Deleting a Snapshot copy

Snapdrive for Unix

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Deleting a Snapshot copy

You can delete a Snapshot copy on a storage system by using the `snapdrive snap delete` command.

Command to use to delete Snapshot copies

Use the `snapdrive snap delete` command to delete a Snapshot copy.

The `snapdrive snap delete` command removes the Snapshot copies you specify from a storage system. This command does not perform any operations on the host. It only removes the Snapshot copy from a storage system, if you have permission to do so. (If you want to keep the LUNs and mappings.)

Reasons to delete Snapshot copies

Delete older Snapshot copies to free space on the storage system volume, or to keep fewer Snapshot copies.

You might delete older Snapshot copies for the following reasons:

- To keep fewer stored Snapshot copies than the hard limit of 255 on a storage system volume. Once it reaches the limit, attempts to create new Snapshot copies fail.
- To free space on the storage system volume. Even before the Snapshot copy reaches the limit, a Snapshot copy fails if the disk does not have enough reserved space for it.
- You can also use the wildcard (*) character in Snapshot copy names. The Snapshot show operation enables you to use the wildcard character to show all Snapshot copy names that match a certain pattern. The following rules apply to using wildcard in Snapshot copy names:
  - You can use a wildcard at the end of the name only. You cannot use the wildcard at the beginning or the middle of a Snapshot copy name.
  - You cannot use the wildcard in the storage system or storage system volume fields of a Snapshot copy name.

Guidelines for deleting Snapshot copies

You cannot delete a Snapshot copy that is in use, or if the Snapshot copy is across multiple storage system volumes.

Follow these guidelines when you use the `snapdrive snap delete` command:

- The Snapshot delete operation fails if any of the Snapshot copies you want to delete are in use, or not created by SnapDrive for UNIX. You can override this behavior by including the `-force` option with the `snapdrive snap delete` command.
- If you have a Snapshot copy that spans multiple storage system volumes, you must manually delete the Snapshot copy on each volume.

Information required for using the snapdrive snap delete command

To delete a Snapshot copy, specify the name of the Snapshot copy to be deleted. Using the `snapdrive snap delete` command you can view the list of Snapshot copies that are deleted.

The following table gives the information about the `snapdrive snap delete` command.

Requirement/Option	Argument
Specify the name for the Snapshot copy. Use the long form of the Snapshot copy name where you enter the storage system name, volume, and Snapshot copy name. The following is an example of a long Snapshot copy name: `big_filer:/vol/account_vol:snap_20031115` If you want to specify additional Snapshot copies, you can use the short form of the name if they are on the same storage system and volume as the first Snapshot copy. Otherwise, use the long form of the name again.	
Snapshot copy name (`-snapname`)	*`long_Snapshot copy_name`*
Additional Snapshot copies	*`Snapshot copy_name`* (either long or short form)
`-verbose`	~
To display a list of the Snapshot copies that is deleted, include the -verbose option. This option fills in the missing storage system and volume information in case where you used the short form of the Snapshot copy name.	
`-force`	~
`-noprompt`	~
Optional: Decide if you want to overwrite an existing Snapshot copy. Without this option, this operation halts if you supply the name of an existing Snapshot copy. When you supply this option and specify the name of an existing Snapshot copy, it prompts you to confirm that you want to overwrite the Snapshot copy. To prevent SnapDrive for UNIX from displaying the prompt, include the `-noprompt` option also. (You must always include the `-force` option if you want to use the `-noprompt` option.)	

Deleting a Snapshot copy

You can use the `snapdrive snap delete` command to delete a Snapshot copy.

Steps

1. Enter the following command:

   `snapdrive snap delete [-snapname] long_snap_name [snap_name…] [-verbose] [-`

force [-noprompt]]

If the Snapshot copy you specify is in use, this operation fails. SnapDrive for UNIX reports that this operation has completed successfully only, if all the Snapshot copies are removed.

SnapDrive for UNIX deletes the existing contents of the LUNs you specify in the `snap delete` command line and replaces them with the contents of the LUNs in the Snapshot copy you specify.

This example displays a list of what is being deleted:

```
# snapdrive snap delete -v filer1:/vol/vol1/snap1 snap2 snap3
snapdrive: deleting
filer1:/vol/vol1/snap1
filer1:/vol/vol1/snap2
filer1:/vol/vol1/snap3
```

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