



# Delete directories

ONTAP 9

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# Delete directories

## Delete directories overview

Beginning with ONTAP 9.8, you can delete large directories with lower latencies. This improved method of directory delete can be implemented through a new REST API or using the ONTAP command line interface (CLI).

Beginning with ONTAP 9.9.1, you can also use System Manager to perform a fast directory delete. For more information, see [Take corrective action based on analytics](#).

## Perform a fast directory delete using the CLI

It is recommended that you use the REST API to delete your directory. You can also use ONTAP command line interface (CLI) to delete your directory.

### Steps

1. Enter advanced privilege mode:

```
-privilege advance
```

2. Delete the directory:

```
volume file async-delete start volume volume_name vserver vserver_name path  
directory_path -throttle throttle
```

The minimum throttle value is 10, the maximum is 100,000, and the default is 5000.

The following example creates a new directory async delete job with the default throttle.

```
cluster-cli::*> volume file async-delete start -vserver vs1 -volume vol1  
-path d1  
  
[Job 32] Job is queued: Asynchronous directory delete job.
```

3. Verify that the directory was deleted:

```
event log show
```

The following example shows output for the event log when the directory is successfully deleted.

```
cluster-cli::*> event log show
```

Time	Node	Severity	Event
MM/DD/YYYY 00:11:11	cluster-vsim	INFORMATIONAL	asyncDelete.message.success: Async delete job on path d1 of volume (MSID: 2162149232) was completed.

## Cancel a directory delete job

If you need to cancel the deletion of a directory, you can do so while the job is still in progress.

### Steps

1. Enter advanced privilege mode:

```
-privilege advanced
```

2. Verify that the directory delete is in progress:

```
volume file async-delete show
```

If the SVM, volume, JobID and path of your directory is displayed, you can cancel the job.

3. Cancel the directory delete:

```
volume file async-delete cancel -vserver SVM_name -volume volume_name -jobid job_id
```

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