



# **Management of an LVM and raw entities**

## **Snapdrive for Unix**

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# Management of an LVM and raw entities

SnapDrive for UNIX enables you to manage LVM (Logical Volume Manager) and raw entities. SnapDrive for UNIX also provides commands that help in provisioning and managing storage when you create storage entities.

## SnapDrive for UNIX provisioning in an LVM environment

SnapDrive for UNIX storage commands provision LVM entities by creating LVM objects.

If you request a SnapDrive for UNIX storage operation that provisions an LVM entity—for example, a disk group that includes host volumes or file systems—the `snapdrive storage` command works with the LVM to create the LVM objects and file systems that use the storage.

During storage provisioning operation, the following actions occur:

- The host LVM combines LUNs from a storage system into disks, or volume groups.

The storage is then divided into logical volumes, which are used as if they were raw disk devices to hold file systems or raw data.

- SnapDrive for UNIX integrates with the host LVM to determine which NetApp LUNs make up each disk group, host volume, and file system requested for a Snapshot copy.

Because the data from any specified host volume can be distributed across all disks in the disk group, Snapshot copies can be made and restored only for whole disk groups.

## SnapDrive for UNIX and raw entities

SnapDrive for UNIX enables storage operation for a raw entity such as a LUN, or a file system that can be created directly on a LUN, and performs the storage operation without using the host system, LVM.

SnapDrive for UNIX storage commands manage raw entities such as LUNs without activating the LVM. SnapDrive for UNIX enables you to create, delete, connect, and disconnect LUNs, and the file systems that they contain, without activating the LVM.

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