



Guidelines for Snapshot copy creation

Snapdrive for Unix

NetApp
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Guidelines for Snapshot copy creation

Consider the following while creating Snapshot copies using SnapDrive for UNIX: you can keep maximum 255 Snapshot copies per volume, SnapDrive for UNIX supports only the Snapshot copies that it creates, you cannot create Snapshot copies of root disk groups, and boot device or swap device, and SnapDrive for UNIX requires a freeze operation to maintain crash-consistency.

Follow these guidelines when you enter commands that create Snapshot copies:

- You can keep a maximum of 255 Snapshot copies per storage system volume. This limit is set by the storage system. The total number can vary depending on whether other tools use these Snapshot copies.

When the number of Snapshot copies has reached the maximum limit, the Snapshot create operation fails. You must delete some of the old Snapshot copies before you can use SnapDrive for UNIX to take anymore.

- SnapDrive for UNIX does not support Snapshot copies that it does not create. For example, it does not support Snapshot copies that are created from the storage system console, because such a practice can lead to inconsistencies within the file system.
- You cannot use SnapDrive for UNIX to create Snapshot copies of the following:
 - Root disk groups

The Snapshot create operation fails when you try to take a Snapshot copy of a root disk group for an LVM.

- Boot device or swap device

SnapDrive for UNIX does not take a Snapshot copy of a system boot device or a system swap device.

- When a Snapshot copy spans multiple storage systems or storage system volumes, SnapDrive for UNIX requires a freeze operation to guarantee crash-consistency. For information about creating Snapshot copies on configurations for which a freeze operation is not provided.

Guidelines for Snapshot copy creation in a host cluster environment

Creating Snapshot copies with SnapDrive for UNIX is supported in some environment, but not in some. See the guidelines to know more.

- SnapDrive for UNIX can create Snapshot copies of disk groups and file systems that are shared with a host cluster partner in the Veritas SFRAC 4.1 environment.
- The Snapshot create operation can be invoked from any node in the host cluster.
- The multiple file systems and disk groups that are specified in this operation should have the same scope: that is, either all should be shared or all should be dedicated.
- An NFS file system in cluster-wide shared mode is not supported, but an NFS file system in dedicated mode in host clustered nodes is supported.
- File systems are not supported on raw LUNs.

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