



# **Manage the banner and MOTD**

## **ONTAP 9**

NetApp  
June 02, 2023

This PDF was generated from <https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/ontap/system-admin/manage-banner-motd-concept.html> on June 02, 2023. Always check docs.netapp.com for the latest.

# Table of Contents

- Manage the banner and MOTD ..... 1
  - Manage the banner and MOTD overview ..... 1
  - Create a banner ..... 2
  - Managing the banner ..... 4
  - Create an MOTD ..... 5
  - Manage the MOTD ..... 7

# Manage the banner and MOTD

## Manage the banner and MOTD overview

ONTAP enables you to configure a login banner or a message of the day (MOTD) to communicate administrative information to CLI users of the cluster or storage virtual machine (SVM).

A banner is displayed in a console session (for cluster access only) or an SSH session (for cluster or SVM access) before a user is prompted for authentication such as a password. For example, you can use the banner to display a warning message such as the following to someone who attempts to log in to the system:

```
$ ssh admin@cluster1-01
```

```
This system is for authorized users only. Your IP Address has been logged.
```

```
Password:
```

An MOTD is displayed in a console session (for cluster access only) or an SSH session (for cluster or SVM access) after a user is authenticated but before the clustershell prompt appears. For example, you can use the MOTD to display a welcome or informational message such as the following that only authenticated users will see:

```
$ ssh admin@cluster1-01
```

```
Password:
```

```
Greetings. This system is running ONTAP 9.0.
```

```
Your user name is 'admin'. Your last login was Wed Apr 08 16:46:53 2015  
from 10.72.137.28.
```

You can create or modify the content of the banner or MOTD by using the `security login banner modify` or `security login motd modify` command, respectively, in the following ways:

- You can use the CLI interactively or noninteractively to specify the text to use for the banner or MOTD.

The interactive mode, launched when the command is used without the `-message` or `-uri` parameter, enables you to use newlines (also known as end of lines) in the message.

The noninteractive mode, which uses the `-message` parameter to specify the message string, does not support newlines.

- You can upload content from an FTP or HTTP location to use for the banner or MOTD.
- You can configure the MOTD to display dynamic content.

Examples of what you can configure the MOTD to display dynamically include the following:

- Cluster name, node name, or SVM name
- Cluster date and time
- Name of the user logging in
- Last login for the user on any node in the cluster
- Login device name or IP address
- Operating system name
- Software release version
- Effective cluster version string The `security login motd modify` man page describes the escape sequences that you can use to enable the MOTD to display dynamically generated content.

The banner does not support dynamic content.

You can manage the banner and MOTD at the cluster or SVM level:

- The following facts apply to the banner:
  - The banner configured for the cluster is also used for all SVMs that do not have a banner message defined.
  - An SVM-level banner can be configured for each SVM.

If a cluster-level banner has been configured, it is overridden by the SVM-level banner for the given SVM.

- The following facts apply to the MOTD:
  - By default, the MOTD configured for the cluster is also enabled for all SVMs.
  - Additionally, an SVM-level MOTD can be configured for each SVM.

In this case, users logging in to the SVM will see two MOTDs, one defined at the cluster level and the other at the SVM level.

- The cluster-level MOTD can be enabled or disabled on a per-SVM basis by the cluster administrator.

If the cluster administrator disables the cluster-level MOTD for an SVM, a user logging in to the SVM does not see the cluster-level MOTD.

## Create a banner

You can create a banner to display a message to someone who attempts to access the cluster or SVM. The banner is displayed in a console session (for cluster access only) or an SSH session (for cluster or SVM access) before a user is prompted for authentication.

### Steps

1. Use the `security login banner modify` command to create a banner for the cluster or SVM:

If you want to...	Then...
Specify a message that is a single line	Use the <code>-message "text"</code> parameter to specify the text.

If you want to...	Then...
Include newlines (also known as end of lines) in the message	Use the command without the <code>-message</code> or <code>-uri</code> parameter to launch the interactive mode for editing the banner.
Upload content from a location to use for the banner	Use the <code>-uri</code> parameter to specify the content's FTP or HTTP location.

The maximum size for a banner is 2,048 bytes, including newlines.

A banner created by using the `-uri` parameter is static. It is not automatically refreshed to reflect subsequent changes of the source content.

The banner created for the cluster is displayed also for all SVMs that do not have an existing banner. Any subsequently created banner for an SVM overrides the cluster-level banner for that SVM. Specifying the `-message` parameter with a hyphen within double quotes ("`-`") for the SVM resets the SVM to use the cluster-level banner.

2. Verify that the banner has been created by displaying it with the `security login banner show` command.

Specifying the `-message` parameter with an empty string ("`''`") displays banners that have no content.

Specifying the `-message` parameter with "`-`" displays all (admin or data) SVMs that do not have a banner configured.

### Examples of creating banners

The following example uses the noninteractive mode to create a banner for the "cluster1" cluster:

```
cluster1::> security login banner modify -message "Authorized users only!"
cluster1::>
```

The following example uses the interactive mode to create a banner for the "svm1" SVM:

```
cluster1::> security login banner modify -vserver svm1

Enter the message of the day for Vserver "svm1".
Max size: 2048. Enter a blank line to terminate input. Press Ctrl-C to
abort.
0          1          2          3          4          5          6          7
8
1234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234
567890
The svm1 SVM is reserved for authorized users only!

cluster1::>
```

The following example displays the banners that have been created:

```
cluster1::> security login banner show
Vserver: cluster1
Message
-----
---
Authorized users only!

Vserver: svm1
Message
-----
---
The svm1 SVM is reserved for authorized users only!

2 entries were displayed.

cluster1::>
```

#### Related information

[Managing the banner](#)

## Managing the banner

You can manage the banner at the cluster or SVM level. The banner configured for the cluster is also used for all SVMs that do not have a banner message defined. A subsequently created banner for an SVM overrides the cluster banner for that SVM.

#### Choices

- Manage the banner at the cluster level:

If you want to...	Then...
Create a banner to display for all CLI login sessions	Set a cluster-level banner:  <pre>security login banner modify -vserver cluster_name { [-message "text"]   [ -uri ftp_or_http_addr] }</pre>
Remove the banner for all (cluster and SVM) logins	Set the banner to an empty string (""): <pre>security login banner modify -vserver * -message ""</pre>
Override a banner created by an SVM administrator	Modify the SVM banner message:  <pre>security login banner modify -vserver svm_name { [-message "text"]   [-uri ftp_or_http_addr] }</pre>

- Manage the banner at the SVM level:

Specifying `-vserver svm_name` is not required in the SVM context.

If you want to...	Then...
Override the banner supplied by the cluster administrator with a different banner for the SVM	Create a banner for the SVM:  <pre>security login banner modify -vserver svm_name { [-message "text"]   [-uri ftp_or_http_addr] }</pre>
Suppress the banner supplied by the cluster administrator so that no banner is displayed for the SVM	Set the SVM banner to an empty string for the SVM:  <pre>security login banner modify -vserver svm_name -message ""</pre>
Use the cluster-level banner when the SVM currently uses an SVM-level banner	Set the SVM banner to "-":  <pre>security login banner modify -vserver svm_name -message "-"</pre>

## Create an MOTD

You can create a message of the day (MOTD) to communicate information to authenticated CLI users. The MOTD is displayed in a console session (for cluster access only) or an SSH session (for cluster or SVM access) after a user is authenticated but before the clustershell prompt appears.

## Steps

1. Use the `security login motd modify` command to create an MOTD for the cluster or SVM:

If you want to...	Then...
Specify a message that is a single line	Use the <code>-message "text"</code> parameter to specify the text.
Include newlines (also known as end of lines)	Use the command without the <code>-message</code> or <code>-uri</code> parameter to launch the interactive mode for editing the MOTD.
Upload content from a location to use for the MOTD	Use the <code>-uri</code> parameter to specify the content's FTP or HTTP location.

The maximum size for an MOTD is 2,048 bytes, including newlines.

The `security login motd modify` man page describes the escape sequences that you can use to enable the MOTD to display dynamically generated content.

An MOTD created by using the `-uri` parameter is static. It is not automatically refreshed to reflect subsequent changes of the source content.

An MOTD created for the cluster is displayed also for all SVM logins by default, along with an SVM-level MOTD that you can create separately for a given SVM. Setting the `-is-cluster-message-enabled` parameter to `false` for an SVM prevents the cluster-level MOTD from being displayed for that SVM.

2. Verify that the MOTD has been created by displaying it with the `security login motd show` command.

Specifying the `-message` parameter with an empty string (`""`) displays MOTDs that are not configured or have no content.

See the [security login motd modify](#) command man page for a list of parameters to use to enable the MOTD to display dynamically generated content. Be sure to check the man page specific to your ONTAP version.

## Examples of creating MOTDs

The following example uses the noninteractive mode to create an MOTD for the "cluster1" cluster:

```
cluster1::> security login motd modify -message "Greetings!"
```

The following example uses the interactive mode to create an MOTD for the "svm1" SVM that uses escape sequences to display dynamically generated content:



```
cluster1::> security login motd modify -vserver svm1
```

```
Enter the message of the day for Vserver "svm1".
```

```
Max size: 2048. Enter a blank line to terminate input. Press Ctrl-C to abort.
```

```
0          1          2          3          4          5          6          7
8
```

```
1234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234
567890
```

```
Welcome to the \n SVM.  Your user ID is '\N'. Your last successful login
was \L.
```

The following example displays the MOTDs that have been created:

```
cluster1::> security login motd show
```

```
Vserver: cluster1
```

```
Is the Cluster MOTD Displayed?: true
```

```
Message
```

```
-----
---
```

```
Greetings!
```

```
Vserver: svm1
```

```
Is the Cluster MOTD Displayed?: true
```

```
Message
```

```
-----
---
```

```
Welcome to the \n SVM.  Your user ID is '\N'. Your last successful login
was \L.
```

```
2 entries were displayed.
```

## Manage the MOTD

You can manage the message of the day (MOTD) at the cluster or SVM level. By default, the MOTD configured for the cluster is also enabled for all SVMs. Additionally, an SVM-level MOTD can be configured for each SVM. The cluster-level MOTD can be enabled or disabled for each SVM by the cluster administrator.

For a list of escape sequences that can be used to dynamically generate content for the MOTD, see the [command reference](#).

### Choices

- Manage the MOTD at the cluster level:

If you want to...	Then...
Create an MOTD for all logins when there is no existing MOTD	<p>Set a cluster-level MOTD:</p> <pre><b>security login motd modify -vserver cluster_name { [-message "text"]   [- uri ftp_or_http_addr] }</b></pre>
Change the MOTD for all logins when no SVM-level MOTDs are configured	<p>Modify the cluster-level MOTD:</p> <pre><b>security login motd modify -vserver cluster_name { [-message "text"] }   [-uri ftp_or_http_addr] }</b></pre>
Remove the MOTD for all logins when no SVM-level MOTDs are configured	<p>Set the cluster-level MOTD to an empty string (""):</p> <pre><b>security login motd modify -vserver cluster_name -message ""</b></pre>
Have every SVM display the cluster-level MOTD instead of using the SVM-level MOTD	<p>Set a cluster-level MOTD, then set all SVM-level MOTDs to an empty string with the cluster-level MOTD enabled:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>security login motd modify -vserver cluster_name { [-message "text"]   [-uri ftp_or_http_addr] }</b></li> <li><b>security login motd modify { -vserver !"cluster_name" } -message "" -is-cluster-message-enabled true</b></li> </ol>
Have an MOTD displayed for only selected SVMs, and use no cluster-level MOTD	<p>Set the cluster-level MOTD to an empty string, then set SVM-level MOTDs for selected SVMs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>security login motd modify -vserver cluster_name -message ""</b></li> <li><b>security login motd modify -vserver svm_name { [-message "text"]   [- uri ftp_or_http_addr] }</b></li> </ol> <p>You can repeat this step for each SVM as needed.</p>

If you want to...	Then...
Use the same SVM-level MOTD for all (data and admin) SVMs	<p>Set the cluster and all SVMs to use the same MOTD:</p> <pre><b>security login motd modify -vserver *</b> <b>{ [-message "text"]   [-uri</b> <b>ftp_or_http_addr] }</b></pre> <div>  <p>If you use the interactive mode, the CLI prompts you to enter the MOTD individually for the cluster and each SVM. You can paste the same MOTD into each instance when you are prompted to.</p> </div>
Have a cluster-level MOTD optionally available to all SVMs, but do not want the MOTD displayed for cluster logins	<p>Set a cluster-level MOTD, but disable its display for the cluster:</p> <pre><b>security login motd modify -vserver</b> <b>cluster_name { [-message "text"]   [-</b> <b>uri ftp_or_http_addr] } -is-cluster</b> <b>-message-enabled false</b></pre>
Remove all MOTDs at the cluster and SVM levels when only some SVMs have both cluster-level and SVM-level MOTDs	<p>Set the cluster and all SVMs to use an empty string for the MOTD:</p> <pre><b>security login motd modify -vserver *</b> <b>-message ""</b></pre>
Modify the MOTD only for the SVMs that have a non-empty string, when other SVMs use an empty string, and when a different MOTD is used at the cluster level	<p>Use extended queries to modify the MOTD selectively:</p> <pre><b>security login motd modify { -vserver</b> <b>!"cluster_name" -message !"" } { [-</b> <b>message "text"]   [-uri</b> <b>ftp_or_http_addr] }</b></pre>
Display all MOTDs that contain specific text (for example, “January” followed by “2015”) anywhere in a single or multiline message, even if the text is split across different lines	<p>Use a query to display MOTDs:</p> <pre><b>security login motd show -message</b> <b>*"January"*"2015"*</b></pre>
Interactively create an MOTD that includes multiple and consecutive newlines (also known as end of lines, or EOLs)	<p>In the interactive mode, press the space bar followed by Enter to create a blank line without terminating the input for the MOTD.</p>

- Manage the MOTD at the SVM level:

Specifying `-vserver svm_name` is not required in the SVM context.

If you want to...	Then...
Use a different SVM-level MOTD, when the SVM already has an existing SVM-level MOTD	Modify the SVM-level MOTD:  <pre>security login motd modify -vserver svm_name { [-message "text"]   [-uri ftp_or_http_addr] }</pre>
Use only the cluster-level MOTD for the SVM, when the SVM already has an SVM-level MOTD	Set the SVM-level MOTD to an empty string, then have the cluster administrator enable the cluster-level MOTD for the SVM:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <code>security login motd modify -vserver svm_name -message ""</code></li> <li>2. (For the cluster administrator) <code>security login motd modify -vserver svm_name -is-cluster-message-enabled true</code></li> </ol>
Not have the SVM display any MOTD, when both the cluster-level and SVM-level MOTDs are currently displayed for the SVM	Set the SVM-level MOTD to an empty string, then have the cluster administrator disable the cluster-level MOTD for the SVM:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <code>security login motd modify -vserver svm_name -message ""</code></li> <li>2. (For the cluster administrator) <code>security login motd modify -vserver svm_name -is-cluster-message-enabled false</code></li> </ol>

## 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.