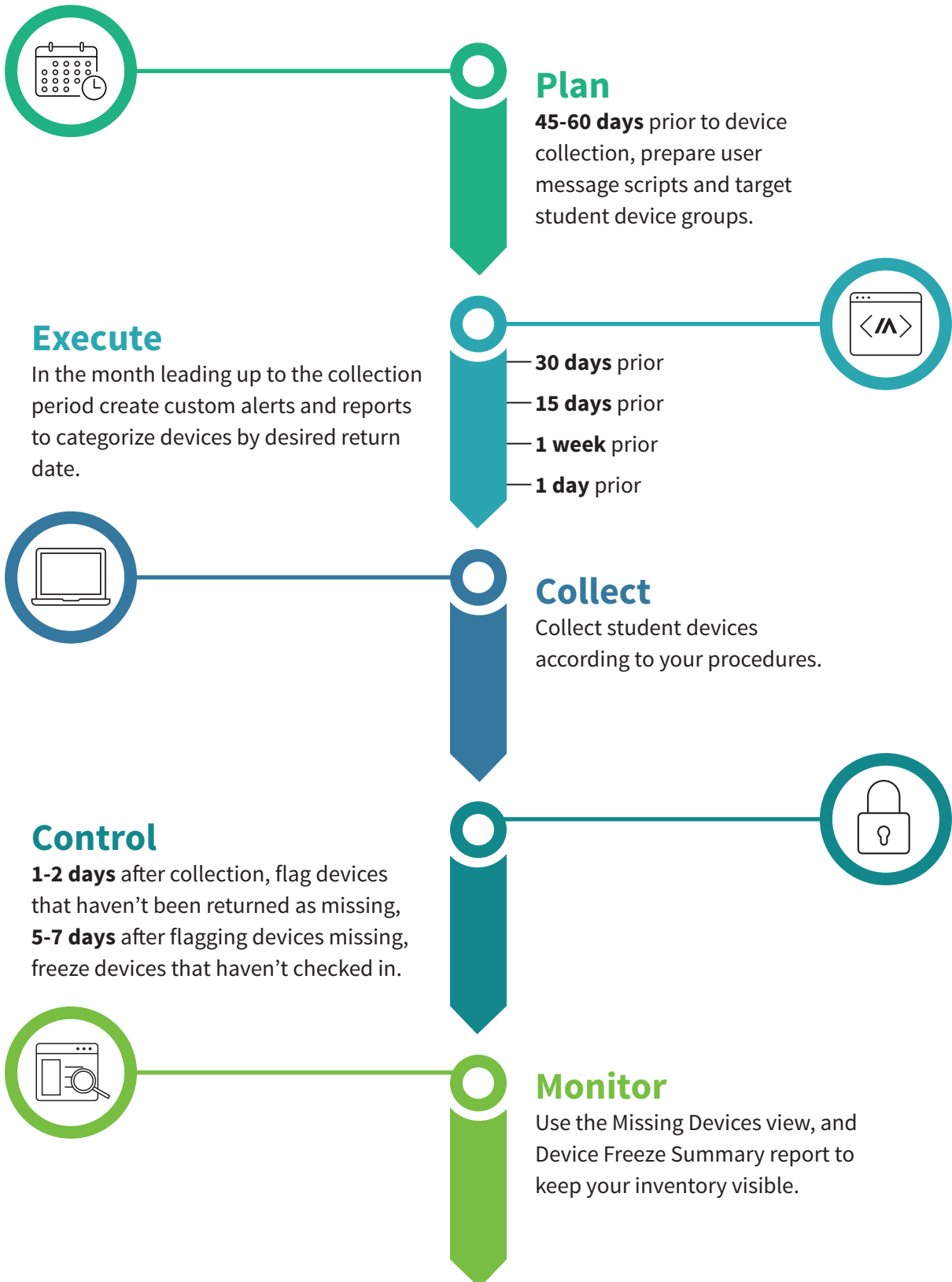
**//ABSOLUTE®**



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This guide takes you through the device collection process and highlights the Absolute features that can assist you in successfully reclaiming your district's devices. Here is a summary:





## Plan



### **TIMELINE: 45-60 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DEVICE COLLECTION PERIOD**

Get organized for the phases that lie ahead. Read about the other phases in this guide and make any necessary preparations so that you can successfully collect your devices.

Preparation tasks may include:

- Create device groups (e.g. by school, 1:1 program, etc.)
- Create custom alerts and reports by required date of return in the Execute phase
- Coordinate with your colleagues for the Collect phase
- Prepare custom Device Freeze messages to elicit a response from students who have not returned devices on time in the Control phase

## Execute



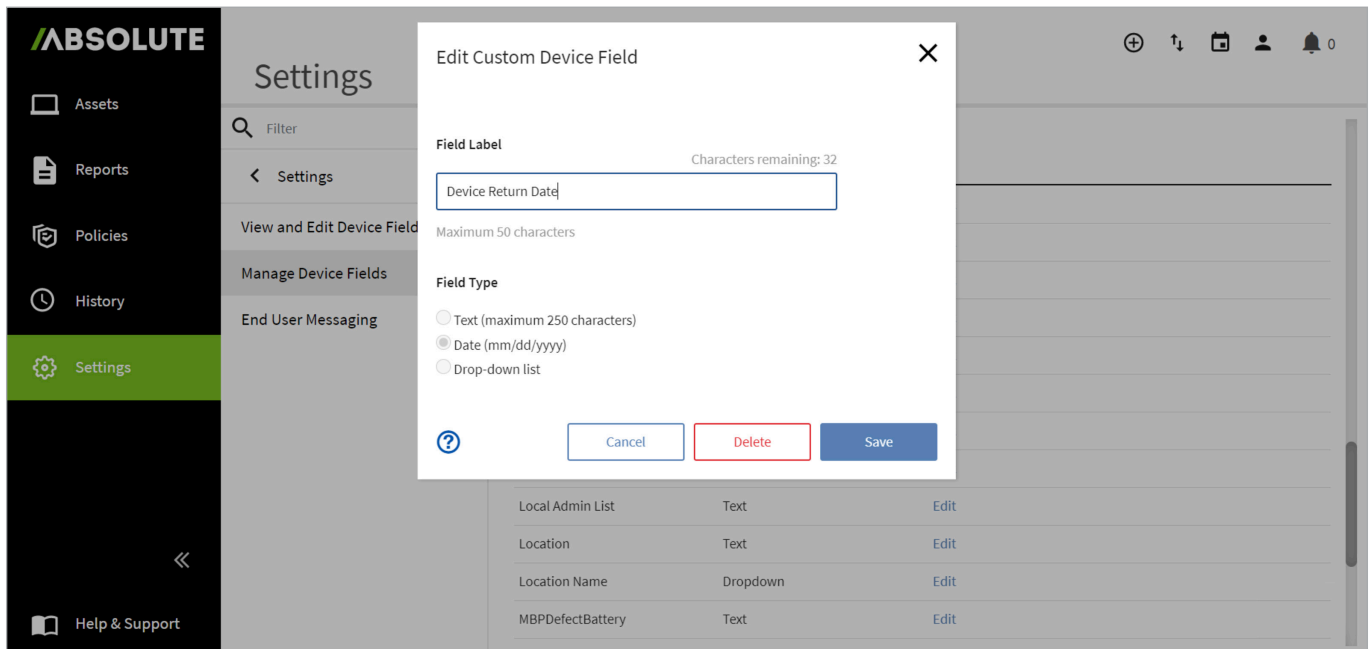
### **TIMELINE: 30 DAYS, 15 DAYS, 1 WEEK, AND 1 DAY PRIOR TO THE DEVICE COLLECTION PERIOD**

In the Execute phase, identify and categorize devices by desired return date, and create alerts for before and after the return date to help you stay organized.

Absolute's custom report fields and alerts help you in this task. Identify the devices that you want returned by creating a custom reports device field for the date the device(s) should be returned. Use this date value to create custom reports and alerts for devices approaching or past their return date. Please see [Help](#) for more information on populating custom device fields with more information.

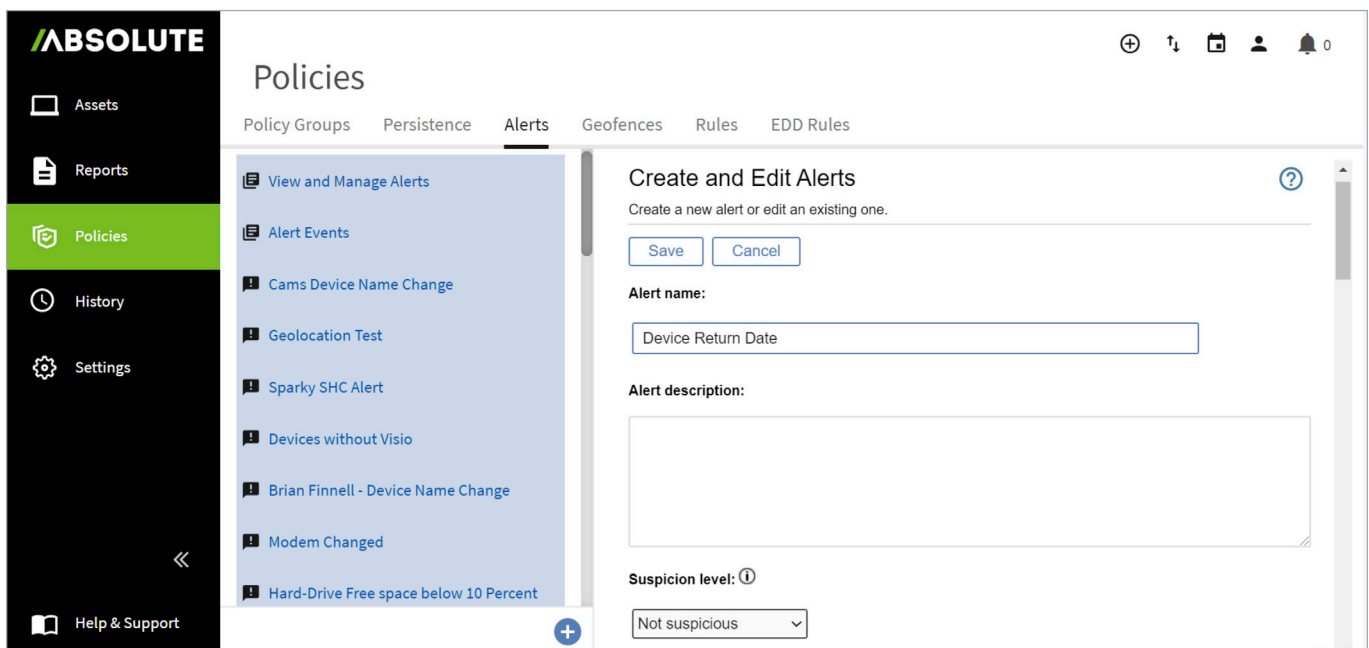
## Create a Custom Device Field to Categorize Devices by Return Date

1. Navigate to Settings → Data → Manage Device Fields
2. Click **Create a Custom Device Field** and name the field **Device Return Date** (or custom) to be used for reporting and alert purposes. Set the **Field Type** to **Date** and click **Save**.

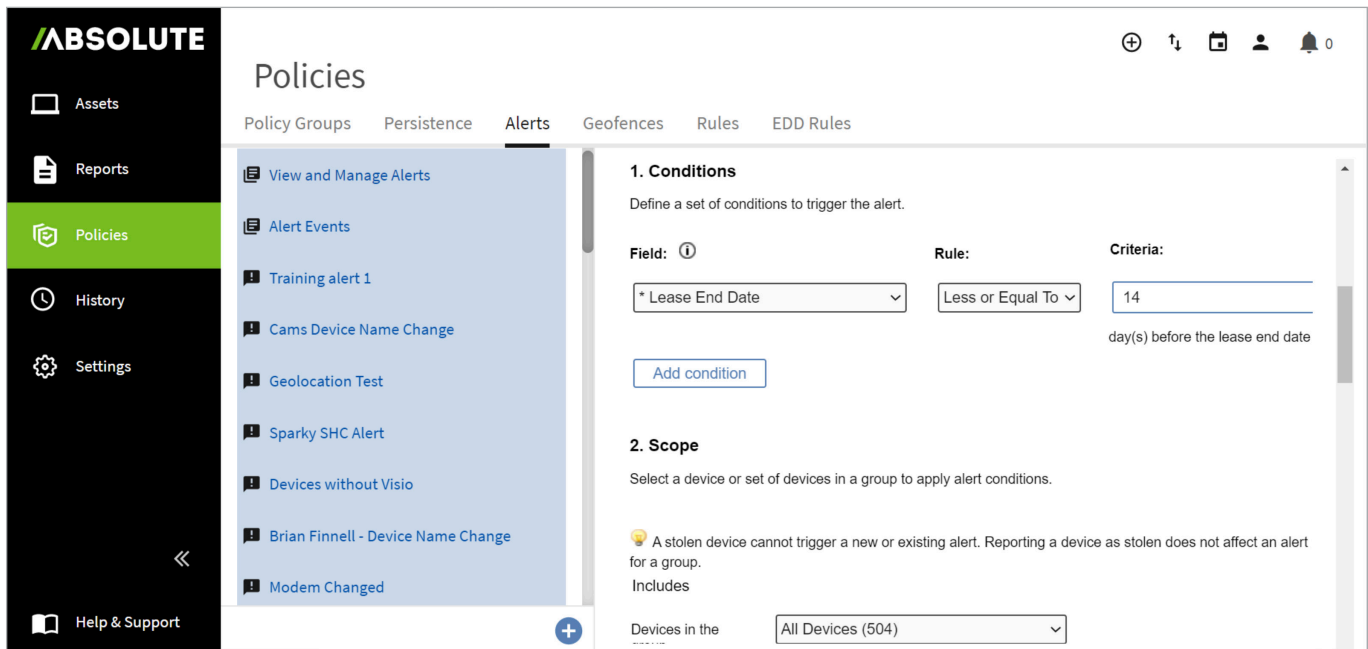


## Set Up Return Date Alerts

1. Set up an email alert for this group of devices to trigger prior to and after the return date.
2. Go to Policies → Alerts → Create and Edit Alerts.




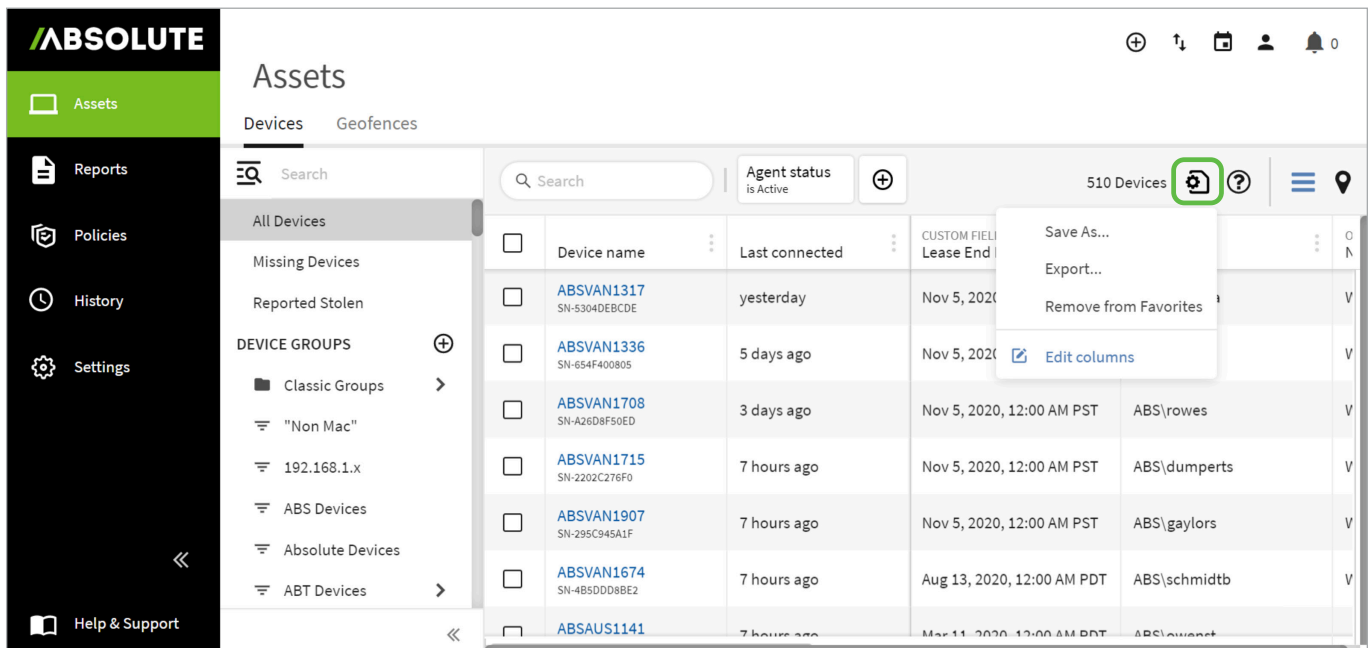
3. Select the **Device Return Date** field and how many days in advance you would like the alert. Here, we suggest 14 days.



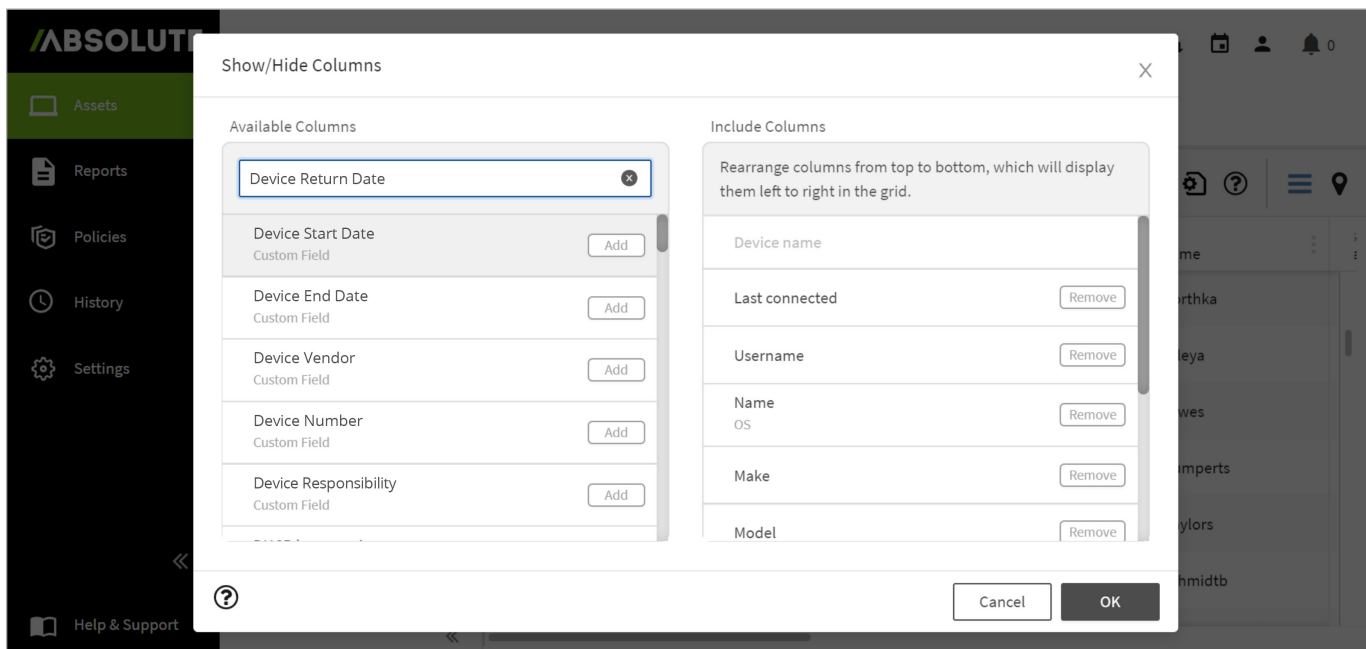
## Set Up Return Date Reports

Use your Device Return Date report to see all the Chromebooks that need to be returned.

1. Navigate to Assets → All Devices
2. Click the Menu Options Icon  → Select **Edit Columns**



3. Search for the **Device Return Date** Item on the Left Pane and Add to the Right Pane.



4. Save the report with a custom name such as **Assets List with Return Dates**

Use these reports to track your device returns in the Collect phase. Additional custom reports and alerts can be created based on your requirements, such as devices that have passed their return date.

## Collect



In this phase, collect devices according to your District's procedures.

## Control



In the Control phase, flag unreturned Chromebooks as missing in the console to attempt retrieval. If this is unsuccessful, freeze the devices.

### Track missing devices


#### TIMELINE: 1-2 DAYS AFTER THE DEVICE COLLECTION PERIOD

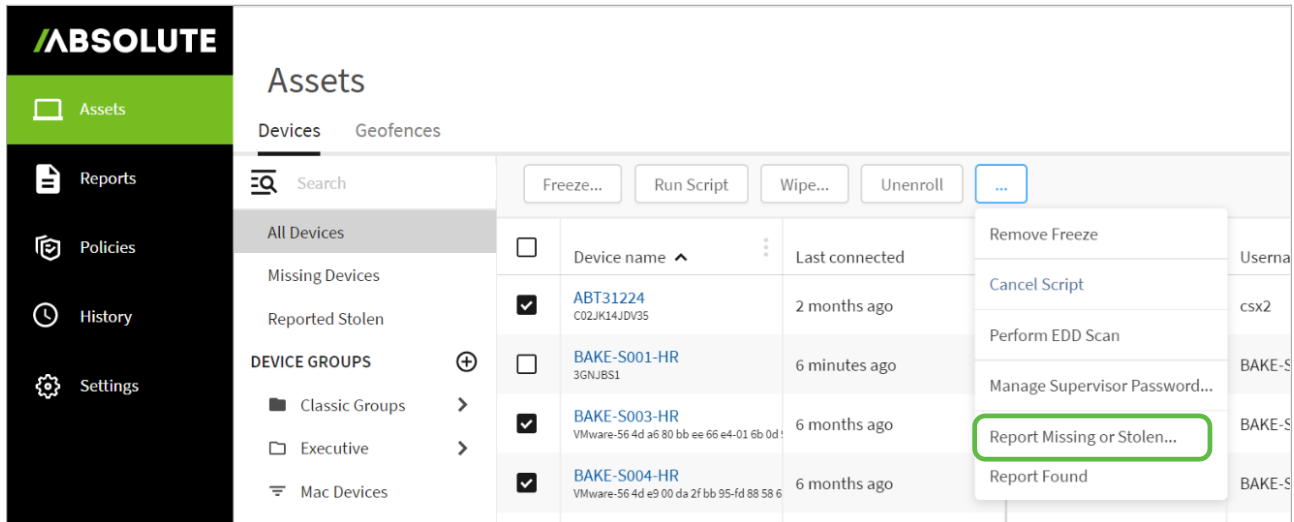
Absolute monitors devices that you have flagged as missing. When they come online, you are notified and provided with details such as username, public and local IP. Using this information, you can determine the device location and contact the user to collect the device. When collected, mark the device as found in the console.

### Flag an unreturned device as missing

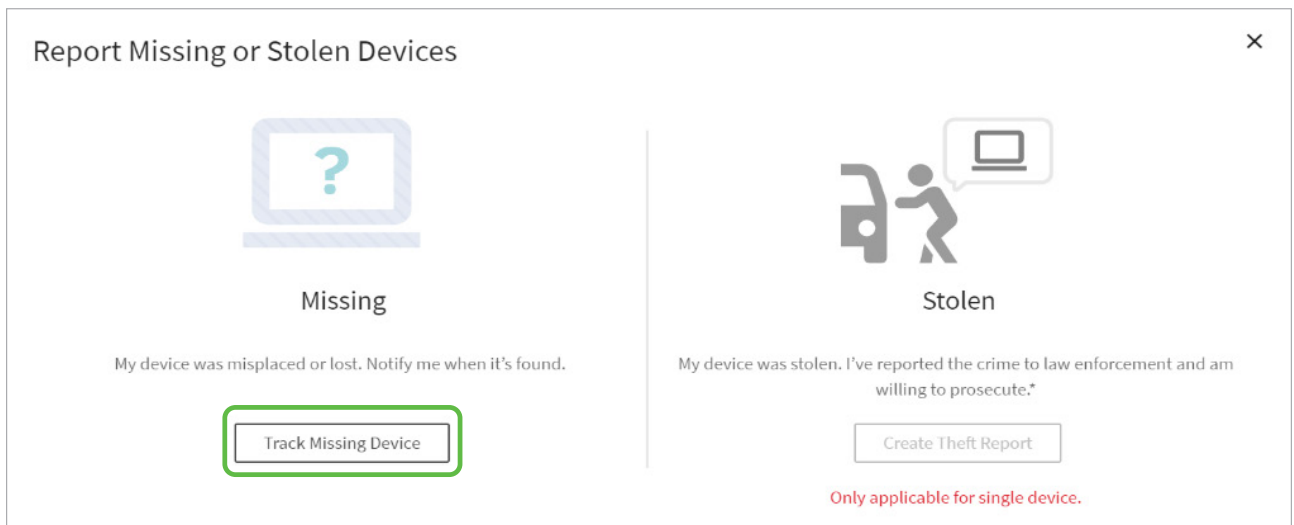
To flag a device as missing:

1. In the **Assets** area, select one or more devices (maximum: 100 devices) from the **All Devices** view.

2. Expand the  menu and select **Report Missing or Stolen**.



3. In the dialog, click **Track Missing Device**.



4. In the dialog, specify the email addresses of those who should be notified when the device calls in. Separate email addresses by pressing **Enter** on the keyboard. Email addresses can include non-console users.

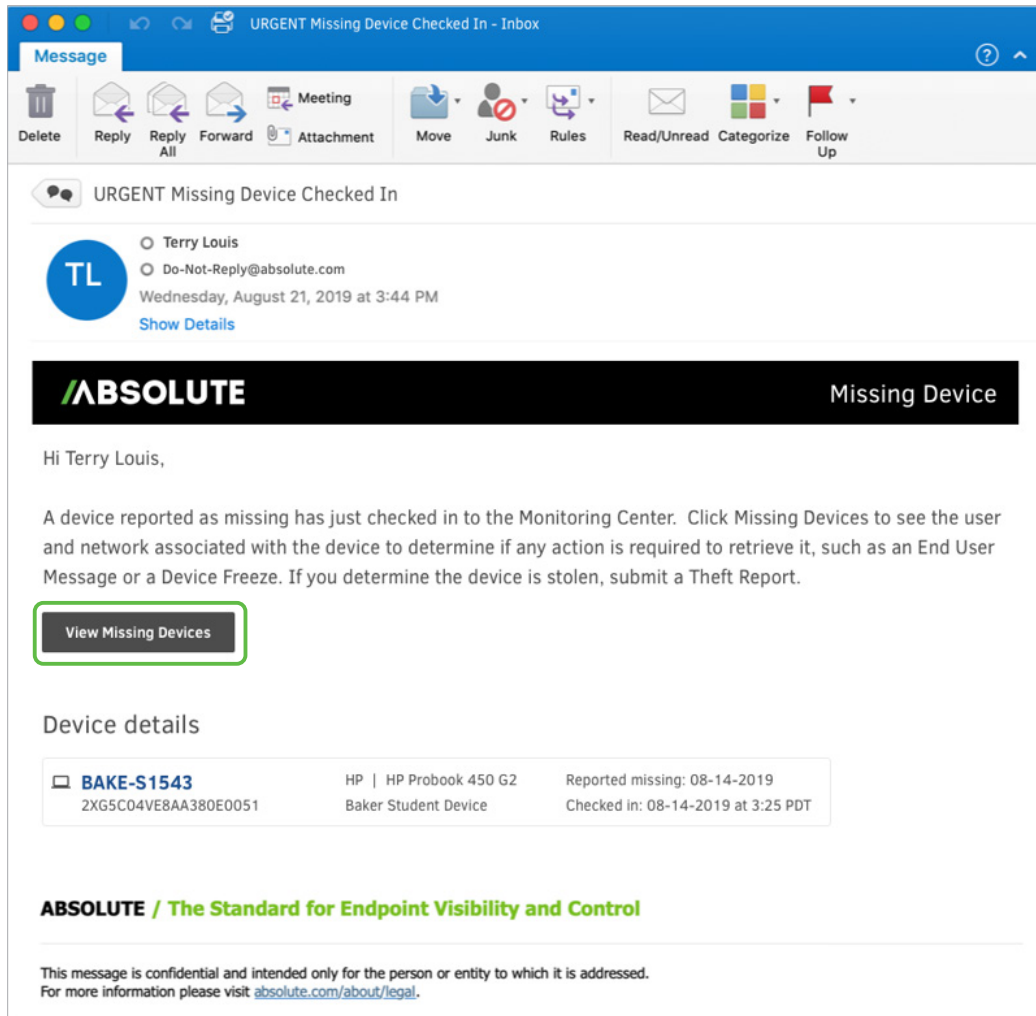


5. Click **Save**.

When a missing device comes online and calls in, a notification will be sent to the specified email addresses.



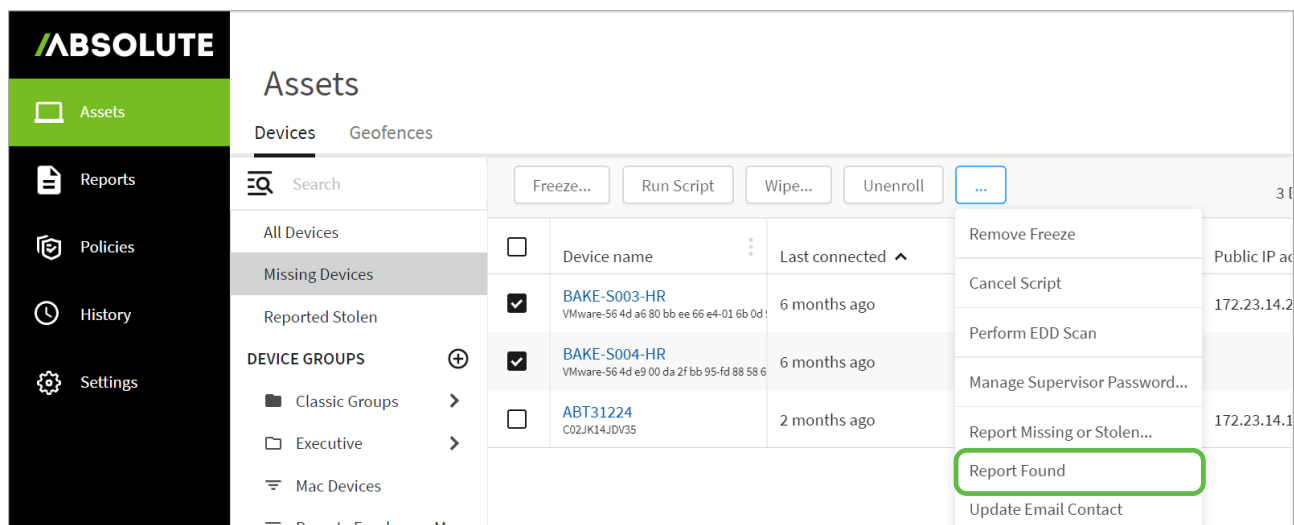
The notification email provides a link to the Missing Devices view in the console. This view is discussed further in the [Monitor](#) section.



## Mark a missing device as found

When you have collected a missing device, mark it as found:

1. In the *Assets* area, select one or more devices from the *All Devices* view or *Missing Devices* view.
2. Expand the  menu and select **Report Found**.



## Freeze missing devices

### TIMELINE: 5 DAYS AFTER THE DEVICE COLLECTION PERIOD

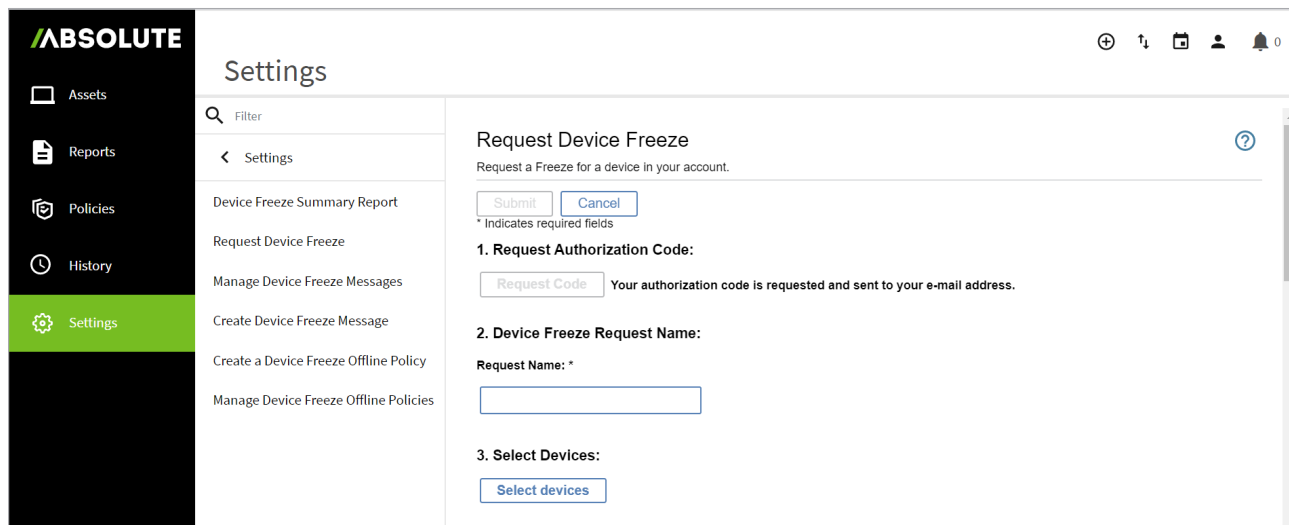
If a missing device does not call-in, freeze it to display a full-screen message. The user is unable to bypass the message to use the device.

The steps to follow may not apply if you are using the alternate version of device freeze. If you're using the alternate version, follow the steps provided in the [Help](#) to submit an on-demand freeze request.

To freeze devices:

1. In the **Assets** area, select one or more devices from the **All Devices** view or **Missing Devices** view.
2. Click **Freeze**.

You are taken to the Request Device Freeze page.



The screenshot shows the ABSOLUTE console interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with options: Assets, Reports, Policies, History, and Settings (highlighted in green). The main content area is titled 'Settings' and contains a search filter and a list of settings: Device Freeze Summary Report, Request Device Freeze, Manage Device Freeze Messages, Create Device Freeze Message, Create a Device Freeze Offline Policy, and Manage Device Freeze Offline Policies. The 'Request Device Freeze' setting is selected, displaying a form with the following sections:

- Request Device Freeze**: Request a Freeze for a device in your account. Includes 'Submit' and 'Cancel' buttons. A note states: '\* Indicates required fields'.
- 1. Request Authorization Code:** Includes a 'Request Code' input field and a note: 'Your authorization code is requested and sent to your e-mail address.'
- 2. Device Freeze Request Name:** Includes a 'Request Name: \*' label and an empty text input field.
- 3. Select Devices:** Includes a 'Select devices' button.

3. On the page, complete each of the sections as follows:

- i. **Request Authorization Code:** Click **Request Code**.

The authorization code is sent to the email address associated with your console login. You are required to provide this code later.

- ii. **Device Freeze Request Name:** Name your device freeze request. This name appears in reports.

- iii. **Select Devices:** Ignore this section since you have already selected your devices.

- iv. **Select a Message:** Create a device freeze message or select an existing message from the list.

- v. **Schedule Freeze Date:** Select **On next agent call**.

This will freeze the selected devices on their next call-in.

- vi. **Select a Passcode Option:**

- Select Code Length: Specify your preferred unfreeze code length.
- Passcode Options: **Select Generate a different random passcode for each device.**

- vii. **Email Notification:** To receive freeze status notifications, provide your email address in the field and select the checkbox.

- viii. **Select whether a Reboot is to be Forced:** Select **Force reboot before freezing device (Windows devices only)**.

This logs the user out of the device before the device freeze takes effect.

- ix. **Consent to Install Software:** Select the checkbox to consent to the terms.

4. Click Submit.



## TIMELINE: ONGOING. AT YOUR DISCRETION.

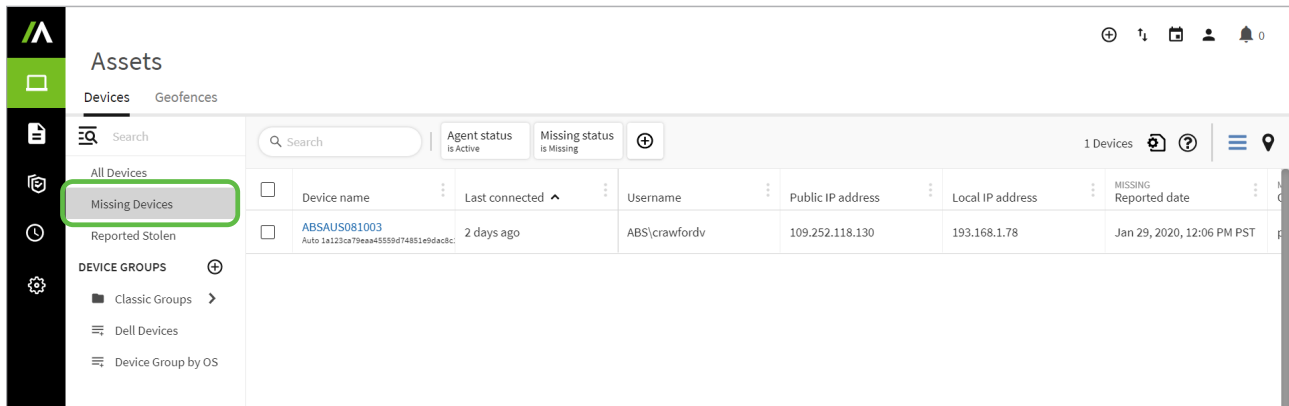
In the Monitor phase, use the Missing Devices view and Device Freeze Summary report to maintain visibility into your unreturned Chromebooks.

### Missing Devices view

When missing devices call in, you will receive a notification email with a link to the Missing Devices view. However, you can access this view at any time to check the status of your missing devices.

To view details about your missing devices:

1. In the **Assets** area, click **Missing Devices** from the sidebar of the **Devices** section.



You are provided with details that can help you with retrieving devices.

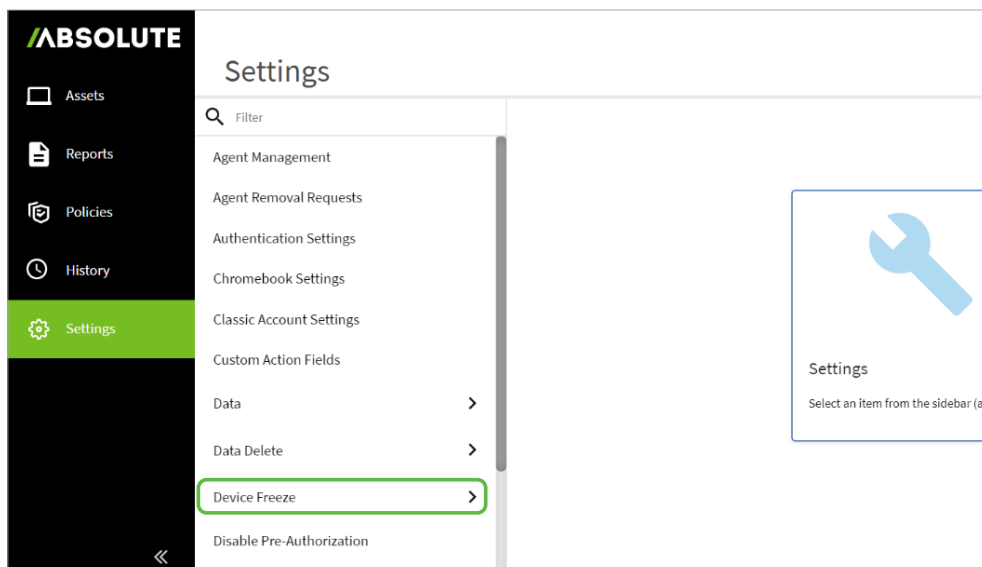
### Device Freeze Summary report

Use the Device Freeze Summary report to identify whether devices have been successfully frozen.

The steps to follow may not apply if you are using the alternate version of device freeze. If you're using the alternate version, follow the steps provided in the [Help](#).

To run the Device Freeze Summary report:

1. In the **Settings** area, click **Device Freeze** from the sidebar.



2. Select **Device Freeze Summary Report** from the sidebar.
3. On the page, specify the time period for when the freeze requests were made.

### Device Freeze Summary Report

View a list of devices for which a Device Freeze request or offline policy exists.

**Search Criteria**  
Show all Devices where...

the Group is:

and the field:  is or contains

and the Request Name or Policy Name is or contains:

and the Requested Date  in the last  days ⓘ

between  and

Note - only 1 year of data is stored online.  
The greater the date range, the longer it may take to generate results.

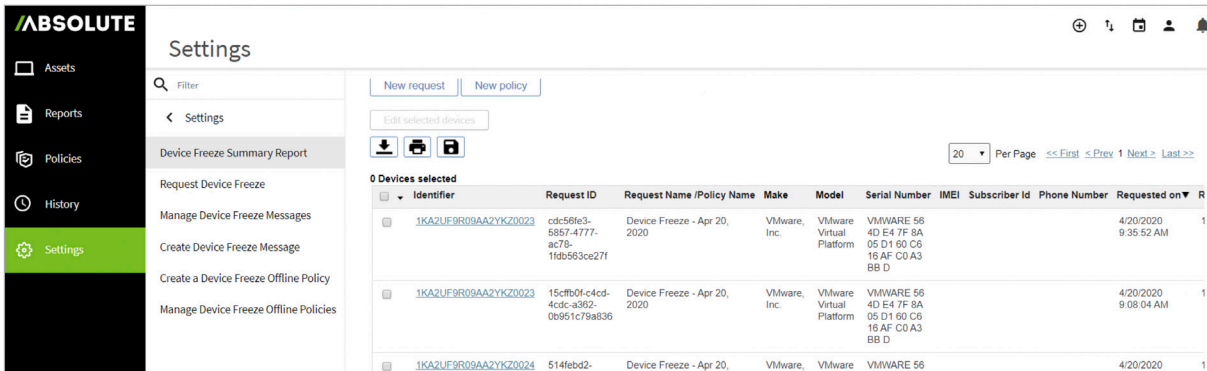
4. Specify the freeze request statuses that you are interested in. These are most commonly used in device collection:
  - Select **Freeze Requested** to see devices that have not come online to process the freeze request
  - Select **Frozen by Request** to see devices that have been successfully frozen

and the Device Freeze Status is:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Freeze Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frozen By Request
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unfreeze Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frozen By Policy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request Cancelled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unfrozen With Agent Call
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unfrozen With Passcode
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy Assigned	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Processing
<input type="checkbox"/> Freeze Scheduled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frozen by Scheduled Freeze
<input type="checkbox"/> Scheduled Freeze Pending	

## 5. Click **Show Results**.

You are provided with a report that includes device information, and device freeze details.



The screenshot shows the Absolute console interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with options: Assets, Reports, Policies, History, and Settings (highlighted). The main area is titled 'Settings' and contains a search bar, 'New request' and 'New policy' buttons, and a table of device freeze requests. The table has columns for Identifier, Request ID, Request Name /Policy Name, Make, Model, Serial Number, IMEI, Subscriber Id, Phone Number, Requested on, and R. There are three rows of data.

Identifier	Request ID	Request Name /Policy Name	Make	Model	Serial Number	IMEI	Subscriber Id	Phone Number	Requested on	R
1KA2UF9R09AA2YK20023	cd586e3-5857-4777-ac78-11db563ce271	Device Freeze - Apr 20, 2020	VMware, Inc.	VMware Virtual Platform	VMWARE 56	4D E4 7F 8A 05 D1 60 C6 16 AF C0 A3 BB D			4/20/2020 9:35:52 AM	1
1KA2UF9R09AA2YK20023	15c7b01-c4cd-4cd1-a392-0b951c79a836	Device Freeze - Apr 20, 2020	VMware, Inc.	VMware Virtual Platform	VMWARE 56	4D E4 7F 8A 05 D1 60 C6 16 AF C0 A3 BB D			4/20/2020 9:08:04 AM	1
1KA2UF9R09AA2YK20024	514feb2-	Device Freeze - Apr 20,	VMware,	VMware	VMWARE 56				4/20/2020	1

## What's Next?

With the assistance of the Absolute console, you are more easily able to manage the phases of the device collection process.

To learn more about the console, visit [The Learning Hub](#).

Need help with the device collection process or the console? Contact your Customer Success Manager, or Absolute [Support](#).



## ABOUT ABSOLUTE

Absolute empowers more than 12,000 customers worldwide to protect devices, data, applications and users against theft or attack — both on and off the corporate network. With the industry's only tamper-proof endpoint visibility and control solution, Absolute allows IT to enforce asset management, endpoint security, and data compliance for today's remote digital workforces. Patented Absolute Persistence™ is embedded in the firmware of Dell, HP, Lenovo, and 26 other manufacturers' devices for vendor-agnostic coverage, tamper-proof resilience, and ease of deployment. See how it works at [absolute.com](https://absolute.com) and follow us at [@absolutecorp](https://twitter.com/absolutecorp).



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