

Compact command in Windows

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For an example of how to use this command, please see the **Example** below.

Compact command syntax

```
compact [/c | /u] [/s[:
    ] [/a] [/i] [/f] [/q] [[:.]
```

Parameters

Parameter Description / c Compress the specified directory or file. / u Extract the specified file or folder. /S[:]

Apply **compact** commands to all subdirectories of the specified directory (or of the current directory if no directory is specified). / a Displays system files or hidden files. / i Ignore the error. / f Force compression or decompressing the specified directory or file. The / f parameter is used in case the file is partially compressed when the operation is interrupted due to a system error. To force the entire file to be fully compressed, use the / c and / f parameters and then specify the new partially compressed file. / q Only report the most necessary information. Specify file or directory. You can use multiple file names, and wildcards * and ? . /? Show help at the command prompt.

Note

1. **Compact** command is the command line version of NTFS file system compression. The compression status of a directory indicates whether files are automatically compressed when they are added to the folder. Setting the compression status of a directory does not necessarily change the compression status of the files already in the directory.
2. You cannot use the **compact** command to read, write or mount compressed drives using DriveSpace or DoubleSpace.

3. You cannot use the **compact** command to compress File Allocation Table (FAT) partitions or FAT32 partitions.

For example

To set the compression status of the current directory, its subfolders and existing files, enter:

```
compact /c /s
```

To set the compression status of files and subdirectories in the current directory, without changing the compression status of the current directory, enter:

```
compact /c /s *.*
```

To compress a drive, from the root directory (the root directory of that drive), enter:

```
compact /c /i /s:
```

Note:

This example sets the compression status of all folders (including the root directory on the drive) and compresses all files on that drive. The **/i** parameter prevents error messages that interrupt the compression process.

To compress all files with the **.bmp** extension in the **Tmp** folder and all **Tmp** subdirectories, without modifying the compression properties of the directories, enter:

```
compact /c /s:tmp *.bmp
```

To force full compression of **Zebra.bmp** file, partially compressed while the system crashes, enter:

```
compact /c /f zebra.bmp
```

To remove the compression attribute from the **C: Tmp** folder, without changing the compression status of any file in that directory, enter:

```
compact /uc:tmp
```

See more:

1. Comp command in Windows
2. The convert in Windows command
3. The cipher command in Windows

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