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### Things you need to know:

Add ARES volume to container?	
APFS volumes share storage space within their container.      Name:   Untitled     Format:   APFS     Size Options   Cancel	Delete APFS volume "as"? Deleting "as" will permanently erase all data stored on it. You can't undo this
igb	action. Cancel Delete

- To create a hard disk partition on Mac, open **Disk Utility** → select the **Volume** → click **Partition** → **+** → **Add Partition** → **name** the partition → Apply → Done.
- If you want to switch between partitions: press and hold the Option button while your Mac starts up  $\rightarrow$  select the partition you want to switch to.

If you are a person who prefers creating partitions in your storage for various needs, then check out APFS volume on a MacBook. And If you don't know how to add, delete or erase APFS volumes, then I have mentioned the steps with which you can do it.

But before that, let's look at what is APFS volume in Mac and understand how it is better when compared to <u>partitioning your hard drive</u>.

Table of Contents

- <u>What is APFS Volume in Mac</u>
  - <u>APFS Volume vs Partition</u>
- <u>Add an APFS Volume</u>
- <u>Delete an APFS Volume</u>

• Erase an APFS Volume

# What is APFS Volume in Mac

Apple File System (APFS) is Apple's answer to the issues caused by the traditional hard drive partition. In this, you can allocate disk space according to your need. Each of these partitions are called APFS containers (partition). If one container doesn't have enough space, then it will share it with other individual volumes.

These volumes are clubbed into a set of volumes known as a *volume group*, each containing one volume for system files and another for data. In simpler terms, each volume as a separate partition.

### **APFS Volume vs Partition**

A <u>hard drive partition</u> cannot share data or storage with other partitions when needed. Whereas APFS Volume can dynamically allocate storage depending on the needs. With this, macOS will handle it accordingly even if you made a mistake by allocating more or less volume.

# Add an APFS Volume

1. Open Disk Utility.

(You can search on **Spotlight** or find it in Launchpad)

- 2. Select a volume from the sidebar.
- 3. Click **Plus button (+)** from the toolbar.

	Disk Utility		+ 2a	Concerning to the set	ected contain	8
MacIntosh HD MacIntosh HD magent A Premiere Pro 22.5 U28	Macinto APFS Volume G misroti 13.0 (22A)	sh HD iroup - APFS (Encrypted) szesej				245.11
AntiCC .						
es Premiere Pro 22.5 0281	Used 40.77 GR	Other Volumes to 18 GB		194 15 (		
	Mount Point (Read-Only)	Â.	Type:			APFS Volume
	Capacity	245.11 GB	Deners:			D
	Available:	196.04 OB (1.89 OB purgeable)	Connection			Appl

- 4. Next, select the type of APFS format. For every volume you add to the APFS container, you can assign different APFS formats if needed.
- 5. To change the APFS volume allocation, click **Size Options**. Enter the values: (This is optional as macOS will automatically enter values)
  - *Reserve Size:* It can ensure how much storage will be reserved for the volume.
  - *Quota Size:* Here, you can control the amount of storage allocated to a volume.
- 6. Click Add.



7. Wait for the process to finish and after that, click **Done**.



# **Delete an APFS Volume**

If you have accidentally created multiple volumes and want to remove them, or if you are removing them for any other reasons, then here's how you can do it:

- 1. Open Disk Utility.
- 2. Select the volume you want to delete.
- 3. Click the **minus button (-)** from the toolbar on the top.



4. Wait until the process is finished, and then click **Done**.

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### Note:

- If the volume you want to delete appears dim, you won't be able to delete it.
- When you delete the volume, the data stored on it is also deleted.

## **Erase an APFS Volume**

If you don't want to delete an APFS volume and want to erase the data from it, then here are

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the steps:

- 1. Open **Disk Utility** and select the **Volume** you want to erase.
- 2. Click **Erase** button from the toolbar on the top.

	Disk Utility		+ - 🗞 Volume First Aid	Partition Erase
Internal       Internal       Internal       Macintosh HD       Macintosh HD       Macintosh HD       Macintosh HD	test volu APFS Volume •	<b>ME</b> APFS		
A Macintosh HD - Data				
	Used 803 KB	Other Volumes 49.97 GB		C Free 195.13 GB
	Mount Point:	/Volumes/test volume	Туре:	
	Capacity:	245.11 GB	Owners:	
	Available:	195.13 GB	Connection:	
	Used:	803 KB	Device:	

- 3. If you want, you can change the name and format of the Volume.
- 4. Next, click **Erase**.
- 5. Wait until the process is finished. Click **Done**.

	<b>Erase "test volume"?</b> Erasing "test volume" will permanently erase all data stored on it. You can't undo this action.			
1	Name:	test volume		
	Format:	APFS	$\bigcirc$	
		Cancel	Erase	

#### That's it!

APFS Volumes in Disk Utility are better alternatives when compared to partitioning Mac hard drive. Which do you prefer? APFS Volumes or Mac hard drive partitioning? Let me know in the comments.

### FAQs

#### Should I erase volume groups on my Mac?

It depends upon your needs. If you want a completely clean volume, then erasing is the best solution. But if you only want to remove a particular item from the volume, then it is better to delete that item.

#### What happens if I delete Macintosh HD data?

If you delete the data from the Macintosh HD, you will have to reinstall macOS on the hard drive.

#### Here are some more Mac tips and tricks for you:

- How to fix the verification loop in the Mac App Store
- How to schedule emails on iPhone, iPad and Mac