



# **Rules governing node root volumes and root aggregates**

**ONTAP 9**

NetApp  
January 26, 2023

This PDF was generated from <https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/ontap/system-admin/rules-node-root-volumes-aggregates-concept.html> on January 26, 2023. Always check docs.netapp.com for the latest.

# Table of Contents

- Rules governing node root volumes and root aggregates ..... 1
  - Rules governing node root volumes and root aggregates overview ..... 1
  - Free up space on a node's root volume..... 1
  - Relocate root volumes to new aggregates..... 2

# Rules governing node root volumes and root aggregates

## Rules governing node root volumes and root aggregates overview

A node's root volume contains special directories and files for that node. The root aggregate contains the root volume. A few rules govern a node's root volume and root aggregate.

A node's root volume is a FlexVol volume that is installed at the factory or by setup software. It is reserved for system files, log files, and core files. The directory name is `/mroot`, which is accessible only through the systemshell by technical support. The minimum size for a node's root volume depends on the platform model.

- The following rules govern the node's root volume:
  - Unless technical support instructs you to do so, do not modify the configuration or content of the root volume.
  - Do not store user data in the root volume.

Storing user data in the root volume increases the storage giveback time between nodes in an HA pair.

- You can move the root volume to another aggregate.

[Relocate root volumes to new aggregates](#)

- The root aggregate is dedicated to the node's root volume only.

ONTAP prevents you from creating other volumes in the root aggregate.

[NetApp Hardware Universe](#)

## Free up space on a node's root volume

A warning message appears when a node's root volume has become full or almost full. The node cannot operate properly when its root volume is full. You can free up space on a node's root volume by deleting core dump files, packet trace files, and root volume Snapshot copies.

### Steps

1. Display the node's core dump files and their names by using the `system node coredump show` command.
2. Delete unwanted core dump files from the node by using the `system node coredump delete` command.
3. Access the nodeshell:

```
system node run -node nodename
```

*nodename* is the name of the node whose root volume space you want to free up.

4. Switch to the nodeshell advanced privilege level from the nodeshell:

```
priv set advanced
```

5. Display and delete the node's packet trace files through the nodeshell:

- a. Display all files in the node's root volume:

```
ls /etc
```

- b. If any packet trace files (\*.trc) are in the node's root volume, delete them individually:

```
rm /etc/log/packet_traces/file_name.trc
```

6. Identify and delete the node's root volume Snapshot copies through the nodeshell:

- a. Identify the root volume name:

```
vol status
```

The root volume is indicated by the word "root" in the "Options" column of the `vol status` command output.

In the following example, the root volume is `vol0`:

```
node1*> vol status
```

Volume	State	Status	Options
vol0	online	raid_dp, flex 64-bit	root, nvfail=on

- b. Display root volume Snapshot copies:

```
snap list root_vol_name
```

- c. Delete unwanted root volume Snapshot copies:

```
snap delete root_vol_namesnapshot_name
```

7. Exit the nodeshell and return to the clustershell:

```
exit
```

## Relocate root volumes to new aggregates

The root replacement procedure migrates the current root aggregate to another set of disks without disruption.

**About this task**

Storage failover must be enabled to relocate root volumes. You can use the `storage failover modify -node nodename -enable true` command to enable failover.

You can change the location of the root volume to a new aggregate in the following scenarios:

- When the root aggregates are not on the disk you prefer
- When you want to rearrange the disks connected to the node
- When you are performing a shelf replacement of the EOS disk shelves

### Steps

1. Set the privilege level to advanced:

```
set privilege advanced
```

2. Relocate the root aggregate:

```
system node migrate-root -node nodename -disklist disklist -raid-type raid-type
```

- **-node**

Specifies the node that owns the root aggregate that you want to migrate.

- **-disklist**

Specifies the list of disks on which the new root aggregate will be created. All disks must be spares and owned by the same node. The minimum number of disks required is dependent on the RAID type.

- **-raid-type**

Specifies the RAID type of the root aggregate. The default value is `raid-dp`.

3. Monitor the progress of the job:

```
job show -id jobid -instance
```

### Results

If all of the pre-checks are successful, the command starts a root volume replacement job and exits. Expect the node to restart.

## Copyright information

Copyright © 2023 NetApp, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Printed in the U.S. No part of this document covered by copyright may be reproduced in any form or by any means—graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or storage in an electronic retrieval system—without prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Software derived from copyrighted NetApp material is subject to the following license and disclaimer:

THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED BY NETAPP “AS IS” AND WITHOUT ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WHICH ARE HEREBY DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL NETAPP BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

NetApp reserves the right to change any products described herein at any time, and without notice. NetApp assumes no responsibility or liability arising from the use of products described herein, except as expressly agreed to in writing by NetApp. The use or purchase of this product does not convey a license under any patent rights, trademark rights, or any other intellectual property rights of NetApp.

The product described in this manual may be protected by one or more U.S. patents, foreign patents, or pending applications.

LIMITED RIGHTS LEGEND: Use, duplication, or disclosure by the government is subject to restrictions as set forth in subparagraph (b)(3) of the Rights in Technical Data -Noncommercial Items at DFARS 252.227-7013 (FEB 2014) and FAR 52.227-19 (DEC 2007).

Data contained herein pertains to a commercial product and/or commercial service (as defined in FAR 2.101) and is proprietary to NetApp, Inc. All NetApp technical data and computer software provided under this Agreement is commercial in nature and developed solely at private expense. The U.S. Government has a non-exclusive, non-transferrable, nonsublicensable, worldwide, limited irrevocable license to use the Data only in connection with and in support of the U.S. Government contract under which the Data was delivered. Except as provided herein, the Data may not be used, disclosed, reproduced, modified, performed, or displayed without the prior written approval of NetApp, Inc. United States Government license rights for the Department of Defense are limited to those rights identified in DFARS clause 252.227-7015(b) (FEB 2014).

## Trademark information

NETAPP, the NETAPP logo, and the marks listed at <http://www.netapp.com/TM> are trademarks of NetApp, Inc. Other company and product names may be trademarks of their respective owners.