What's New in DFS Replication in Windows Server 2012 R2

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Published: June 24, 2013

Updated: June 24, 2013

Applies To: Windows Server 2012 R2

This topic describes the features that were added to Distributed File System (DFS) Replication (DFSR or DFS-R) in Windows Server 2012 R2.

For information about the features that were added in Windows Server 2012, see What's New in DFS Namespaces and DFS Replication in Windows Server 2012.

Role service description

DFS Replication is a role service in the File and Storage Services role. It enables you to efficiently replicate folders (including those referred to by a DFS namespace path) across multiple servers and sites. DFS Replication uses a compression algorithm known as remote differential compression (RDC). RDC detects changes to the data in a file, and it enables DFS Replication to replicate only the changed file blocks instead of the entire file.

New and changed functionality

The following table describes the changes in DFS Replication functionality that are available in this release.

Feature/functionality	New or updated?	Description
Windows PowerShell module for DFS Replication	New	Provides Windows PowerShell cmdlets for performing the majority of administrative tasks for DFS Replication, in addition to new functionality.
DFS Replication Windows Management Infrastructure provider	New	Provides the latest Windows Management Infrastructure (WMI)-based methods to manage DFS Replication.
Database cloning for initial sync	New	Provides support for bypassing initial replication

		when creating new replicated folders, replacing servers, or recovering from a disaster.
[Database corruption recovery](#)	New	Provides support for rebuilding corrupt databases without unexpected data loss caused by nonauthoritative initial sync.
[Cross-file RDC disable](#)	New	Provides the option to disable cross-file remote differential compression (RDC) between servers.
[File staging tuning](#)	New	Provides the option to configure variable file staging sizes on individual servers.
[Preserved file restoration](#)	New	Provides the capability to restore files from the **ConflictAndDeleted** and **PreExisting** folders.
[Unexpected shutdown database recovery improvements](#)	Updated	Enables automatic recovery after a loss of power or an unexpected stoppage of the DFS Replication service.
[Membership disabling improvements](#)	Updated	Stops DFS Replication private folder cleanup when disabling a server's membership in a replicated folder.