

## 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 every Linux distribution.

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

Once you are logged into the server and at a command line make the directory to store the backup in and then run the following command:

```
mkdir /backups
```

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

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

```
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 or

### 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 Operat

Once you have a working Operating System either on a new hardware platform or the same hardware p

```
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

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

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