

# efivarfs - a (U)EFI variable filesystem

The efivarfs filesystem was created to address the shortcomings of using entries in sysfs to maintain EFI variables. The old sysfs EFI variables code only supported variables of up to 1024 bytes. This limitation existed in version 0.99 of the EFI specification, but was removed before any full releases. Since variables can now be larger than a single page, sysfs isn't the best interface for this.

Variables can be created, deleted and modified with the efivarfs filesystem.

efivarfs is typically mounted like this:

```
mount -t efivarfs none /sys/firmware/efi/efivars
```

Due to the presence of numerous firmware bugs where removing non-standard UEFI variables causes the system firmware to fail to POST, efivarfs files that are not well-known standardized variables are created as immutable files. This doesn't prevent removal - "chattr -i" will work - but it does prevent this kind of failure from being accomplished accidentally.

## Warning

When a content of an UEFI variable in /sys/firmware/efi/efivars is displayed, for example using "hexdump", pay attention that the first 4 bytes of the output represent the UEFI variable attributes, in little-endian format.

Practically the output of each efivar is composed of:

```
4_bytes_of_attributes + efivar_data
```

*See also:*

- [Documentation/admin-guide/acpi/ssdt-overlays.rst](#)
- [Documentation/ABI/stable/sysfs-firmware-efi-vars](#)