

# How can I force a CreateFile call to hang, in order to test something?

 [devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20150612-00](http://devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20150612-00)

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A customer was doing some testing and wanted to know if there was a way to force a call to `CreateFile` to hang, so that they can test their program's hang detection and recovery code.

You can create these scenarios with careful use of opportunistic locks (also known as oplocks). The sample program I wrote some time ago can be used, for example, to cause a `CreateFile` call requesting write access to hang until the oplock is released.

To cause a `CreateFile` call requesting read access to hang until the oplock is released, use `OPLOCK_LEVEL_CACHE_WRITE`; this means that the oplock owner is caching writes, so nobody can read from the file until the cached writes are flushed out.

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