



What is the recommended free space to maintain in ONTAP volumes and aggregates for optimal operation?

https://kb.netapp.com/on-prem/ontap/Ontap_OS/OS-KBs/What_is_the_recommended_free_space_to_...

Updated: Sat, 04 Apr 2026 23:43:36 GMT

Applies to

ONTAP 9

Answer

- There isn't a comprehensive list detailing the requirements for all features.
- However, as a best practice, it's advisable to keep volumes and aggregates below 95% capacity (the default alert threshold).
- It's important to understand that continuous monitoring of storage usage is necessary, and assuming that monitoring is unnecessary after initial allocation is unrealistic.

Notes:

- In actual operations, the required free space may vary depending on system usage and snapshot management policies.
- If you actively use deduplication or compression, it is recommended to consider reserving more than 10% free space.

Additional Information

[What is the recommended free space for aggregates?](#)