



# **Use folder redirection to store data on a SMB server**

**ONTAP 9**

NetApp  
August 10, 2023

This PDF was generated from <https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/ontap/smb-admin/folder-redirection-store-data-concept.html> on August 10, 2023. Always check docs.netapp.com for the latest.

# Table of Contents

- Use folder redirection to store data on a SMB server ..... 1
  - Use folder redirection to store data on a SMB server overview ..... 1
  - Requirements for using folder redirection ..... 1
  - Configure folder redirection ..... 2

# Use folder redirection to store data on a SMB server

## Use folder redirection to store data on a SMB server overview

ONTAP supports Microsoft folder redirection, which enables users or administrators to redirect the path of a local folder to a location on the CIFS server. It appears as if redirected folders are stored on the local Windows client, even though the data is stored on an SMB share.

Folder redirection is intended mostly for organizations that have already deployed home directories, and that want to maintain compatibility with their existing home directory environment.

- Documents, Desktop, and Start Menu are examples of folders that you can redirect.
- Users can redirect folders from their Windows client.
- Administrators can centrally configure and manage folder redirection by configuring GPOs in Active Directory.
- If administrators have configured roaming profiles, folder redirection enables administrators to divide user data from profile data.
- Administrators can use folder redirection and offline files together to redirect data storage for local folders to the CIFS server, while allowing users to cache the content locally.

### Related information

[Using offline files to allow caching of files for offline use](#)

[Using roaming profiles to store user profiles centrally on a CIFS server associated with the SVM](#)

## Requirements for using folder redirection

Before you can use Microsoft's folder redirection with your CIFS server, you need to know which versions of ONTAP and SMB and which Windows clients support the feature.

### ONTAP version requirements

ONTAP support Microsoft folder redirection.

### SMB protocol version requirements

For storage virtual machine (SVM), ONTAP supports Microsoft's folder redirection on all versions of SMB.

### Windows client requirements

Before a user can use Microsoft's folder redirection, the Windows client must support the feature.

For the latest information about which Windows clients support folder redirection, see the Interoperability Matrix.

## Configure folder redirection

You can configure folder redirection using the Windows Properties window. The advantage to using this method is that the Windows user can configure folder redirection without assistance from the SVM administrator.

### Steps

1. In Windows Explorer, right-click the folder that you want to redirect to a network share.
2. Click **Properties**.

Properties for the share you selected are displayed.

3. In the **Shortcut** tab, click **Target** and specify the path to the network location where you want to redirect the selected folder.

For example, if you want to redirect a folder to the `data` folder in a home directory that is mapped to `Q:`, specify `Q:\data` as the target.

4. Click **OK**.

For more information about configuring offline folders, consult the Microsoft TechNet Library.

### Related information

Microsoft TechNet Library: [technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/](https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/)

## 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.