

Object Storage Service

Quick Start

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Get started with Object Storage Service

Alibaba Cloud Object Storage Service (OSS) is a network-based data access service. OSS enables you to store and retrieve unstructured data including text files, images, audios, and videos.

OSS uploads data as objects to a bucket. You can:

- Create one or multiple buckets.
- Add one or multiple objects to each bucket.
- Share or download an object by using its address.
- Set access permission of a bucket or object by modifying its attributes.
- Run basic and advanced tasks on the OSS console.
- Run basic and advanced tasks by using the development toolkit or calling the RESTful API in an application program. For more information, see the [Developer Guide](#).

This guide describes how to complete the following basic tasks on the OSS console:



1. Sign up for OSS
2. Create a bucket
3. Upload an object
4. Share an object
5. Delete an object
6. Delete a bucket

For more information about the functions and pricing, see the [Alibaba Cloud OSS product page](#).

Sign up for OSS

Prerequisites

Before using OSS, make sure that you have registered an Alibaba Cloud account. If you do not have one, the system prompts you to register an account when you sign up for OSS.

Procedure

Go to the OSS product details page.

Click **Buy Now**.

Once OSS is activated, click **Management Console** to access the OSS console.

You can also select **My Account > Console** at the upper right of the homepage, and then click **Object Storage Service** from the main console.

Create a bucket

Create a bucket

After activating Alibaba Cloud OSS, you create a bucket in the OSS console to store objects.

Procedure

Log on to the OSS console.

Click **Create Bucket** to open the **Create Bucket** dialog box.

In the **Bucket Name** text box, enter a bucket name.

Note: The bucket name must comply with the naming rules stated and must be unique among all existing buckets in Alibaba Cloud OSS. The bucket name cannot be changed after being created.

In the **Region** drop-down box, select the data center of the bucket.

Note: The region cannot be changed after the bucket is created. To access OSS through the ECS intranet, select the same region as your ECS.

In the **Storage Class** drop-down box, select a storage class for the bucket.

Standard storage: provides highly reliable, highly available, and high-performance object storage services that support frequent data accesses.

Infrequent access: suitable for data that is stored for a long term and infrequently accessed. Its unit price is lower than that of the standard type. This storage class requires a minimum storage duration for the files. Charges are incurred if you delete files that are stored for less than 30 days. This storage class requires a minimum billable size for files. Files smaller than 128 KB are charged for 128 KB and data retrieval may cause a certain cost.

Archive storage: suitable for storing archival data that requires long-term persistence (more than half a year). The data is infrequently accessed during the storage period and restoring the data to a readable state may take one minute. It is suitable for storing archival data, medical images, scientific materials, and video footages for long-term persistence.

In the **ACL** drop-down box, select an access permission option for the bucket.

Private: Only the owner of the bucket and the authorized users can perform read, write, and delete operations on the objects in the bucket. Other users cannot access objects in the bucket.

Public Read: Only the owner of the bucket and the authorized users can perform write and delete operations on the objects in the bucket. Anyone (including anonymous access) can read the objects in the bucket.

- **Public Read/Write:** Anyone (including anonymous access) can read, write, and delete the objects in the bucket. The fees incurred by such operations are borne by the owner of the bucket. Use this permission with caution.

Click **OK**.

Upload an object

After a bucket is created, you can upload objects to it in any of the following ways:

- Using the OSS console to upload files smaller than 5 GB.
- Using SDKs or APIs to upload files larger than 5 GB. For more information, see [Multipart upload](#).
- Using ossbrowser to upload files conveniently. For more information, see [ossbrowser](#).

Procedure

Log on to the OSS console.

Click to open the target bucket.

Click the **Files** tab.

Click **Upload**.

Note: You can upload a file to a specified folder or the default folder. By clicking **Create Directory** before clicking **Upload**, you can upload a file to a specified folder. By directly clicking **Upload**, you can upload a file to the OSS default folder.

In the **Directory Address** box, set the path under which the file is uploaded to OSS.

Current Directory: The default path for file uploading. You cannot change the path if selecting this option.

Specify Directory: If you want to upload a file to a certain folder, you must enter the path name. OSS automatically creates the directory and uploads the file to the directory.

Note: For the description of and operations on a folder, see [Create a folder](#).

In the **File ACL** region, select the read/write permissions of the file. The read/write permissions of the bucket where the file belongs are inherited by default.

In the **Upload** region, drag the file to be uploaded to this region, or click **upload them directly** to select the file to be uploaded.

Share an object

After an object is uploaded to a bucket, the object can be shared and downloaded by others, using the object's address.

Procedure

Log on to the OSS console.

Click to open the target bucket.

Click the **Files** tab.

Click the name of the target file.

The **Preview** page is displayed.

Copy File URL: used to download the file.

Copy File Path: used to search a file or watermarking an image file.

Click **Copy File URL** and give it to any user who needs to browse or download the file.

If your bucket is set to **Private**, you must set the **Validity** when getting a file URL.

Note: The link validity period for URL signature is calculated based on NTP. You can give this link to any visitor who can then use it to access the file within the validity period. If the bucket has a private permission, the obtained addresses are generated by adding a signature to URL.

Delete a file

If you do not need to store uploaded files, delete them to avoid further charges. You can delete a file or multiple files in bulk in the OSS console.

Note: You can delete up to **1,000** files in bulk in the console. If you want to delete files in a more flexible manner or delete more files in bulk, see **Delete objects** in the Developer Guide.

Procedure

Go to the OSS console.

In the left-side bucket list, click the name of the target bucket to open the overview page of the bucket.

Click the **Files** tab.

Select one or more files and click **Delete** to display the **Delete File** dialog box.

Click **OK**.

Delete a bucket

If you no longer need a bucket, delete it to avoid paying further fees.

Prerequisite

Before deleting a bucket, make sure that all files in it are cleared, including file fragments caused by incomplete multipart upload. Otherwise, the bucket cannot be deleted.

Procedure

Go to the OSS console.

In the bucket name list, choose the bucket that you want to delete.

Click **Delete Bucket** in the upper right corner, then click **OK**.

Note: Buckets cannot be restored after deletion.