

Wild Cards

Special characters are called wildcards. Symbol used to replace or represent one or more characters. Wildcard characters can be used with ls on Linux to provide a listing of the contents of a directory, but only selecting a very precise set of files. Wildcards allow you to select filenames based on patterns of characters. Wildcards or wild characters are either an asterisk (*), which represents one or more characters or question mark (?), which represents a single character.

You can use wildcards with any of the commands in this section to list, copy, rename, or delete groups of files or directories.

Wildcard	Use	Example
*	<p>An asterisk serves as a wildcard for zero or more characters.</p> <p>An asterisk can be used in the backup selection list, the include list, and the exclude list for Windows and UNIX clients.</p>	<p>r* refers to all files that begin with r</p> <p>r*.doc refers to all files that begin with r and end with .doc.</p> <p>To back up all files that end in .conf, specify:</p> <p>/etc/*.conf</p>
	<p>A question mark serves as a wildcard for any single character (A through Z; 0 through 9).</p>	<p>file? refers to file2, file3, file4</p> <p>file?? refers to file12, file28,</p>

?	<p>A question mark can be used in the backup selection list, the include list, and the exclude list for Windows and UNIX clients.</p>	<p>file89</p> <p>To back up all files named log01_03, log02_03, specify:</p> <p>c:\system\log??_03</p>
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