

Backing Up and Restore Your Server

Written by BiRU

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Making a backup of your Linux Operating System is a very simple process that uses tools included in ev

The first step is to create a location to store the backup. For this article we're going to store the backup o

Once you are logged into the server and at a command line make the directory to store the backup in an

```
mkdir /backups
```

Now we will create a compressed version of the Operating System in one single file (tarball) using the ta

For RedHat, CentOS and Fedora or any Operating System based on these linux flavors run the following

```
tar cvpzf /backups/backup.tgz --exclude=/proc --exclude=/lost+found --exclude=/backups --exclude=/dev
```

For Debian or Ubuntu run the following command:

```
tar cvpzf /backups/backup.tgz --exclude=/proc --exclude=/lost+found --exclude=/backups --exclude=/dev
```

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Once the command completes the tarball will be located at /backups/backup.tgz

***HINT: You can change the name of the tarball file with a date identifier and keep multiple versions of it.

Restore Your Server's OS From a Backup

In order to restore your server from the previously created tarball the server must have the same Operating System as the original server.

Once you have a working Operating System either on a new hardware platform or the same hardware platform as the original server, you can restore the OS from the backup.

```
mkdir /backups
scp root@original_server:/backups/backup.tgz /backups
```

Of course replace "*original_server*" with the appropriate IP address.

Enter the root users password and the transfer will begin.

Once the transfer has completed run this command to extract the tarball thereby restoring the Operating System.

```
tar xvpfz /backups/backup.tgz -C /
```

Complete the process with a reboot and troubleshoot any errors that may come up.