

# Requirements and Goals

Note: This is currently a verbatim copy of the RequirementsAndGoals wiki page originally hosted at Topaz, and reflects the developers' thinking as of 9/16/08.

Here's a brief summary of what requirements Akubra must fulfill and some of the design decisions made.

Feature	Support	Notes
Embeddable	Yes	This is the primary use case
Server	As an add-on	
Transactional	Yes (JTA)	Some implementations may cheat and not be truly transactional
Hierarchical	No	App may use hierarchical ids, but Akubra has no notion of or support for containers
Metadata storage	No (size only)	Blob size is only metadata stored because it's widely supported without requiring extra storage; but it too is optional (though strongly recommended)
Support app-supplied blob-ids	Yes	
Support storage-generated blob-ids	Yes	
Allow blobs to be deleted	Yes	
Allow blobs to be overwritten	Yes	
Allow partial updates of blobs	No	
Enumeration of stored blobs	Yes	Necessary for rebuilds
Pluggable storage back-ends	Yes	
Allow local temp storage	Yes	E.g. for caching or temporary bookkeeping
Allow permanent local storage	No	See <a href="http://lists.topazproject.org/pipermail/akubra-dev/2008-August/000074.html">http://lists.topazproject.org/pipermail/akubra-dev/2008-August/000074.html</a>