



(<https://www.hashicorp.com>)

---

## Command: destroy

The `terraform destroy` command is a convenient way to destroy all remote objects managed by a particular Terraform configuration.

While you will typically not want to destroy long-lived objects in a production environment, Terraform is sometimes used to manage ephemeral infrastructure for development purposes, in which case you can use `terraform destroy` to conveniently clean up all of those temporary objects once you are finished with your work.

## Usage

---

Usage: `terraform destroy [options]`

This command is just a convenience alias for the following command:

```
terraform apply -destroy
```

For that reason, this command accepts most of the options that `terraform apply` (</docs/cli/commands/apply.html>) accepts, although it does not accept a plan file argument and forces the selection of the "destroy" planning mode.

You can also create a speculative destroy plan, to see what the effect of destroying would be, by running the following command:

```
terraform plan -destroy
```

This will run `terraform plan` (</docs/cli/commands/plan.html>) in *destroy* mode, showing you the proposed destroy changes without executing them.

**Note:** The `-destroy` option to `terraform apply` exists only in Terraform v0.15.2 and later. For earlier versions, you *must* use `terraform destroy` to get the effect of `terraform apply -destroy`.