AFP Volume: File Limits (9/95)

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TOPIC --

Is there a practical limit to the number of files and folders on an AFP volume?
I am interested in having some AFP server (such as a UNIX computer) with many
gigabytes of storage, but would like all of the files to appear to users as a
single file system. Would AFP limit how deep or wide the catalog tree could be
in this type of situation?

DISCUSSION ---

The AppleTalk Filing Protocol (AFP) has the following limitations:

Maximum Volume Size:	4 gigabytes
Maximum File Size:	2 gigabytes
Maximum Number of Files and Folders:	65,536

There are no limits to how deep or wide a catalog tree can be as long as there
are no more than 65,536 files and folders (sub-directories).

IMPORTANT: For users running the Mac OS older than version 7.5 and using a
Macintosh as an AFP client, the maximum volume size must not exceed 2 Gigabytes
(the maximum volume size supported by the Mac OS older than 7.5). For System
Software 7.5.1 users, the maximum volume size has been increased to 4 gigabytes.
Software 7.5.2 users can address volumes up to 2 terabytes but there is no
supported AppleShare solution to serve volumes of that size.

NOTE: Under AppleShare client software older than version 3.5, the maximum
volume size the AppleShare client software will support is a few hundred
thousand bytes less than 2 gigabytes (2,147,483,648 bytes). Apparently there was
a small bug in the AppleShare client software that caused it to have problems
when accessing volumes that are 2GB in size. This problem was fixed with the
release of Macintosh System Software 7.5 which includes AppleShare client
software version 3.5.

Something else to consider, it typically is not very efficient to use
multi-gigabyte storage devices without using partitions to cut down on the size
of the volumes in use.

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