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Backup & Restore Plugin - Beta Version

Administrator utility to backup, restore and upgrade a TWiki site

Introduction

This is a solution to backup, restore and upgrade TWiki sites. It can be used via browser and on the command line. This plugin is pre-installed in TWiki-5.1 and later releases; it can be installed in older TWiki releases as low as TWiki-2001-09-01 (Athens Release) to easily create a backup that can be restored on a new TWiki release. This offers an easy upgrade path for TWiki.

Note: The initial plugin release does not yet offer the restore functionality. Check TWiki:Plugins.BackupRestorePlugin for updates.

Web-based Operation


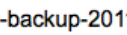




The backup and restore functionality is restricted to members of the TWikiAdminGroup.

Once configured, visit the BackupRestoreConsole to:

- Start a new backup.
- Cancel a backup in progress.
- List all backups.
- Delete a backup.
- Restore from a backup.

Screenshot:

Overview

Backup	Size	Action
 twiki-backup-2011-08-15-13-06.zip		Creating backup now, please wait. <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>
 twiki-backup-2011-08-14-10-50.zip	81,551,752	<input type="button" value="Details / Restore..."/> <input type="button" value="Delete..."/>
 twiki-backup-2011-08-07-23-40.zip	81,541,747	<input type="button" value="Details / Restore..."/> <input type="button" value="Delete..."/>
 twiki-backup-2011-07-31-23-38.zip	81,500,887	<input type="button" value="Details / Restore..."/> <input type="button" value="Delete..."/>
 twiki-backup-2011-07-24-17-24.zip	81,500,757	<input type="button" value="Details / Restore..."/> <input type="button" value="Delete..."/>

Command Line Utility and Cron

The bin/backuprestore utility can be used to create a backup (scheduled or manually), to copy a backup and to check on the status of the backup process.

Command	Description
twiki/bin/backuprestore status	Show backup status. Returns backup_status: 1 if web-based backup is in progress.
twiki/bin/backuprestore create_backup	Create a backup. This is done without a background daemon process, e.g. the script returns when the backup is done.
twiki/bin/backuprestore download_backup <name.zip>	Dump a backup file to STDOUT. If called as CGI script, download a backup file.

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Important: The utility **must** run as the same user as the CGI scripts executed by the webserver. This can be apache, nobody, www-data, wwwrun or the like, and depends on the webserver configuration.

Scheduled backups can be done with a cron job . Example crontab entry that creates a backup at 10 minutes past midnight every Sunday:

```
10 0 * * 0 (cd /path/to/twiki/bin; ./backuprestore create_backup >/dev/null 2>&1)
```

Make sure the plugin is configured properly before creating backups. The backup destination can be local or remote. If remote, the remote server needs to be mounted on the TWiki server via NFS or the like.

Specification

- Configuration:
 - ◆ {Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{BackupDir} - Backup destination directory. Default: /tmp.
 - ◆ {Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{KeepNumberOfBackups} - keep number of backups (e.g. delete old backups), 0 to keep all. Default: 7
 - ◆ {Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{TempDir} - temp directory. Default: /tmp
 - ◆ {Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{createZipCmd} - create zip command. Default: /usr/bin/zip -r
 - ◆ {Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{listZipCmd} - list zip content command. Default: /usr/bin/unzip -l
 - ◆ {Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{unZipCmd} - unzip command. Default: /usr/bin/unzip -o
 - ◆ {Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{Debug} - debug flag. Default: 0
- Backup files:
 - ◆ Location: Specified by the {Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{BackupDir} configure setting.
 - ◆ Name: twiki-backup-2023-03-22-14-54.zip - date based names.
- Backup format of .zip file:
 - ◆ data/* - all data and logs.
 - ◆ pub/* - all attachments.
 - ◆ working/* - working data.
 - ◆ working/BackupRestorePlugin/LocalSite.cfg - TWiki configuration file (if found).
 - ◆ working/BackupRestorePlugin/LocalLib.cfg - TWiki lib file (if found).
 - ◆ working/BackupRestorePlugin/twiki.conf - Apache config file (if found).
 - ◆ working/BackupRestorePlugin/version.txt - contains the TWiki version number of the backup. Used to intelligently restore backup to newer TWiki version. Example:
version: TWiki-5.1.0
short: 5.1
 - ◆ working/BackupRestorePlugin/version-long-TWiki-5.1.0.txt - file with TWiki version in filename
 - ◆ working/BackupRestorePlugin/version-short-5.1.txt - file with TWiki short-version in filename, name version-short-<major>.<minor>.txt

Syntax Rules

This section is only relevant to plugin developers. This plugin handles a %BACKUPRESTORE{"..."}% variable to perform all web-based operations. The variable is used in the BackupRestoreConsole page.

%BACKUPRESTORE{"..."}% parameters:

Parameter	Explanation	Default
action="..."	Action to take: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> " " (empty) - show backup overview console. "backup_detail" - show backup detail console. "create_backup" - start new backup. "cancel_backup" - cancel backup in progress. "delete_backup" - delete a backup. "restore_backup" - restore from a backup. "status" - show backup status (1: backup in progress). "debug" - debug and diagnostics. 	" " (empty)
file="..."	Name of backup file to take action. The file parameter is required for the following actions: "backup_detail", "delete_backup" and "restore_backup".	" "

This plugin starts a daemon (background process) when a backup is started. Status is checked via Ajax calls. Once the new backup is finished it shows up in the backup table.

Limitations and To-Do

- A web-based backup is currently not supported on a native Windows installation of TWiki, however, the command line utility can be used on Windows.
- To-do:
 - ◆ Add restore from backup functionality.
 - ◆ Add incremental backup and restore feature.

Plugin Installation & Configuration

Note: You do not need to install anything on the browser to use this plugin. The following instructions are for the administrator who installs the plugin on the TWiki server. This plugin is pre-installed in TWiki-5.1.0 and newer.

- For an *automated installation*, run the configure script and follow "Find More Extensions" in the in the *Extensions* section.
- Or, follow these *manual installation* steps:
 - ◆ Download the ZIP file from the Plugins home (see below).
 - ◆ Unzip **BackupRestorePlugin.zip** in your twiki installation directory. Content:

File:	Description:
bin/backuprestore	CGI/command line utility
data/TWiki/BackupRestorePlugin.txt	Plugin topic
data/TWiki/BackupRestoreConsole.txt	Backup and restore console topic
lib/TWiki/Plugins/BackupRestorePlugin.pm	Plugin Perl module
lib/TWiki/Plugins/BackupRestorePlugin/CaptureOutput.pm	Perl module
lib/TWiki/Plugins/BackupRestorePlugin/Core.pm	Core backup module
lib/TWiki/Plugins/BackupRestorePlugin/ProcDaemon.pm	Perl module

- ◆ Set the ownership of the extracted directories and files to the webserver user.

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- Plugin *configuration and testing*:

- ◆ Run the configure script and enable the plugin in the *Plugins* section.
- ◆ Configure additional BackupRestorePlugin settings in the *Extensions* section. Alternatively, add the following to `twiki/lib/LocalSite.cfg` and customize as needed:

```
# Path to backup destination directory. Can be a volume mounted to the file system
$TWiki::cfg{Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{BackupDir} = '/tmp';
# Keep number of backups (e.g. delete old backups), 0 to keep all.
$TWiki::cfg{Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{KeepNumberOfBackups} = '7';
# Path to temp directory, used by BackupRestorePlugin daemon for temporary data.
$TWiki::cfg{Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{TempDir} = '/tmp';
# Path to zip command with options to recursively archive files and directory.
$TWiki::cfg{Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{createZipCmd} = '/usr/bin/zip -r';
# Path to unzip command with options to list all files.
$TWiki::cfg{Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{listZipCmd} = '/usr/bin/unzip -l';
# Path to unzip command with options to unzip all files with option to overwrite e
$TWiki::cfg{Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{unZipCmd} = '/usr/bin/unzip -o';
# Debug plugin. See output in data/debug.txt
$TWiki::cfg{Plugins}{BackupRestorePlugin}{Debug} = 0;
```

- ◆ If your TWiki is older than TWiki-4.0, create a `twiki/lib/LocalSite.cfg` file with above `$TWiki::cfg` settings and end the file with: `1;`
- ◆ If your TWiki is an old TWiki-2001-09-01 (Athens Release), create a `twiki/bin/setlib.cfg` file with this content:

```
my $twikiLibPath = "/path/to/your/twiki/lib";
unshift @INC, $twikiLibPath;
1;
```

- ◆ If your TWiki is older than TWiki-4.2, create a working directory in the `twiki` root (same level as `twiki/lib`), and set ownership to the webserver user.
- ◆ Test if the installation was successful: See `BackupRestoreConsole`.

Plugin Info

- One line description, is shown in the `TextFormattingRules` topic:
 - ◆ Set `SHORTDESCRIPTION` = Administrator utility to backup, restore and upgrade a TWiki site

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License:	GPL (GNU General Public License)
Plugin Version:	2011-08-17
Change History:	
2011-08-17:	TWikibug:Item6793 : Avoid or work around newer APIs to make plugin run on old TWiki-2001-09-01 (Athens Release) for backup
2011-08-16:	TWikibug:Item6793 : Add screenshot; add <code>Config.spec</code> configure file; proper detection of command line mode also for older TWiki versions; use <code>TWiki::Func::registerTagHandler</code> only if available so that plugin can run in older TWiki versions
2011-08-15:	TWikibug:Item6793 : Better error handling; add magic number to download URL to restrict download of backups to TWiki admins only
2011-08-12:	TWikibug:Item6631 : Initial version
TWiki Dependency:	<code>\$TWiki::Plugins::VERSION 1.0</code>

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CPAN Dependencies:	none (Proc::Daemon included as TWiki::Plugins::BackupRestorePlugin::ProcDaemon) (IO::CaptureOutput included as TWiki::Plugins::BackupRestorePlugin::CaptureOutput)
Other Dependencies:	GNU zip and unzip command line utilities
Perl Version:	5.005
TWiki:Plugins.Benchmark :	GoodStyle nn%, FormattedSearch nn%, BackupRestorePlugin nn%
Plugin Home:	http://TWiki.org/cgi-bin/view/Plugins/BackupRestorePlugin
Feedback:	http://TWiki.org/cgi-bin/view/Plugins/BackupRestorePluginDev
Appraisal:	http://TWiki.org/cgi-bin/view/Plugins/BackupRestorePluginAppraisal

Related Topics: BackupRestoreConsole, TWikiPreferences, TWikiPlugins, AdminToolsCategory

This topic: TWiki > BackupRestorePlugin

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Ideas, requests, problems regarding TWiki? Send feedback

Note: Please contribute updates to this topic on TWiki.org at TWiki:TWiki.BackupRestorePlugin.