Direct Connect

Billing

Issue 01

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Contents

1 Billing Overview

You can create a standard connection, which will give you exclusive access to the port. You can also request a hosted connection from a partner and share the port with other users.

In this document, you will learn about how connections are billed, how you can renew subscriptions and manage costs, and what happens if your account goes into arrears.

- **Billing Modes**
  - The ports are billed on a yearly/monthly basis. You need to pay for the ports before using it. The price depends on the required duration.
  - The outbound traffic supports pay-per-use billing. You use the traffic and then pay for it. The price depends on how much traffic you use.

    📖 NOTE

    From July 1, 2024 00:00 GMT+8:00, Huawei Cloud Direct Connect will start billing you for the outbound traffic. Each Huawei Cloud account will have 50 TB of free outbound traffic each month. This preferential policy will last until December 31, 2025 24:00 GMT+8:00. From January 1, 2026 00:00 GMT+8:00, no free outbound traffic will be provided.

    You will need to make sure you have a top-up account with a sufficient balance or have a valid payment method configured first. For details, see **Billing Modes**.

- **Billed Items**

  Direct Connect provides standard connections, hosted connections, and full-service connections.

  - Billed items of a standard or full-service connection: port, outbound traffic, one-time setup for connecting the leased line to the port provided by Huawei Cloud, leased line, and in-building cabling
  - Billed items of a hosted connection: outbound traffic and leased line

  For details about the billing factors and formulas for each billed item, see **Billed Items**.

- **Renewing Subscriptions**

  If you want to continue using a connection after it expires, you need to renew the subscription within the specified period. If the subscription is not renewed, the connection will be automatically released, and data may be lost. You can

renew your subscriptions manually or automatically. For more details, see **Overview**.

- **Viewing Bills**

  You can choose **Billing & Costs** > **Bills** to check the Direct Connect transactions and bills. For details, see **Bills**.

- **Arrears**

  If there is no a sufficient account balance to pay for your bill and there is no other payment method configured, your account will go into arrears. If you want to continue using your connections, you will need to top up your account in a timely manner. For details, see **Arrears**.

- **Stopping Billing**

  If you no longer need to use your connections, you can unsubscribe from or delete them to stop the billing. For details, see **Stopping Billing**.

2 Billing Modes

Direct Connect supports both yearly/monthly and pay-per-use.

- Ports: yearly/monthly. You need to pay for the ports before using it. The price depends on the required duration. This billing mode is a right choice for users who have stable resource requirements and want to reduce costs.

- Outbound traffic: pay-per-use. You use the traffic and then pay for it. The price depends on how much traffic you use, and a bill is generated on the hour.

  📖 **NOTE**

  From July 1, 2024 00:00 GMT+8:00, Huawei Cloud Direct Connect will start billing you for the outbound traffic. Each Huawei Cloud account will have 50 TB of free outbound traffic each month. This preferential policy will last until December 31, 2025 24:00 GMT+8:00. From January 1, 2026 00:00 GMT+8:00, no free outbound traffic will be provided.

Application Scenarios

If you want to ensure resource stability over a certain period of time, yearly/monthly billing is a good choice for the following types of workloads:

- Long-term workloads with stable resource requirements, such as official websites, online malls, and blogs

- Long-term projects, such as scientific research projects and large-scale events

- Workloads with predictable traffic bursts, for example, e-commerce promotions or festivals

- Workloads with high data security requirements

Billed Items

Direct Connect provides standard connections, hosted connections, and full-service connections.

- Billed items of a standard or full-service connection: port, outbound traffic, one-time setup for connecting the leased line to the port provided by Huawei Cloud, leased line, and in-building cabling.

- Billed items of a hosted connection: outbound traffic and leased line

The port is billed only a yearly/monthly basis, and the outbound traffic is billed on a pay-per-use basis.

Table 2-1 Billed items

Payee	Billed Item	Description	Payment Method
Huawei Cloud	Port	The port is billed based on its specifications.	Prepayment by month or year
	Outbound traffic	You will be billed for the outbound traffic from July 1, 2024 00:00 GMT+8:00. Outbound traffic refers to the traffic from the cloud network to the port used in your on-premises data center.	Postpayment based on the traffic you use. A bill is generated based on the hour.
Carrier or Huawei Cloud partner	Leased line	You need to pay to the partner for the line that is used to connect your on-premises data center to the Direct Connect location you select.	Depends on the partner's requirements
	In-building cabling	A fiber may be required for connecting your leased line to the equipment room at the Direct Connect location you select if the data center at the Direct Connect location is a carrier-neutral data center. You pay to the property of the neutral data center.	Depends on the property's requirements

Billed Usage Period

A yearly/monthly connection is billed for the purchased duration. The billing starts when you activated or renewed the subscription, and ends at 23:59:59 of the expiry date.

For example, if you purchased a one-month connection on July 08, 2023, 15:50:04, the billed usage period is from July 08, 2023, 15:50:04 to August 08, 2023, 23:59:59.

Billing Examples

Assume that you purchased a yearly/monthly connection (port type: 10GE) at 15:50:04 on July 8, 2023 for one month and manually renewed the connection for one month before it expires. The following usage periods will be billed:

- July 08, 2023, 15:50:04 to August 08, 2023, 23:59:59
- August 08, 2023, 23:59:59 to September 08, 2023, 23:59:59

You will be billed for both usage periods.

Impact of Expiration

Figure 2-1 shows the statuses a yearly/monthly connection can go through throughout its lifecycle. After a connection is purchased, it enters the valid period and runs normally during this period. If the connection is not renewed after it expires, before being deleted, it first enters a grace period and then a retention period.

Figure 2-1 Lifecycle of yearly/monthly connections
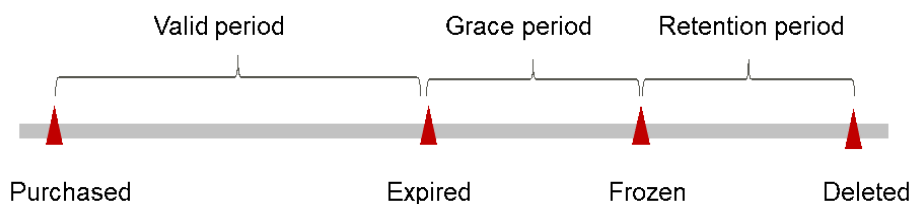
Expiration Reminder

The system will send you a reminder (by email, SMS, or in-app message) 7 days before a yearly/monthly connection expires to remind you to renew the subscription.

Impact of Expiration

If a yearly/monthly connection is not renewed after it expires, it changes to the **Expired** state and enters a grace period. During the grace period, you can access Direct Connect but cannot change the bandwidth of the connection.

If the connection is not renewed after the grace period ends, its status turns to **Frozen** and it enters a retention period. You cannot perform any operations on the resource while it is in the retention period.

If the connection is not renewed after the retention period expires, it will be released and data cannot be restored.

3 Billed Items

Direct Connect provides standard connections, hosted connections, and full-service connections.

- Billed items of a standard or full-service connection: port, outbound traffic, one-time setup for connecting the leased line to the port provided by Huawei Cloud, leased line, and in-building cabling.
- Billed items of a hosted connection: outbound traffic and leased line

Huawei Cloud billed items include the port, outbound traffic, and one-time setup (free for now). Non-Huawei Cloud billed items include the leased line and in-building cabling.

Outbound Traffic

Outbound traffic refers to the traffic from the cloud network to the port used in your on-premises data center.

From July 1, 2024 00:00 GMT+8:00, Huawei Cloud Direct Connect will start billing you for the outbound traffic. Each Huawei Cloud account will have 50 TB of free outbound traffic each month. This preferential policy will last until December 31, 2025 24:00 GMT+8:00. From January 1, 2026 00:00 GMT+8:00, no free outbound traffic will be provided.

Table 3-1 describes the pricing details.

Table 3-1 Outbound traffic pricing details

Connection Type	Billed Usage Period	Formula	Free Outbound Traffic
Standard connection	A bill is generated each hour. You are billed based on the outbound traffic you use in each hour.	Outbound traffic price = Outbound traffic unit price x Total outbound traffic of all standard connections in the current region	If your Huawei Cloud account has connections in multiple regions, the free outbound traffic that can be used by each connection depends on the time when they were created. The connections you buy earlier enjoy the free outbound traffic first.
Full-service connection		Outbound traffic price = Outbound traffic unit price x Total outbound traffic of all full-service connections in the current region	
Hosted connection		Outbound traffic price = Outbound traffic unit price x Total outbound traffic of all hosted connections in the current region	

The outbound traffic price varies by geographic region. For details, see **Table 3-2**.

Table 3-2 Regions where outbound traffic will be billed and pricing details

Geographic Region	Huawei Cloud Regions	Price per GB (USD)
Chinese mainland	CN South-Guangzhou-InvitationOnly, CN North-Ulanqab-Auto1, CN Southwest-Guiyang1, CN East-Qingdao, CN East-Shanghai2, CN South-Guangzhou, CN North-Beijing2, CN North-Ulanqab1, CN East-Shanghai1, CN North-Beijing4, and CN East-1	0.0125
Asia Pacific	AP-Bangkok, AP-Singapore, and CN-Hong Kong	0.039
	AP-Jakarta	0.078
Latin America	LA-Mexico City1, LA-Mexico City2, LA-Sao Paulo1, and LA-Santiago	0.1045
Southern Africa	AF-Johannesburg and AF-Cairo	0.1045
Europe	EU-Dublin and TR-Istanbul	0.019

Geographic Region	Huawei Cloud Regions	Price per GB (USD)
Middle East	ME-Riyadh	0.0855

Billed Items of a Standard Connection

Billed items of a standard connection include the port, one-time setup, outbound traffic, leased line, and in-building cabling. You pay for the port and one-time setup to Huawei Cloud.
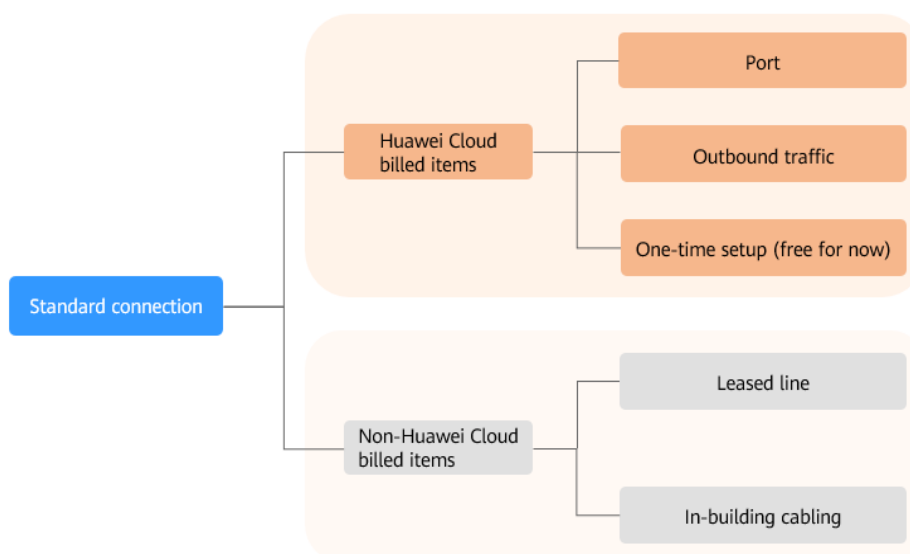
For details, see **Table 3-3**.

Table 3-3 Billed items

Billed Item	Description	Billing Mode	Formula
Port	The port is billed based on its specifications.	Yearly/Monthly (prepaid)	Unit price x Duration For port prices, see **Direct Connect Pricing Details**.
Outbound traffic	You will be billed for the outbound traffic from July 1, 2024 00:00 GMT+8:00. Outbound traffic refers to the traffic from the cloud network to the port used in your on-premises data center.	You will be billed based on the traffic you use.	Price per GB x Traffic

Billed Item	Description	Billing Mode	Formula
One-time setup	Currently, the one-time setup is free.	Free	Free
Leased line	You need to pay to the carrier for the line that is used to connect your on-premises data center to the Direct Connect location you select.	Pay for the leased line to the carrier.	Consult the carrier.
In-building cabling	A fiber may be required for connecting your leased line to the equipment room at the Direct Connect location you select if the data center at the Direct Connect location is a carrier-neutral data center.	You for the property of the data center for in-building cabling.	Consult the property of the data center.

Billed Items of a Full-Service Connection

Billed items of a full-service connection include port, one-time setup, leased line, and in-building cabling. You pay for all these items to Huawei Cloud.
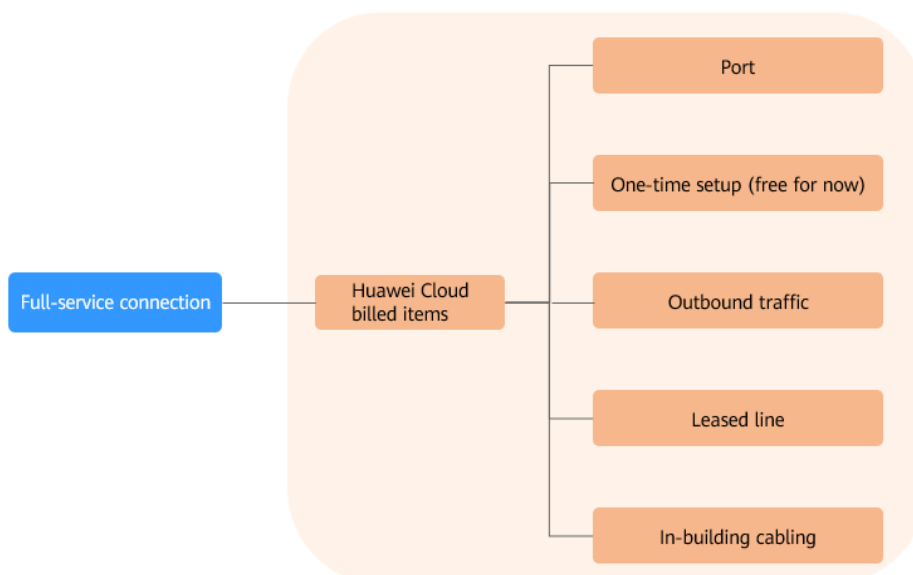
For details, see **Table 3-4**.

Table 3-4 Billed items

Billed Item	Description	Billing Mode	Formula
Port	The port is billed based on its specifications.	Yearly/Monthly (prepaid)	Unit price x Duration For port prices, see **Direct Connect Pricing Details**.
Outbound traffic	You will be billed for the outbound traffic from July 1, 2024 00:00 GMT+8:00. Outbound traffic refers to the traffic from the cloud network to the port used in your on-premises data center.	You will be billed based on the traffic you use.	Price per GB x Traffic
One-time setup	Currently, the one-time setup is free.	Free	Free
Leased line	You need to pay to the carrier for the line that is used to connect your on-premises data center to the Direct Connect location you select.	Pay for both to Huawei Cloud.	-
In-building cabling	A fiber may be required for connecting your leased line to the equipment room at the Direct Connect location you select if the data center at the Direct Connect location is a carrier-neutral data center.		-

Billed Items of a Hosted Connection

To use a hosted connection, you only need to pay for the partner for the leased line.
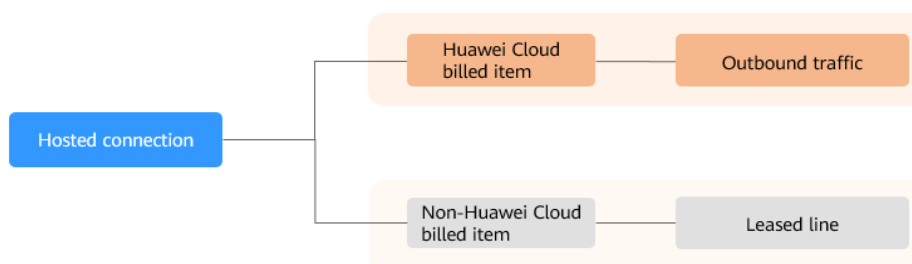
For details, see **Table 3-5**.

Table 3-5 Billed items

Billed Item	Description	Billing Mode	Formula
Outbound traffic	You will be billed for the outbound traffic from July 1, 2024 00:00 GMT +8:00. Outbound traffic refers to the traffic from the cloud network to the port used in your on-premises data center.	You will be billed based on the traffic you use.	Price per GB x Traffic
Leased line	You need to pay to the partner for the line that is used to connect your on-premises data center to the Direct Connect location you select.	Pay for the partner for the leased line.	Consult the partner.

4 Renewing Subscriptions

4.1 Overview

When to Renew Subscriptions

If a yearly/monthly connection is about to expire but you want to continue using it, you need to renew the subscription within a specified period, or the connection will be automatically released, and data will be lost and cannot be restored.

Only yearly/monthly connections can be renewed.

If you renew the connection before it expires, it will be retained and you can continue using it. For details about the statuses of connections after they have expired and the associated impacts, see **Impact of Expiration**.

How to Renew Subscriptions

You can renew a yearly/monthly connection manually or automatically.

Table 4-1 Renewing a yearly/monthly connection

Method	Description
Manual renewal	You can renew a yearly/monthly connection anytime on the console before it is automatically released.
Auto renewal	You can enable auto-renewal to automatically renew a connection before it expires. This prevents the connection from being released in case you forget to renew the subscription.

You can select a method to renew a yearly/monthly connection based on the phase it is currently in.

Figure 4-1 Selecting a renewal method based on the phase of the connection
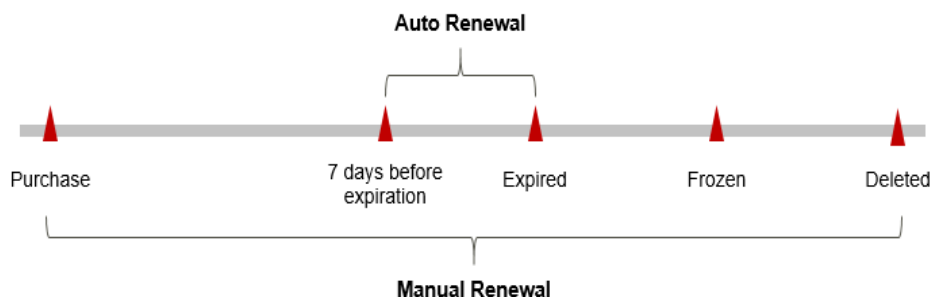
- A connection is in the **Normal** state after it is provisioned.

- When the subscription expires, the status of the connection will change to **Expired**.

- If an expired connection is not renewed, it enters a grace period. If it is not renewed by the time the grace period expires, the connection will be in the **Frozen** state and enter a retention period.

- If you do not renew the subscription before the retention period expires, the connection will be automatically released.

📖 **NOTE**

- For details about the grace period, see **What Is a Grace Period of Huawei Cloud? How Long Is It?**

- For details about the retention period, see **What Is a Retention Period of Huawei Cloud? How Long Is It?**

You can enable auto-renewal at any time before a connection expires. By default, the system will make the first attempt to charge your account for the renewal at 03:00 seven days before the expiry date. If this attempt fails, it will make another attempt at 03:00 every day until the subscription is renewed or expired. You can change the auto-payment date for renewal as required.

4.2 Manually Renewing a Connection

You can renew a yearly/monthly connection anytime on the console before it is automatically released.

Renewing a Connection on the Direct Connect Console

1. Log in to the management console.

2. On the console homepage, click ⊙ in the upper left corner and select the desired region and project.

3. Click ≡ to display **Service List** and choose **Networking** > **Direct Connect**.

4. In the navigation pane on the left, choose **Direct Connect** > **Connections**.

5. In the connection list, select the yearly/monthly connection to be renewed.

6. Choose **More** > **Renew** in the **Operation** column.

7. Select a renewal duration and optionally select **Renew on the standard renewal date**. For details, see **Setting the Same Renewal Day for Yearly/ Monthly Resources**. Confirm the price and click **Pay**.

8. Select a payment method and make your payment. Once the order is paid for, the renewal is complete.

## Renewing a Connection in the Billing Center

1. Log in to the management console.

2. Hover over **Billing & Costs** in the upper part of the console and choose **Renewal** from the drop-down list.

   The **Renewals** page is displayed.

3. Set the search criteria.

   On the **Manual Renewals**, **Auto Renewals**, and **Renewals Canceled** tabs, you can view the resources to be renewed.

   You can move all resources that need to be manually renewed to the **Manual Renewals** tab. For details, see **Restoring to Manual Renewal**.

4. Manually renew the resources.

   – Individual renewal: Click **Renew** in the **Operation** column for the desired resource.

   – Batch renewal: Check the boxes for the desired resources, and click **Batch Renew** in the upper left corner.

5. Select a renewal duration and optionally select **Renew on the standard renewal date**. For details, see **Setting the Same Renewal Day for Yearly/ Monthly Resources**. Confirm the price and click **Pay**.

6. Select a payment method and make your payment. Once the order is paid for, the renewal is complete.

Setting the Same Renewal Day for Yearly/Monthly Resources

If your connections have different expiry dates, you can set the same renewal day, for example, the first day of each month, to make it easier to manage renewals.

In **Figure 4-2**, a user sets the same renewal day for two resources that will expire at different dates.

Figure 4-2 Setting the same renewal day for resources with different expiry dates
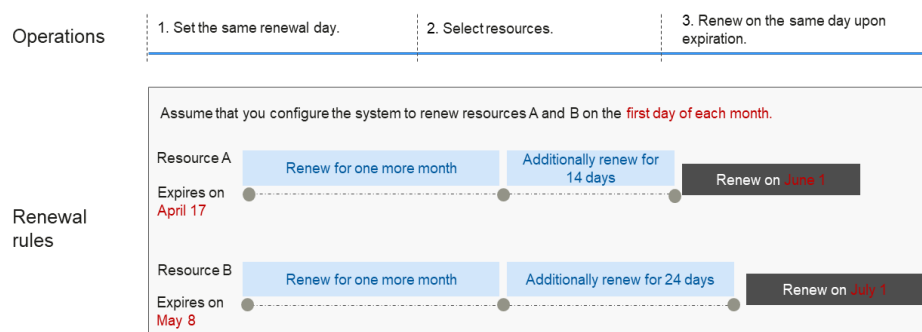
For more details, see **Setting a Renewal Date**.

4.3 Auto-renewing a Connection

Auto-renewal can prevent connections from being automatically released if you forget to manually renew them. The auto-renewal rules are as follows:

- The first auto-renewal date is based on when a connection expires and the billing cycle.

- The auto-renewal period depends on the subscription term. For example, if the subscription term is 3 months, your subscription is automatically renewed for three months every time before expiration.

- You can enable auto-renewal at any time before a connection expires. By default, the system will make the first attempt to charge your account for the renewal at 03:00 seven days before the expiry date. If this attempt fails, it will make another attempt at 03:00 every day until the subscription is renewed or expired.

- After auto-renewal is enabled, you can still renew the connection manually if you want to. After a manual renewal is complete, auto-renewal is still valid, and the renewal fee will be deducted from your account seven days before the new expiry date.

- By default, the renewal fee is deducted from your account seven days before the new expiry date. You can change this auto-renewal payment date as required.

For more information about auto-renewal rules, see **Auto-Renewal Rules**.

Prerequisites

The connection has not expired.

Enabling Auto-Renewal During Purchase

You can enable auto-renewal on the connection purchase page, as shown in **Figure 4-3**. For more information, see **Creating a Connection**.

Figure 4-3 Enabling auto-renewal

Enabling Auto-Renewal on the Renewals Page

1. Log in to the management console.
2. Hover over **Billing & Costs** in the upper part of the console and choose **Renewal** from the drop-down list.

   The **Renewals** page is displayed.
3. Set the search criteria.
   - You can view the resources for which auto-renewal has been enabled on the **Auto Renewals** page.

- You can enable auto-renewal for resources on the **Manual Renewals** and **Renewals Canceled** tabs.

4. Enable auto-renewal for yearly/monthly resources.

   - Enabling auto-renewal for a single resource: Select the ECS for which you want to enable auto-renewal and choose **More** > **Enable Auto-Renew** in the **Operation** column.

   - Enabling auto-renewal for multiple resources at a time: Select the ECSs for which you want to enable auto-renewal and click **Enable Auto-Renew** above the list.

5. Select a renewal period, specify the auto-renewal times, and click **Pay**.

5 Bills

You can view the resource usage and bills for a different billing cycles on the **Bills** page in Billing Center.

Viewing Bills of a Specific Resource

1. Log in to the management console.

2. On the console homepage, click ⬤ in the upper left corner and select the desired region and project.

3. Click ☰ to display **Service List** and choose **Networking** > **Direct Connect**.

4. In the navigation pane on the left, choose **Direct Connect** > **Connections**.

5. In the connection list, select the connection whose bill you want to view.

6. Move the cursor over the connection name and copy the resource ID as prompted.

7. On the top menu bar, choose **Billing & Costs** > **Bills**.

   The **Bills** page is displayed.

8. Choose **Billing > Expenditure Details**.

9. Select **Resource ID** as the filter criteria, enter the obtained connection ID in step **6**, and click the 🔍 icon.

6 Arrears

If your configured payment method is unable to pay for your bill, your account will be in arrears. If you want to continue using cloud services, you will need to update your payment method or top up your account in a timely manner.

Reason of Arrears

The account balance is less than the bill to be settled.

Impact of Arrears

This is a pre-paid billing mode, so you can continue using yearly/monthly connections even if your account is in arrears. However, you cannot perform operations such as purchasing or renewing connections, because they will generate new expenditures.

Figure 6-1 Lifecycle of yearly/monthly connections
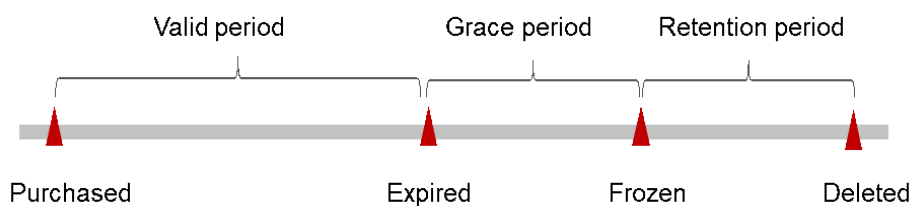
Avoiding and Handling Arrears

To avoid unnecessary expenditures, you can delete resources that are no longer needed or set a balance alert.

If a connection is no longer needed, you can unsubscribe from it to avoid generating further expenditures.

To help make sure your account never falls into arrears, you can configure the **Balance Alert** on the **Overview** page of Billing Center. Then, anytime an expenditure quota drops to below the threshold you specify, Huawei Cloud automatically notifies you by SMS or email.

If your account is in arrears, address the issue in a timely manner.

7 Stopping Billing

When you purchase a yearly/monthly connection, you make a one-time up-front payment. By default, the billing automatically stops when the subscription expires.

- If you no longer need a resource, but the subscription has not yet expired, you can unsubscribe from it. Depending on what coupons were used for the purchase and on if 5-day unconditional unsubscription rules apply, Huawei Cloud may issue you a refund.

- If you have enabled auto-renewal, disable it before the deduction date (seven days before the expiration date by default) to avoid being charged.

8 FAQ

- **How Do I Select a Carrier When Purchasing a Connection?**

    a. Confirm which carriers are available at the Direct Connect location you select. Different locations may have different carriers available.

    b. Select the one that best meets your requirements based on their price, network performance, and other features.

- **Is a Connection Still Available After Being Frozen?**

    After a connection expires, it is frozen and cannot be used. If you renew a frozen connection, it will become available again.

    If you do not renew your subscription within the frozen period, resources will be deleted and you cannot renew your subscription anymore. For details about the freezing duration, contact customer service.

- **Can I Unsubscribe from a Connection in the Creating State?**
    No.

    You can only unsubscribe from connections that are in the **Normal** state.

- **Can I Change the Port Type After a Connection Is Created?**

    No. If you want to change the port type of a connection, you need to unsubscribe from the connection and create another connection.