



Using the Device File Systems, Directories, and Files

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About the Device File Systems, Directories, and Files

This section describes file systems, directories, and files on the Cisco NX-OS device.

File Systems

The syntax for specifying a local file system is `filesystem:[//modules/]`.

This table describes file systems that you can reference on your device.

Table 1: File System Syntax Components

File System Name	Module	Description
bootflash	sup-active sup-local	Internal CompactFlash memory located on the active supervisor module used for storing image files, configuration files, and other miscellaneous files. The initial default directory is bootflash.
	sup-standby sup-remote	Internal CompactFlash memory located on the standby supervisor module used for storing image files, configuration files, and other miscellaneous files.
volatile	—	Volatile random-access memory (VRAM) located on a supervisor module used for temporary or pending changes.
log	—	Memory on the active supervisor that stores logging file statistics.
system	—	Memory on a supervisor module used for storing the running-configuration file.
debug	—	Memory on a supervisor module used for debug logs.

Directories

You can create directories on bootflash: and external flash memory (usb1: and usb2:). You can navigate through these directories and use them for files.

Files

You create and access files on bootflash:, volatile:, usb1:, and usb2: filesystems. You can only access files on the system: filesystem. You can use the log: filesystem for debug log files.

You can download files, such as the nx-os image file, from remote servers using FTP, Secure Copy (SCP), Secure Shell FTP (SFTP), and TFTP. You can also copy files from an external server to the device, because the device can act as an SCP server.

Guidelines and Limitations for Device File Systems, Directories, and Files

Guidelines and limitations for device file systems, directories, and files are as follows:

- The **show tech-support details** command cannot be terminated using Ctrl+Z. Instead, use Ctrl+C to terminate the command.

Default Settings for File System Parameters

This table lists the default settings for the file system parameters.

Table 2: Default File System Settings

Parameters	Default
Default filesystem	bootflash:

Configuring the FTP, HTTP, or TFTP Source Interface

You can configure the source interface for the File Transfer Protocol (FTP), Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), or Trivial File Transfer Protocol (TFTP). This configuration allows you to use the IP address associated with the configured source interface when copy packets are transferred.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **configure terminal**
2. **[no] ip {ftp | http | tftp} source-interface {ethernet slot/port | loopback number}**
3. (Optional) **copy running-config startup-config**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	configure terminal Example: <pre>switch# configure terminal switch(config)#</pre>	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	[no] ip {ftp http tftp} source-interface {ethernet slot/port loopback number} Example: <pre>switch(config)# ip tftp source-interface ethernet 2/1</pre>	Configures the source interface for all FTP, HTTP, or TFTP packets.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 3	(Optional) copy running-config startup-config Example: switch(config)# copy running-config startup-config	Copies the running configuration to the startup configuration.

Working with Directories

This section describes how to work with directories on the Cisco NX-OS device.

Identifying the Current Directory

You can display the directory name of your current directory.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. `pwd`

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<code>pwd</code> Example: switch# pwd	Displays the name of your current directory.

Changing the Current Directory

You can change the current directory for file system operations. The initial default directory is bootflash:.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) `pwd`
2. `cd {directory | filesystem:[/module/][directory]}`

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) <code>pwd</code> Example: switch# pwd	Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	<code>cd {directory filesystem:[/module/][directory]}</code> Example: switch# cd usb1:	Changes to a new current directory. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive.

Creating a Directory

You can create directories in the bootflash: and flash device file systems.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) **pwd**
2. (Optional) **cd** {*directory* | *filesystem:[//module/][directory]*}
3. **mkdir** [*filesystem:[//module/]*]*directory*

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) pwd Example: switch# pwd	Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	(Optional) cd { <i>directory</i> <i>filesystem:[//module/][directory]</i> }	Changes to a new current directory. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive.
Step 3	mkdir [<i>filesystem:[//module/]</i>] <i>directory</i> Example: switch# mkdir test	Creates a new directory. The <i>filesystem</i> argument is case sensitive. The <i>directory</i> argument is alphanumeric, case sensitive, and has a maximum of 64 characters.

Displaying Directory Contents

You can display the contents of a directory.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **dir** [*directory* | *filesystem:[//module/][directory]*]

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	dir [<i>directory</i> <i>filesystem:[//module/][directory]</i>] Example: switch# dir bootflash:test	Displays the directory contents. The default is the current working directory. The file system and directory names are case sensitive.

Deleting a Directory

You can remove directories from the file systems on your device.

Before you begin

Ensure that the directory is empty before you try to delete it.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) **pwd**
2. (Optional) **dir** *[filesystem :[//module/][directory]]*
3. **rmdir** *[filesystem :[//module/]]directory*

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) pwd Example: switch# pwd	Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	(Optional) dir <i>[filesystem :[//module/][directory]]</i> Example: switch# dir bootflash:test	Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. If the directory is not empty, you must delete all the files before you can delete the directory.
Step 3	rmdir <i>[filesystem :[//module/]]directory</i> Example: switch# rmdir test	Deletes a directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.

Accessing Directories on the Standby Supervisor Module

You can access all file systems on the standby supervisor module (remote) from a session on the active supervisor module. This feature is useful when copying files to the active supervisor modules requires similar files to exist on the standby supervisor module. To access the file systems on the standby supervisor module from a session on the active supervisor module, you specify the standby supervisor module in the path to the file using either *filesystem://sup-remote/* or *filesystem://sup-standby/*.

Working with Files

This section describes how to work with files on the Cisco NX-OS device.

Moving Files

You can move a file from one directory to another directory.

**Caution**

If a file with the same name already exists in the destination directory, that file is overwritten by the moved file.

You can use the **move** command to rename a file by moving the file within the same directory.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) **pwd**
2. (Optional) **dir** [*filesystem:[//module][directory]*]
3. **move** [*filesystem:[//module][directory /] | directory/*]*source-filename* {*filesystem:[//module][directory /] | directory/*}[*target-filename*] | *target-filename*}

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) pwd Example: switch# pwd	Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	(Optional) dir [<i>filesystem:[//module][directory]</i>] Example: switch# dir bootflash	Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.
Step 3	move [<i>filesystem:[//module][directory /] directory/</i>] <i>source-filename</i> { <i>filesystem:[//module][directory /] directory/</i> }[<i>target-filename</i>] <i>target-filename</i> } Example: switch# move test old_tests/test1	Moves a file. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. The <i>target-filename</i> argument is alphanumeric, case sensitive, and has a maximum of 64 characters. If the <i>target-filename</i> argument is not specified, the filename defaults to the <i>source-filename</i> argument value.

Copying Files

You can make copies of files, either within the same directory or on another directory. .



Note Use the **dir** command to ensure that enough space is available in the target file system. If enough space is not available, use the **delete** command to remove unneeded files.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) **pwd**
2. (Optional) **dir** [*filesystem:[//module][directory]*]
3. **copy** [*filesystem:[//module][directory/] | directory/*]*source-filename* | [*filesystem:[//module][directory/] | directory/*][*target-filename*]

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) pwd Example: switch# pwd	Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	(Optional) dir [<i>filesystem:[//module/][directory]</i>] Example: switch# dir bootflash	Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.
Step 3	copy [<i>filesystem:[//module/][directory/]</i> <i>directory/</i>] <i>source-filename</i> <i>{filesystem:[//module/][directory/]</i> <i>directory/}</i> <i>{target-filename}</i> Example: switch# copy test old_tests/test1	Copies a file. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. The <i>source-filename</i> argument is alphanumeric, case sensitive, and has a maximum of 64 characters. If the <i>target-filename</i> argument is not specified, the filename defaults to the <i>source-filename</i> argument value.

Deleting Files

You can delete a file from a directory.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) **dir** [*filesystem:[//module/][directory]*]
2. **delete** *{filesystem:[//module/][directory/]* | *directory/}**filename*

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) dir [<i>filesystem:[//module/][directory]</i>] Example: switch# dir bootflash:	Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.
Step 2	delete <i>{filesystem:[//module/][directory/]</i> <i>directory/}</i> <i>filename</i> Example: switch# delete bootflash:old_config.cfg	Deletes a file. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. The <i>source-filename</i> argument is case sensitive. Caution If you specify a directory, the delete command deletes the entire directory and all its contents.

Displaying File Contents

You can display the contents of a file.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **show file** [*filesystem:[//module/]*][*directory/*]*filename*

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	show file [<i>filesystem:[//module/]</i>][<i>directory/</i>] <i>filename</i> Example: switch# show file bootflash:test-results	Displays the file contents.

Displaying File Checksums

You can display checksums to check the file integrity.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **show file** [*filesystem:[//module/]*][*directory/*]*filename* {**cksum** | **md5sum**}

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	show file [<i>filesystem:[//module/]</i>][<i>directory/</i>] <i>filename</i> { cksum md5sum } Example: switch# show file bootflash:trunks2.cfg cksum	Displays the checksum or MD5 checksum of the file.

Compressing and Uncompressing Files

You can compress and uncompress files on your device using Lempel-Ziv 1977 (LZ77) coding.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) **dir** [*filesystem:[//module/]*]*directory*]
2. **gzip** [*filesystem:[//module/]*][*directory/*] | *directory/*]*filename*
3. **gunzip** [*filesystem:[//module/]*][*directory/*] | *directory/*]*filename* .gz

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) dir [<i>filesystem:[//module/]</i>] <i>directory</i>] Example: switch# dir bootflash:	Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.
Step 2	gzip [<i>filesystem:[//module/]</i>][<i>directory/</i>] <i>directory/</i>] <i>filename</i> Example:	Compresses a file. After the file is compressed, it has a .gz suffix.

Displaying the Last Lines in a File

	Command or Action	Purpose
	switch# gzip show_tech	
Step 3	gunzip [<i>filesystem:[//module/][directory/] directory/]filename .gz Example: switch# gunzip show_tech.gz </i>	Uncompresses a file. The file to uncompress must have the .gz suffix. After the file is uncompressed, it does not have the .gz suffix.

Displaying the Last Lines in a File

You can display the last lines of a file.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **tail** [*filesystem:[//module/][directory/]filename*] [*lines*]

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	tail [<i>filesystem:[//module/][directory/]filename</i>] [<i>lines</i>] Example: switch# tail ospf-gr.conf	Displays the last lines of a file. The default number of lines is 10. The range is from 0 to 80 lines.

Redirecting show Command Output to a File

You can redirect **show** command output to a file on bootflash:, volatile:, or a remote server. You can also specify the format for the command output.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) **terminal redirection-mode** {*ascii* | *zipped*}
2. *show-command* > [*filesystem:[//module/][directory/] | [directory /]filename*]

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) terminal redirection-mode { <i>ascii</i> <i>zipped</i> } Example: switch# terminal redirection-mode zipped	Sets the redirection mode for the show command output for the user session. The default mode is ascii .
Step 2	<i>show-command</i> > [<i>filesystem:[//module/][directory/] [directory /]filename</i>] Example: switch# show tech-support > bootflash:techinfo	Redirects the output from a show command to a file.

Finding Files

You can find the files in the current working directory and its subdirectories that have names that begin with a specific character string.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) **pwd**
2. (Optional) **cd** {*filesystem:[//module/][directory] | directory*}
3. **find filename-prefix**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) pwd Example: switch# pwd	Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	(Optional) cd { <i>filesystem:[//module/][directory] directory</i> }	Changes the default directory.
	Example: switch# cd bootflash:test_scripts	
Step 3	find filename-prefix Example: switch# find bgp_script	Finds all filenames in the default directory and in its subdirectories beginning with the filename prefix. The filename prefix is case sensitive.

Formatting the Bootflash

Use the **format bootflash:** CLI command to format the onboard flash memory (bootflash:). If the command errors out due to the `Deactivate all virtual-services and try again` error message, destroy the Guest Shell using the **guestshell destroy** CLI command and rerun the **format bootflash:** command, for example,

```
switch# sh virtual-service list
Virtual Service List:

Name                               Status           Package Name
-----
guestshell+                         Activated       guestshell.ova

switch#

switch# guestshell destroy
You are about to destroy the guest shell and all of its contents. Be sure to save your
work. Are you sure you want to continue? (y/n) [n] y

switch# 2018 Jan 17 18:42:24 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %VMAN-2-ACTIVATION_STATE: Deactivating
virtual service 'guestshell+'
```

```
switch#format bootflash:
```

Working with Archive Files

The Cisco NX-OS software supports archive files. You can create an archive file, append files to an existing archive file, extract files from an archive file, and list the files in an archive file.

Creating an Archive File

You can create an archive file and add files to it. You can specify the following compression types:

- bzip2
- gzip
- Uncompressed

The default is gzip.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **tar create** {**bootflash:** | **volatile:**}*archive-filename* [**absolute**] [**bz2-compress**] [**gz-compress**] [**remove**] [**uncompressed**] [**verbose**] *filename-list*

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<p>tar create {bootflash: volatile:}<i>archive-filename</i> [absolute] [bz2-compress] [gz-compress] [remove] [uncompressed] [verbose] <i>filename-list</i></p> <p>Example:</p> <pre>switch# tar create bootflash:config-archive gz-compress bootflash:config-file</pre>	<p>Creates an archive file and adds files to it. The filename is alphanumeric, not case sensitive, and has a maximum length of 240 characters.</p> <p>The absolute keyword specifies that the leading backslash characters (\) should not be removed from the names of the files added to the archive file. By default, the leading backslash characters are removed.</p> <p>The bz2-compress, gz-compress, and uncompressed keywords determine the compression utility used when files are added, or later appended, to the archive and the decompression utility to use when extracting the files. If you do not specify an extension for the archive file, the defaults are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For bz2-compress, the extension is <code>.tar.bz2</code>. • For gz-compress, the extension is <code>.tar.gz</code>. • For uncompressed, the extension is <code>.tar</code>. <p>The remove keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should delete the files from the file system after</p>

	Command or Action	Purpose
		<p>adding them to the archive. By default, the files are not deleted.</p> <p>The verbose keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should list the files as they are added to the archive. By default, the files are listed as they are added.</p>

Appending Files to an Archive File

You can append files to an existing archive file on your device.

Before you begin

You have created an archive file on your device.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **tar append** {**bootflash:** | **volatile:**}*archive-filename* [**absolute**] [**remove**] [**verbose**] *filename-list*

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	tar append { bootflash: volatile: } <i>archive-filename</i> [absolute] [remove] [verbose] <i>filename-list</i>	<p>Adds files to an existing archive file. The archive filename is not case sensitive.</p> <p>The absolute keyword specifies that the leading backslash characters (\) should not be removed from the names of the files added to the archive file. By default, the leading backslash characters are removed.</p> <p>The remove keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should delete the files from the filesystem after adding them to the archive. By default, the files are not deleted.</p> <p>The verbose keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should list the files as they are added to the archive. By default, the files are listed as they are added.</p>

Example

This example shows how to append a file to an existing archive file:

```
switch# tar append bootflash:config-archive.tar.gz bootflash:new-config
```

Extracting Files from an Archive File

You can extract files to an existing archive file on your device.

Before you begin

You have created an archive file on your device.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **tar extract** {bootflash: | volatile:}archive-filename [keep-old] [screen] [to {bootflash: | volatile:}[/directory-name]] [verbose]

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<p>tar extract {bootflash: volatile:}archive-filename [keep-old] [screen] [to {bootflash: volatile:}[/directory-name]] [verbose]</p> <p>Example:</p> <pre>switch# tar extract bootflash:config-archive.tar.gz</pre>	<p>Extracts files from an existing archive file. The archive filename is not case sensitive.</p> <p>The keep-old keyword indicates that the Cisco NX-OS software should not overwrite files with the same name as the files being extracted.</p> <p>The screen keyword indicates that the Cisco NX-OS software should not overwrite files with the same name as the files being extracted.</p> <p>The to keyword specifies the target filesystem. You can include a directory name. The directory name is alphanumeric, case sensitive, and has a maximum length of 240 characters.</p> <p>The verbose keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should display the names of the files as they are extracted.</p>

Displaying the Filenames in an Archive File

You can display the names of the files in an archive files using the **tar list** command.

tar list {bootflash: | volatile:}archive-filename

The archive filename is not case sensitive.

```
switch# tar list bootflash:config-archive.tar.gz
config-file
new-config
```

Examples of Using the File System

This section includes examples of how to use the file system on the Cisco NX-OS device.

Accessing Directories on Standby Supervisor Modules

This example shows how to list the files on the standby supervisor module:

```
switch# dir bootflash://sup-remote
      4096   Oct 03 23:55:55 2013  .patch/
...
      16384   Jan 01 13:23:30 2011  lost+found/
      297054208   Oct 21 18:55:36 2013  n3400-dk3.2.1.2.T1.1.1.bin
...

Usage for bootflash://sup-remote
1903616000 bytes used
19234234368 bytes free
21137850368 bytes total
```

This example shows how to delete a file on the standby supervisor module:

```
switch# delete bootflash://sup-remote/aOldConfig.txt
```

Moving Files

This example shows how to move a file on an external flash device:

```
switch# move usb1:samplefile usb1:mystorage/samplefile
```

This example shows how to move a file in the default file system:

```
switch# move samplefile mystorage/samplefile
```

Copying Files

This example shows how to copy the file called samplefile from the root directory of the usb1: file system to the mystorage directory:

```
switch# copy usb1:samplefile usb1:mystorage/samplefile
```

This example shows how to copy a file from the current directory level:

```
switch# copy samplefile mystorage/samplefile
```

This example shows how to copy a file from the active supervisor module bootflash to the standby supervisor module bootflash:

```
switch# copy bootflash:nx-os-image bootflash://sup-2/nx-os-image
```

This example shows how to overwrite the contents of an existing configuration in NVRAM:

```
switch# copy nvram:snapshot-config nvram:startup-config
```

```
Warning: this command is going to overwrite your current startup-config:
Do you wish to continue? {y/n} [y] y
```

You can also use the **copy** command to upload and download files from the bootflash: file system to or from a FTP, TFTP, SFTP, or SCP server.

Deleting a Directory

You can remove directories from the file systems on your device.

Before you begin

Ensure that the directory is empty before you try to delete it.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. (Optional) **pwd**
2. (Optional) **dir** [*filesystem* :[*//module*]][*directory*]]
3. **rmdir** [*filesystem* :[*//module*]][*directory*]

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	(Optional) pwd Example: switch# pwd	Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	(Optional) dir [<i>filesystem</i> :[<i>//module</i>]][<i>directory</i>]] Example: switch# dir bootflash:test	Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. If the directory is not empty, you must delete all the files before you can delete the directory.
Step 3	rmdir [<i>filesystem</i> :[<i>//module</i>]][<i>directory</i>] Example: switch# rmdir test	Deletes a directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.

Displaying File Contents

This example shows how to display the contents of a file on an external flash device:

```
switch# show file usb1:test
configure terminal
interface ethernet 1/1
no shutdown
end
show interface ethernet 1/1
```

This example shows how to display the contents of a file that resides in the current directory:

```
switch# show file myfile
```


Displaying File Checksums

This example shows how to display the checksum of a file:

```
switch# show file bootflash:trunks2.cfg cksum
583547619
```

This example shows how to display the MD5 checksum of a file:

```
switch# show file bootflash:trunks2.cfg md5sum
3b94707198aabefcf46459de10c9281c
```

Compressing and Uncompressing Files

This example shows how to compress a file:

```
switch# dir
 1525859      Jul 04 00:51:03 2013 Samplefile
...
switch# gzip volatile:Samplefile
switch# dir
 266069      Jul 04 00:51:03 2013 Samplefile.gz
...
```

This example shows how to uncompress a compressed file:

```
switch# dir
 266069      Jul 04 00:51:03 2013 Samplefile.gz
...
switch# gunzip samplefile
switch# dir
 1525859      Jul 04 00:51:03 2013 Samplefile
...
```

Redirecting show Command Output

This example shows how to direct the output to a file on the bootflash: file system:

```
switch# show interface > bootflash:switch1-intf.cfg
```

This example shows how to direct the output to a file on external flash memory:

```
switch# show interface > usb1:switch-intf.cfg
```

This example shows how to direct the output to a file on a TFTP server:

```
switch# show interface > tftp://10.10.1.1/home/configs/switch-intf.cfg
Preparing to copy...done
```

This example shows how to direct the output of the **show tech-support** command to a file:

```
switch# show tech-support > Samplefile
Building Configuration ...
switch# dir
 1525859      Jul 04 00:51:03 2013 Samplefile
Usage for volatile://
 1527808 bytes used
19443712 bytes free
20971520 bytes total
```

Finding Files

This example shows how to find a file in the current default directory:

```
switch# find smm_shm.cfg
/usr/bin/find: ./lost+found: Permission denied
./smm_shm.cfg
./newer-fs/isan/etc/routing-sw/smm_shm.cfg
./newer-fs/isan/etc/smm_shm.cfg
```

Additional References for File Systems

This section includes additional information related to the file systems.

Related Documents for File Systems

Related Topic	Document Title
Licensing	<i>Cisco NX-OS Licensing Guide</i>