

Backup Wizard

(cPanel >> Home >> Files >> Backup Wizard)

Overview

The *Backup Wizard* interface allows you to back up all or part of your website, or to restore it from the most recent backup file.



Note:

Experienced users may prefer to use the [Backup](#) interface (cPanel >> Home >> Files >> Backup).

Back Up

You can choose to create a full backup file or a partial backup file.



Important:

- You **cannot** use a full backup file to restore your files through the cPanel interface. Contact your system administrator for assistance.
- You **must** download and compress the backup file prior to restoration.
- After you decompress the backup file, you can upload and restore individual portions of your website that the full backup file contains.
- The backup process for an account near or over its quota may fail because the system cannot write necessary files, such as a database lock file.

Create a full backup

To create a full backup file, perform the following steps:

1. From the main *Backup Wizard* interface, click *Back Up*. The *Full or Partial Backup* section of the interface will appear.
2. Click *Full Backup*. The *Download* section of the interface will appear.
3. Select one of the following destinations from the *Backup Destination* menu:
 - *Home Directory*— Select this option to save the backup file on the server.
 - *Remote FTP Server*— Select this option to use FTP to store the backup file on a remote server.
 - *Remote FTP Server (passive mode transfer)*— Select this option to use passive FTP to store the backup file on a remote server.
 - *Secure Copy (SCP)*— Select this option to use SCP to store the backup file on a remote server.



Important:

Only advanced users should select the *Remote FTP Server*, *Remote FTP Server (passive mode transfer)*, or *SCP* destination options.

4. Perform one of the following actions to configure notifications for this backup file:
 - To receive a notification when the backup process finishes, enter your email address in the *Email Address* text box.
 - To disable notifications, select the *Do not send email notification of backup completion* checkbox.
5. If you selected the *Remote FTP Server*, *Remote FTP Server (passive mode transfer)*, or *Secure Copy (SCP)* destinations, enter the remote destination's information in the available text boxes.
6. Click *Generate Backup*. A confirmation message will appear. Click *Go Back* to return to the *Download* section of the interface.

In This Document

Related Documentation

- [Backup Wizard](#)
- [Backup for cPanel](#)
- [File and Directory Restoration for cPanel](#)

For Hosting Providers

- [Guide to Transfer and Restore API Functions](#)
- [Touch File for Additional Transfer and Restore Log Diagnostic Entries](#)
- [Transfers and Restores](#)
- [How to Rebuild userdata Files](#)
- [Guide to Transfer and Restore API Functions - Plan the Transfer Session](#)

**Note:**

If you selected the *Home Directory* option in step 3, click the filename in the *Download* section of the interface to download the backup file.

- The backup file's creation date appears in the filename, which begins with a `backup-MM-DD-YYYY` string, where `MM` represents the month, `DD` represents the date, and `YY` represents the year.
- The system stores full backup files as tarballs that use the `.tar.gz` file extension.

Create a partial backup

To back up a portion of your site, perform the following steps:

1. From the main *Backup Wizard* interface, click *Back Up*. The *Full or Partial Backup* section of the interface will appear.
2. Click the portion of your site that you wish to back up:
 - *Home Directory*— Back up the `/home` directory.
 - *MySQL Databases*— Back up your databases.
 - *Email Forwarders & Filters*— Back up your email forwarders or filters.The *Download* section of the interface will appear.
3. Click the desired backup file to download it.

**Note:**

When you create a partial backup, the backup type determines the backup file's extension.

Backup type	File type and extension
<i>Home Directory</i>	*.tar.gz
<i>Email Forwarders & Filters</i>	*.net, *.com
<i>MySQL Databases</i>	*.sql

Restore

To restore a portion of your site from an existing backup, perform the following steps:

1. Click *Restore*. The *Select Restore Type* section of the interface will appear.
2. Click the portion of your site that you wish to restore:
 - *Home Directory*— Restore the `/home` directory.
 - *MySQL Databases*— Restore your databases.
 - *Email Forwarders & Filters*— Restore your email forwarders or filters.The *Restore* section of the interface will appear.
3. Click *Choose File* and select the desired backup file.

**Remember:**

The backup file's extension depends on the portion of your site that you backed up.

4. Click *Upload* to begin the restoration process.

Backup file contents

When you back up your home directory, the backup file includes the following files:

- All of the files that you own.
- Files that you do not own, but to which you possess access.

**Note:**

Backup files do **not** include files from your `/home` directory that you do not own and cannot access.

To exclude certain files and directories from a backup file, place a configuration file in your home directory. For more information, read our [How to Exclude Files From Backups](#) documentation.