



How you can view quota information

ONTAP 9

NetApp
February 12, 2026

Table of Contents

- How you can view quota information 1
 - Overview of viewing quota information 1
 - See what quotas are in effect using the quota report. 1
 - Why enforced quotas differ from configured quotas 4
 - Use the quota report to determine which quotas limit writes to a specific file 5
 - Commands for displaying information about quotas in ONTAP 5
 - When to use the volume quota policy rule show and volume quota report commands 6

How you can view quota information

Overview of viewing quota information

You can use quota reports to view details such as the configuration of quota rules and policies, enforced and configured quotas, and errors that have occurred during quota resizing and reinitialization.

Viewing quota information is useful in situations such as the following:

- Configuring quotas, for example to configure quotas and verify the configurations
- Responding to notifications that disk space or file limits will soon be reached or that they have been reached
- Responding to requests for more space

See what quotas are in effect using the quota report

Because of the various ways that quotas interact, more quotas are in effect than just the ones you have explicitly created. To see what quotas are in effect, you can view the quota report.

The following examples show quota reports for different types of quotas applied on a FlexVol volume vol1, and a qtree q1 contained in that volume:

Example with no user quotas specified for the qtree

In this example, there is one qtree, q1, which is contained by the volume vol1. The administrator has created three quotas:

- A default tree quota limit on vol1 of 400MB
- A default user quota limit on vol1 of 100MB
- An explicit user quota limit on vol1 of 200MB for the user jsmith

The quota rules for these quotas look similar to the following example:

```
cluster1::*> volume quota policy rule show -vserver vs1 -volume vol1
```

```
Vserver: vs1                      Policy: default                      Volume: vol1
```

| Type | Target | Qtree | User Mapping | Disk Limit | Soft Disk Limit | Files Limit | Soft Files Limit |
|------|--------|-------|--------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| tree | "" | "" | - | 400MB | - | - | - |
| user | "" | "" | off | 100MB | - | - | - |
| user | jsmith | "" | off | 200MB | - | - | - |

The quota report for these quotas looks similar to the following example:

```
cluster1::> volume quota report
```

```
Vserver: vs1
```

| Volume Specifier | Tree | Type | ID | ----Disk---- | ----Files----- | Quota |
|------------------|------|------|--------|--------------|----------------|--------|
| | | | | Used Limit | Used Limit | |
| vol1 | - | tree | * | 0B 400MB | 0 - | * |
| vol1 | - | user | * | 0B 100MB | 0 - | * |
| vol1 | - | user | jsmith | 150B 200MB | 7 - | jsmith |
| vol1 | q1 | tree | 1 | 0B 400MB | 6 - | q1 |
| vol1 | q1 | user | * | 0B 100MB | 0 - | |
| vol1 | q1 | user | jsmith | 0B 100MB | 5 - | |
| vol1 | - | user | root | 0B 0MB | 1 - | |
| vol1 | q1 | user | root | 0B 0MB | 8 - | |

The first three lines of the quota report display the three quotas specified by the administrator. Since two of these quotas are default quotas, ONTAP automatically creates derived quotas.

The fourth line displays the tree quota that is derived from the default tree quota for every qtree in vol1 (in this example, only q1).

The fifth line displays the default user quota that is created for the qtree as a result of the existence of the default user quota on the volume and the qtree quota.

The sixth line displays the derived user quota that is created for jsmith on the qtree because there is a default user quota for the qtree (line 5) and the user jsmith owns files on that qtree. Note that the limit applied to the user jsmith in the qtree q1 is not determined by the explicit user quota limit (200MB). This is because the

explicit user quota limit is on the volume, so it does not affect limits for the qtree. Instead, the derived user quota limit for the qtree is determined by the default user quota for the qtree (100MB).

The last two lines display more user quotas that are derived from the default user quotas on the volume and on the qtree. A derived user quota was created for the root user on both the volume and the qtree because the root user owned files on both the volume and the qtree. Since the root user gets special treatment in terms of quotas, its derived quotas are tracking quotas only.

Example with user quotas specified for the qtree

This example is similar to the previous one, except that the administrator has added two quotas on the qtree.

There is still one volume, vol1, and one qtree, q1. The administrator has created the following quotas:

- A default tree quota limit on vol1 of 400MB
- A default user quota limit on vol1 of 100MB
- An explicit user quota limit on vol1 for the user jsmith of 200MB
- A default user quota limit on qtree q1 of 50MB
- An explicit user quota limit on qtree q1 for the user jsmith of 75MB

The quota rules for these quotas look like this:

```
cluster1::> volume quota policy rule show -vserver vs1 -volume vol1
```

| Vserver: vs1 | | Policy: default | | | Volume: vol1 | | |
|--------------|--------|-----------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| Type | Target | Qtree | User Mapping | Disk Limit | Soft Disk Limit | Files Limit | Soft Files Limit |
| Threshold | | | | | | | |
| tree | "" | "" | - | 400MB | - | - | - |
| - | | | | | | | |
| user | "" | "" | off | 100MB | - | - | - |
| - | | | | | | | |
| user | "" | q1 | off | 50MB | - | - | - |
| - | | | | | | | |
| user | jsmith | "" | off | 200MB | - | - | - |
| - | | | | | | | |
| user | jsmith | q1 | off | 75MB | - | - | - |
| - | | | | | | | |

The quota report for these quotas looks like this:

```
cluster1::> volume quota report
```

```
Vserver: vs1
```

| Volume Specifier | Tree | Type | ID | ----Disk---- | | ----Files----- | | Quota |
|------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------|--------|
| | | | | Used | Limit | Used | Limit | |
| | | | | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | |
| ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | |
| vol1 | - | tree | * | 0B | 400MB | 0 | - | * |
| vol1 | - | user | * | 0B | 100MB | 0 | - | * |
| vol1 | - | user | jsmith | 2000B | 200MB | 7 | - | jsmith |
| vol1 | q1 | user | * | 0B | 50MB | 0 | - | * |
| vol1 | q1 | user | jsmith | 0B | 75MB | 5 | - | jsmith |
| vol1 | q1 | tree | 1 | 0B | 400MB | 6 | - | q1 |
| vol1 | - | user | root | 0B | 0MB | 2 | - | |
| vol1 | q1 | user | root | 0B | 0MB | 1 | - | |

The first five lines of the quota report display the five quotas created by the administrator. Since some of these quotas are default quotas, ONTAP automatically creates derived quotas.

The sixth line displays the tree quota that is derived from the default tree quota for every qtree in vol1 (in this example, only q1).

The last two lines display the user quotas that are derived from the default user quotas on the volume and on the qtree. A derived user quota was created for the root user on both the volume and the qtree because the root user owned files on both the volume and the qtree. Since the root user gets special treatment in terms of quotas, its derived quotas are tracking quotas only.

No other default quotas or derived quotas were created for the following reasons:

- A derived user quota was not created for the jsmith user even though the user owns files on both the volume and the qtree because the user already has explicit quotas at both levels.
- No derived user quotas were created for other users because no other users own files on either the volume or the qtree.
- The default user quota on the volume did not create a default user quota on the qtree because the qtree already had a default user quota.

Why enforced quotas differ from configured quotas

Enforced quotas differ from configured quotas because derived quotas are enforced without being configured but configured quotas are enforced only after they are successfully initialized. Understanding these differences can help you compare the enforced quotas that are shown in quota reports to the quotas that you configured.

Enforced quotas, which appear in quota reports, might differ from the configured quota rules for the following reasons:

- Derived quotas are enforced without being configured as quota rules. ONTAP creates derived quotas automatically in response to default quotas.

- Quotas might not have been reinitialized on a volume after quota rules were configured.
- Errors might have occurred when quotas were initialized on a volume.

Use the quota report to determine which quotas limit writes to a specific file

You can use the volume quota report command with a specific file path to determine which quota limits affect write operations to a file. This can help you understand which quota is preventing a write operation.

Steps

1. Use the volume quota report command with the `-path` parameter.

Example of showing quotas affecting a specific file

The following example shows the command and output to determine what quotas are in effect for writes to the file `file1`, which resides in the qtree `q1` in the FlexVol volume `vol2`:

```
cluster1> volume quota report -vserver vs0 -volume vol2 -path
/vol/vol2/q1/file1
Virtual Server: vs0
```

| Volume | Tree | Type | ID | ----Disk---- | | ----Files----- | | Quota |
|--------|------|-------|-------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------|-------|
| | | | | Used | Limit | Used | Limit | |
| vol2 | q1 | tree | jsmith | 1MB | 100MB | 2 | 10000 | q1 |
| vol2 | q1 | group | eng | 1MB | 700MB | 2 | 70000 | |
| vol2 | | group | eng | 1MB | 700MB | 6 | 70000 | * |
| vol2 | | user | corp\jsmith | 1MB | 50MB | 1 | - | * |
| vol2 | q1 | user | corp\jsmith | 1MB | 50MB | 1 | - | |

5 entries were displayed.

Commands for displaying information about quotas in ONTAP

You can use commands to display a quota report containing enforced quotas and resource usage, display information about quota state and errors, or about quota policies and quota rules.



You can run the following commands only on FlexVol volumes.

| If you want to... | Use this command... |
|--|--|
| View information about enforced quotas | <code>volume quota report</code> |
| View resource usage (disk space and number of files) of quota targets | <code>volume quota report</code> |
| Determine which quota limits are affected when a write to a file is allowed | <code>volume quota report</code> with the <code>-path</code> parameter |
| Display the quota state, such as on, off, and initializing | <code>volume quota show</code> |
| View information about quota message logging | <code>volume quota show</code> with the <code>-logmsg</code> parameter |
| View errors that occur during quota initialization and resizing | <code>volume quota show</code> with the <code>-instance</code> parameter |
| View information about quota policies | <code>volume quota policy show</code> |
| View information about quota rules | <code>volume quota policy rule show</code> |
| View the name of the quota policy that is assigned to a storage virtual machine (SVM, formerly known as Vserver) | <code>vserver show</code> with the <code>-instance</code> parameter |

Learn more about `volume quota` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).

When to use the volume quota policy rule show and volume quota report commands

Although both commands show information about quotas, the `volume quota policy rule show` quickly displays configured quota rules while the `volume quota report` command, which consumes more time and resources, displays enforced quotas and resource usage.

The `volume quota policy rule show` command is useful for the following purposes:

- Check the configuration of quota rules before activating them

This command displays all configured quota rules regardless of whether the quotas have been initialized or resized.

- Quickly view quota rules without affecting system resources

Because it does not display disk and file usage, this command is not as resource intensive as a quota report.

- Display the quota rules in a quota policy that is not assigned to the SVM.

Learn more about `volume quota policy rule show` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).

The `volume quota report` command is useful for the following purposes:

- View enforced quotas, including derived quotas
- View the disk space and number of files used by every quota in effect, including targets affected by derived quotas

(For default quotas, the usage appears as "0" because the usage is tracked against the resulting derived quota.)

- Determine which quota limits affect when a write to a file will be allowed

Add the `-path` parameter to the `volume quota report` command.



The quota report is resource-intensive operation. If you run it on many FlexVol volumes in the cluster, it might take a long time to complete. A more efficient way would be to view the quota report for a particular volume in an SVM.

Learn more about `volume quota report` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).

Copyright information

Copyright © 2026 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.