WP Complete Backup

User guide for backup and restoration of Wordpress® with WP Complete Backup

This brief user's guide will give you simple, step by step instructions on how to backup and restore your Wordpress® website using *WP Complete Backup*. This guide will cover the following areas:

- ✔ Backup the Wordpress base installation (all files) and Wordpress database
- ✔ API Interface for external backup execution
- ✔ Automatic and manual backup restoration

The best part – it's all open source!
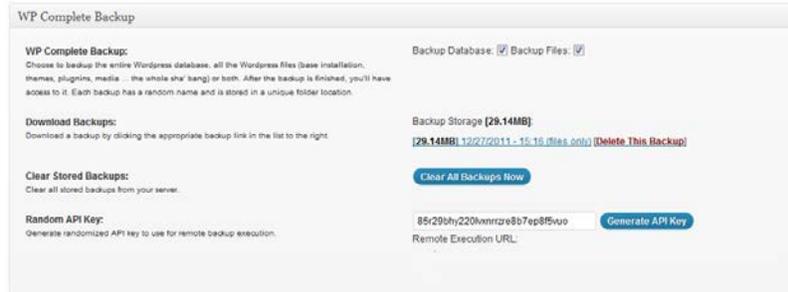
BACKUP THE WORDPRESS® BASE INSTALLATION

The *WP Complete Backup* interface has been designed to be user friendly. We don't believe that making backups should be difficult!

After choosing to backup just the database, just the files or both; clicking the *Run Backup Now* button begins the backup process.

After the backup process is complete the resulting backup file will be stored on your web server. The storage location is a randomly name folder under the */wp-content/plugins/wp-complete-backup/storage* path. Clicking on the backup file link will cause it to download to your computer. Just to the right of the backup file link is a link that is used to delete that specific backup file.

Subsequent backups WILL NOT backup other backups (i.e. the backup process does not backup the storage folder or anything in the storage folder).

This is because all backups are stored on the server itself which, without consideration, could cause subsequent backups to accidentally exceed available disk space. This built-in disk space consideration may be reconsidered in future releases of *WP Complete Backup*.

Each backup stored on the server will be displayed in a list on the right side of the settings menu and will show the date and time as well as the size of the backup file. For your convenience, the total size of all backup files stored on the server is also displayed.

You can delete each individual backup or all backups at once using the *Clear All Backups Now* button.

API INTERFACE FOR EXTERNAL BACKUP EXECUTION

Each copy of *WP Complete Backup* will generate a pseudo-random API key upon installation and can be used for remote backup execution. The API key is found in the settings menu of the WP Complete Backup plugin. You may generate a new API key at anytime by pressing the Generate API Key button (if you generate a new API key, be sure to update everything that uses the remote execution URL with the new API key).

The practical application for this feature would be to have a CRONTAB setup to cURL the remote backup URL, to automate the backup process.

While using CRON or other types of task schedulers is beyond the scope of this manual, we have provided a typical example below. Most Linux based web hosts have built in tools for managing CRON jobs and can assist you with configuring a CRON job. For IIS (Windows) web hosts, using task scheduler will achieve the same results.

Example CRON Job

Minute	Hour	Day	Month	Weekday	command
0	0	*	*	*	curl "http://your-domain-name.com/wp-complete-backup/api-theapikey/type-method"

In real-world language, the example CRON job above states that the *command* will be executed at 12:00AM (midnight) everyday of every month. The asterisk character is a wild card that means "always" or "every time".

The format of the remote backup URL looks like: http://your-domain-name.com/wp-complete-backup/api-theapikey/type-method.

Replace **theapikey** with the actual API key that shows in the *WP Complete Backup* settings menu and replace **method** with one of the following options:

- ✓ **database** (instructs WP Complete Backup to backup the database only)
- ✓ **filesystem** (instructs WP Complete Backup to backup the files only)
- ✓ **both** (instructs WP Complete Backup to backup the database and the files)

If you allow cURL (or other type of task scheduler) to return the result, WP-Complete-Backup will issue an XML style response code (via http / port 80).

- <response>0</response> = Success
- <response>1</response> = Invalid *type* in url (use *database*, *filesystem* or *both*)
- <response>2</response> = Invalid API key (API located in WP-Complete-Backup settings menu)
- <response>3</response> = Bind IP Address conflict (invalid IP address activated remote backup URL)

Anyone who has access to the Internet and knows your API key could potentially execute a backup remotely. To increase security we have included an option called, *Bind IP Address*.

As its name would imply, the option will only allow the remote backup feature to work with the IP address supplied to WP Complete Backup. The IP address that you use to bind with should be the IP address of the server / device that will execute the remote backup URL.

By default, *WP Complete Backup* will attempt to discover the self-referencing public IP address that your web server would need to use, if you were to use CRON (or other task schedulers) on the same server as *WP Complete Backup*. If the IP address cannot be discovered, you will need to supply the IP address of server that will call the remote backup URL.

If you use the word *'any'* (no quotes), the remote backup feature will not be bound to any IP address and can be executed by any IP address. While this is very flexible, it also can present security risks because anyone with access to the Internet and knowledge of your API key could execute repeated or multiple backups and exceed server disk space or cause service disruption. *Use caution if you do not bind to an IP address and keep your API key private*.

AUTOMATIC AND MANUAL BACKUP RESTORATION

WP Complete Backup has two options for restoring a backup to your website. Before choosing to restore a backup, please make sure that the backup was created with *WP Complete Backup* (or it won't work) and make sure that the backup was created from the server that you are trying to restore to.

Automatic Restoration

You can upload a backup from previously downloaded backup files or you can use a backup that is already stored on the server. If you restore a backup that is already on the server, *WP Complete Backup* will not delete the backup file after restoration.

After select a backup on the server or selecting a backup to upload, click the *Restore Backup* button to start the backup process.

In order to complete successfully, PHP must have write permissions (on the server) over your entire Wordpress installation folders and sub-folders. A lot of *LAMP* (Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP) web servers are configured this way, enough so that we decided to have *WP Complete Backup* assume it to be the case.

If you find that your server is not setup this way or have other difficulties with automatic restorations, you will need to do a manual restoration.

Manual Restoration

Manual restorations involve a few more steps than automatic restorations but are just as effective and in some cases, more reliable.

Start by unzipping the backup file on your computer. Next, open up your favorite FTP program (like FileZilla) and connect to your web server. At this point you need to ftp all the files from the unzipped backup file to your web server. You'll notice that the folder structure in the backup file mimics the folder structure on your web server.

Restoring the database

For a variety of reasons, *WP Complete Backup* does not automatically restore the database. The database is backed up of course, as an SQL dump file located in the backup at /wp-content/plugins/wp-complete-backup/storage/***random-storage-folder-name***/database.sql.

The SQL dump file is in query format, so it can technically run as one large query. One of the simplest methods to restore the database is to use a tool like phpMyAdmin (which a lot of web hosts have pre-installed) and import the database.sql file or copy the contents of database.sql and run it as one large query. If the database is rather large, importing the file would be the best option.

Remember to delete the database.sql file from the server once you have finished all restoration processes!

SUPPORT AND HELP

If your questions are not answered in this guide or you're having problems restoring your files / database WE CAN HELP!

You can contact us several ways:

- Use the contact form on our website at MyCodeTree.com
- Find us on Twitter @MyCodeTree
- Find us on facebook
- Visit our community support forum

Thank you for taking the time to try *WP Complete Backup*!

MyCodeTree has a real passion for open source software and strives to create products and services that give the very best back to the community that gave us the ability to do what we love!

It's our hope that *WP Complete Backup* has contributed value to your business and/or mission. Please let us know how you're using *WP Complete Backup*! We love hearing how our software is being used!

If you have any problems or need assistance with *WP Complete Backup*, please let us know ASAP so we can assist you.

Thank you,

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