

# CONTRIBUTED DOCUMENTATION

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## Depot Frequently Asked Questions

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**Note:** Questions specific to the Andrew environment are prefaced with **[ANDREW]**.

- [What has changed between depot v4 and depot v5?](#)
  - [/usr/local is its own partition. How do I keep depot from blowing away lost+found?](#)
  - [I'm getting syntax errors in my depot.pref and everything looks right to me.](#)
  - [What's the difference between "path" and "searchpath"?](#)
  - [How do I "hide" a directory?](#)
  - **[ANDREW]** [When my machine reboots, all the collections in /usr/local/depot are removed. How do I keep this from happening?](#)
  - [What is the difference between Depot with AFS and Depot without AFS?](#)
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Q: What has changed between depot v4 and depot v5?

A: The [NewToV5](#) document describes this.

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Q: /usr/local is its own partition. How do I keep depot from blowing away lost+found?

A: Put the following in depot.pref:  
specialfile lost+found

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Q: I'm getting syntax errors in my depot.pref and everything looks right to me.

A: Check for colons in the preference options. Depot v5 no longer uses colons as separators.

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Q: What's the difference between "path" and "searchpath"?

A: The "path" preference points to the top level of a directory hierarchy. In the following directory hierarchy:

```
.../before/foo/  
.../before/foo/bin  
.../before/foo/lib
```

the path preference would be set to:

```
path foo ../before/foo
```

"Searchpath" goes up one level and it takes all the directories as collections. Using the example above, it would be:

```
searchpath * ../before
```

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Q: How do I "hide" a directory?

A: You can use `~delete` to keep a file or directory from being exported to the target directory. If you want every collection to have this behavior, put the following into the global `depot.conf`:

```
* ~delete <dir>
```

where `<dir>` is the directory to be deleted.

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**[ANDREW]** Q: When my machine reboots, all the collections in `/usr/local/depot` are removed. How do I keep this from happening?

A: *Package* will remove any unspecified files in this directory. To protect these files you need to define the directories in your *package* configuration file. For example:

```
D /usr/local/depot/foobie
```

Refer to the package documentation for more details.

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Q: What is the difference between Depot with AFS and Depot without AFS?

A: All AFS is used for in Depot is to help determine the last modification time of a collection. If AFS support is enabled, then the `fsi_generate` and `hintservice` programs will query the last modification time of the volume and use that to determine whether or not a collection has been updated since the last run.