



# Accidental Deletion

AWS has made it extremely easy to create, configure, monitor and manage your S3 objects be it through the AWS Management Console, CLI or the S3 API. However, this ease-of-use may also backfire as the barriers preventing the deletion objects are rather low by default. This can, if not managed properly lead to the accidental deletion of the data stored using Amazon S3.

As such, to prevent to accidental deletion of your data in AWS from occurring, it may be desirable to add extra layers of security to protect the data from accidental deletion. The most common way in which this can be achieved is through the combined use of **Versioning** and **Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)**.

**Versioning** keeps multiple versions of an object in an S3 bucket, allowing you to recover previous versions if an object is mistakenly deleted or overwritten. It is a built-in feature of all object storage methods, though this does result in greater expenses on the user end as Amazon charges us for the total storage used, which can balloon into large amounts quite easily when storing all the different historical versions of the objects in an S3 bucket.

**MFA Delete**, short for Multi-Factor Authentication Delete, adds an extra layer of security by requiring additional authentication for delete operations, ensuring that only authorized users can permanently remove data, resulting in the addition of a very human level of safeguarding for your critical data against accidental or unauthorized deletion.