In Oracle 19c, you can drop a datafile from a tablespace, but it depends on whether the tablespace is bigfile or smallfile:

**For BIGFILE Tablespaces**

If your tablespace is a BIGFILE tablespace, you cannot drop the datafile directly. You must drop the entire tablespace.

DROP TABLESPACE your\_tablespace INCLUDING CONTENTS AND DATAFILES;

**For SMALLFILE Tablespaces**

You can drop a datafile from a smallfile tablespace only if it does not contain any data. The steps are:

Step 1: Move Data to Another Tablespace

Move all objects from the datafile before dropping it.

Find segments in the datafile:

SELECT DISTINCT TABLESPACE\_NAME, FILE\_ID, FILE\_NAME FROM DBA\_EXTENTS WHERE FILE\_ID = (SELECT FILE\_ID FROM DBA\_DATA\_FILES WHERE FILE\_NAME = '/path/to/datafile.dbf');

SELECT DISTINCT TABLESPACE\_NAME,owner,SEGMENT\_NAME,PARTITION\_NAME,SEGMENT\_TYPE, FILE\_ID FROM

DBA\_EXTENTS WHERE

FILE\_ID = (SELECT FILE\_ID FROM DBA\_DATA\_FILES WHERE FILE\_NAME = 'C:\APP09\ORACLE\BASE\ORADATA\PROD\USERS01.DBF');

Move objects to another tablespace:

ALTER TABLE my\_table MOVE TABLESPACE another\_tablespace;

* Rebuild indexes:
* ALTER INDEX my\_index REBUILD TABLESPACE another\_tablespace;

✅ Step 2: Resize File to Minimum

If the file still has extents, try to resize it to the minimum size before dropping.

ALTER DATABASE DATAFILE '/path/to/datafile.dbf' RESIZE 1M;

✅ Step 3: OFFLINE the Datafile

Once all objects are moved, take the datafile offline.

ALTER DATABASE DATAFILE '/path/to/datafile.dbf' OFFLINE;

✅ Step 4: Drop the Datafile

Now, you can drop the datafile from the tablespace.

ALTER TABLESPACE your\_tablespace DROP DATAFILE '/path/to/datafile.dbf';

🔹 Final Step: Remove the Physical File from Disk

If the database doesn’t automatically delete the file, you can manually remove it:

rm /path/to/datafile.dbf

⚠️ Things to Remember

* Datafiles in BIGFILE tablespaces cannot be dropped individually.
* Ensure no data exists in the file before dropping.
* Backup your database before performing these steps.