

Parametric home directories (VFS)

Another highly requested feature that Syncplify.me Server! offers in all editions is **parametric home directories**.

Some of our customers, in fact, need to **isolate every user in their own directory** under a general “container”, the directory name being the same as the user’s username. They also requested that if a particular user’s home directory does not exist, it is automatically created when the user logs in.

Let's say you have two (or more) users, and you want to achieve a directory layout like this:

```
C:\SFTPData
+-----\user_one
+-----\user_two
```

This is very **easy to do with just one VFS** in Syncplify Server!. First of all, you have to create a VFS with a parametric target, let’s call it “ParamVFS” and point it to `C:\SFTPData\{{username}}`:

Adding a New Virtual File System (VFS) ✕

Name VFS *

Type *

Full filesystem path *

Example: "C:\folder" or "/home/user1" or "\\home\user2".

Encrypt

Soft Quota 0 = unlimited

Hard Quota 0 = unlimited

Then, when we create our user profiles for *user_one* and *user_two*, **choose the “ParamVFS” VFS as their home folder:**

The screenshot shows the 'Edit user' interface for user 'user_one'. The left sidebar contains navigation options like Dashboard, Blocklist, VFS, LDAP Servers, Users, Security, Event Handling, Other settings, and Certificates and Keys. The main content area is titled 'Main settings' and includes sections for Authentication, Virtual folders, Permission override, Speed limits, and Event handlers. The 'Main settings' section is expanded, showing fields for ID (user_one), User type (Normal User), Status (Disabled), Email, and Home VFS (ParamVFS). Red arrows point to the ID and Home VFS fields.

Now the home directory for user *user_one* will be “C:\SFTPData\user_one”, and the home directory for user *user_two* will be “C:\SFTPData\user_two”.

Each directory will be **automatically created** the first (or next) time each user logs in.

Aside from the `{{username}}` parameter, there are other parameters you can use in your parametric VFS, namely:

- `{{user_home}}`: the LDAP (or Active Directory) "home" for this user (if defined, not to be taken for granted)
- `{{user_desc}}`: the content of the "description" field in the User's configuration
- `{{today}}`: the current date in YYYYMMDD format
- `{{today_utc}}`: the current date in YYYYMMDD format in the UTC (universal) timezone
- `{{sess_custdata}}`: the content of the session's custom data (applicable only to the editions of our software that feature scripting and event-handling, as this is configurable only via scripting)

As of version 6, we adopted the *double-curly-bracket notation* for all our parametric VFS variable names (ex: `{{username}}`). The old notation with square brackets and percent signs (ex: `[%USERNAME%]`) is still supported, but this notation will be dropped in the future, so please make sure you update all your configurations accordingly.

Revision #2

Created 22 July 2023 14:05:36 by DevTeam

Updated 5 March 2024 15:09:42 by DevTeam