



PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TECH NOTE #032

Volume **try_first** option

The Concept

Tech Notes 030 and 031 covered the volume autogrow and snapshot autodelete functions for managing space in a volume. These functions can be used alone or can work together, but how does ONTAP decide which function to use first when a volume fills up? The **try_first** volume option allows you to tell ONTAP, on a volume-by-volume basis, whether to grow the volume or delete snapshots first.

Examples

```
fas1> vol options <volname> try_first [volume_grow|snap_delete]
```

What It Means To You

If you have the aggregate free space, growing the volume is usually the preferred option (and is the default setting). Growing is often the only option for volumes with few Snapshots or the Snapshots are locked by FlexClone, SnapMirror or SnapVault. You will mostly use these options on SAN based volumes where the impact of a full volume will have the worst impact on your company. How do you decide which to use? If the data space in the volume is consistently running low, use `volume_grow`. If your Snapshots keep encroaching into the volume data space, or you have `fs_size_fixed` turn on, then use `snap_delete`. Consider using `qtree` soft quotas to provide an early warning system to alert you when users and applications are filling up a volume.

More Information

The Data ONTAP System Management Guide covers this option:

http://now.netapp.com/NOW/knowledge/docs/ontap/rel7311/html/ontap/smg/provisioning/task/t_oc_prov_fv_vol-spc-prsrv.html#t_oc_prov_fvol-spc-prsrv

This knowledge Base article also contains useful information:

<https://now.netapp.com/Knowledgebase/solutionarea.asp?id=kb6954>

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