

SWsoft Plesk 8.3 for Linux/Unix Backup and Restore Utilities

Administrator's Guide

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Preface

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About This Guide

This guide is intended for administrators of Plesk managed servers, who are going to use the `pleskbackup` and `pleskrestore` command line utilities.

About Backup and Restore Utilities

In addition to the control panel's backup and restore facilities, you can use the `pleskbackup` and `pleskrestore` console utilities for backing up and restoring data from the command line.

The utilities are distributed as a part of Plesk software package, but are not installed by default. If you did not install them during installation of Plesk, use the Plesk Auto-installer to install them. During installation, they are placed to the directory `/plesk_installation_directory/bin`.

In order to work with the utilities, you should log in to the server shell as 'root'.

Typographical Conventions

Before you start using this guide, it is important to understand the documentation conventions used in it.

The following kinds of formatting in the text identify special information.

Formatting convention	Type of Information	Example
Special Bold	Items you must select, such as menu options, command buttons, or items in a list.	Go to the System tab.
	Titles of chapters, sections, and subsections.	Read the Basic Administration chapter.
<i>Italics</i>	Used to emphasize the importance of a point, to introduce a term or to designate a command line placeholder, which is to be replaced with a real name or value.	The system supports the so called <i>wildcard character</i> search.
Monospace	The names of commands, files, and directories.	The license file is located in the http://docs/common/licenses directory.

Preformatted	On-screen computer output in your command-line sessions; source code in XML, C++, or other programming languages.	<pre># ls -al /files total 14470</pre>
Preformatted Bold	What you type, contrasted with on-screen computer output.	<pre># cd /root/rpms/php</pre>
CAPITALS	Names of keys on the keyboard.	SHIFT, CTRL, ALT
KEY+KEY	Key combinations for which the user must press and hold down one key and then press another.	CTRL+P, ALT+F4

Feedback

If you have found a mistake in this guide, or if you have suggestions or ideas on how to improve this guide, please send your feedback to userdocs@swsoft.com. Please include in your report the guide's title, chapter and section titles, and the fragment of text in which you have found an error.

Backing Up Your Data

- **To back up all data, including server and control panel configuration, remote database servers, license keys, user accounts, Web sites, databases, and mailboxes with e-mail messages, run the command:**

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskbackup all <backup file name>
```

Note: If you want to save backup files to an FTP server, specify a URL like [ftp://\[<login>\[:<password>\]@\]<server>/<filepath>](ftp://[<login>[:<password>]@]<server>/<filepath>) instead of <backup file name>. You can specify the password for access to the FTP server using the FTP_PASSWORD environment variable.

- **To back up all user accounts with all users' sites, run the command:**

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskbackup clients <backup file name>
```

- **To back up all sites hosted on server without storing details for each client account, run the command:**

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskbackup domains <backup file name>
```

- **To back up selected user accounts with Web sites:**

- 1 Create a text file and list there the control panel login names of the clients whose accounts you wish to back up, one login name per line. For example:

```
client1
client2
```

- 2 Save the file.

- 3 Run the command

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskbackup clients
<backup file name> -f=<file name>
```

where <file name> is the file listing the objects you wish to backup that you created at the step 1.

- **To back up selected Web sites:**

- 1 Create a text file and list there the domain names of the sites that you wish to back up, one domain name per line. For example:

```
domain1.com
domain2.com
```

2 Save the file.**3** Run the command

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskbackup domains  
<backup file name> -f=<file name>
```

where <file name> is the file listing the objects you wish to backup that you created at the step 1.

➤ **To back up a specific user account with all user's web sites, run the command:**

```
echo 'client's login name' |  
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskbackup clients <backup  
file name> -
```

➤ **To back up a specific web site, run the command:**

```
echo 'domain name' |  
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskbackup domains <backup  
file name> -list -
```

The following table lists all commands and options supported by the Pleskbackup utility.

Available commands

Command	Arguments and Syntax	Description
all	backup file name	Backs up all data related to your installation of Plesk and saves them into file under the specified name.
clients	backup file name	Backs up all data related to all or selected client accounts (including web sites) and saves them to file under the specified name. For a selective backup of client accounts, compile a list of client accounts, save it in a file, and then use the --clients option together with the -list <file name> argument.
domains	backup file name	Backs up all data related to hosted domains/web sites and saves them to file under the specified name. For a selective backup of domains/web sites, compile a list of domain names, save it in a file, and then use the --domains option together with the -list <file name> argument.
help or -h		Shows the available commands and options.

Available options

<code>-c</code>		Backs up only settings related to control panel, without the content of sites, mailboxes or databases.
<code>-s</code>	<code>-s=<file size></code>	<p>Splits the created backup file to parts. The size can be specified in kilobytes (<size>K), megabytes (<size>M) and gigabytes (<size>G).</p> <p>The '-s' option without an argument selects the default file size of 2 gigabytes.</p>
<code>-f</code>	<code>-f=<file name></code>	<p>Specifies the path to file that contains a list of objects (clients' login names or domain names) that you prepared for a selective backup.</p> <p>You can use the -f argument with hyphen instead of file name, if you wish the pleskbackup utility to read data from stdin. For example:</p> <pre>echo 'domain.com' pleskbackup --domains <backup file name> -f -</pre>
<code>--exclude</code>		Specifies the items (domain names or clients' login names separated with white spaces) that should not be backed up.
<code>--exclude-file</code>		Specifies the file that contains a list of items that should not be backed up.
<code>-v</code>		Shows information about backup progress.

Restoring Your Data

➤ **To restore data from a backup file:**

- 1 Generate a file that defines mapping of items (user accounts, sites, and so on) stored in the backup file to the items currently served by your Plesk hosting platform. To do this, run the following command from the command line:

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskrestore --create-map
<backup file name> -map <map file name>
```

If you have a multivolume backup, you should specify the first volume as the <backup file name>.

A mapping file will be generated and saved to the specified location. In most cases you will not need to edit this file: you will need to review its contents and specify mapping for items only if you fail to restore data from a backup due to object conflicts (for example, the range of IP addresses listed in the backup file is different from those available on the server), or if you wish to specify individual objects that should be restored.

Note: for details on mapping, see the section *Editing a Mapping File* (on page 13).

- 2 Restore the data you need.

- To restore all backed up data, including server and control panel configuration, applications vaults, user accounts, web sites, databases, and mailboxes with e-mail messages, run the following command:

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskrestore --restore
<backup file name> -level all -map <map file name>
```

where <backup file name> is the name of the backup file or—if you have a multivolume backup—the name of the first volume, and <map file name> is the mapping file name.

- To restore all user accounts with users' sites, run the command:

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskrestore --restore
<backup file name> -level clients -map <map file name>
```

where <backup file name> is the name of the backup file or—if you have a multivolume backup—the name of the first volume, and <map file name> is the mapping file name.

- To restore selected user accounts with all their sites, run the command:

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskrestore --restore
<backup file name> -level clients -filter
list:client_name1,client_name2,client_name3 -map <mapping
file name>
```

where <backup file name> is the name of the backup file or—if you have a multivolume backup—the name of the first volume, and <mapping file name> is the mapping file name.

- To restore a specific user account with all user's web sites, run the command:

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskrestore --restore
<backup file name> -level clients -filter list:client_name
-map <mapping file name>
```

where <backup file name> is the name of the backup file or—if you have a multivolume backup—the name of the first volume, and <mapping file name> is the mapping file name.

- To restore a specific user account with selected web sites belonging to the user, run the command:

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskrestore --restore
<backup file name> -level clients -filter
list:client_name1,domain1.com,domain2.com -map <mapping
file name>
```

where <backup file name> is the name of the backup file or—if you have a multivolume backup—the name of the first volume.

- To restore a specific web site, run the command:

```
/plesk_installation_directory/bin/pleskrestore --restore
<backup file name> -level domains -filter list:domain_name
-map <mapping file name>
```

where <backup file name> is the name of the backup file or—if you have a multivolume backup—the name of the first volume.

Note: if you want to restore the data of a site backed up on another server, before doing so, make sure that the respective domain name is set up in Plesk. If it is not, add a new domain name through the control panel (without setting up a hosting account for it), and then run the aforementioned command.

Table 2. Pleskrestore utility commands and options.

Available commands

Command	Arguments and Syntax	Description
--create-map	backup file name mapping file name	Analyzes the specified backup file and creates a mapping file under the specified name.
--validate-map	backup file name mapping file name	Validates mapping file.
--restore	backup file name	Restores data from a backup file.
--help or -h		Shows the available commands and options.

Available options

-level	clients, domains, or all	Specifies restoring level: clients restores user accounts, domains restores web sites, all restores all items from the backup file.
-filter	mapping file name or list: item1, item2, item3	Specifies objects for restoring: user accounts or web sites.
-license		Specifies that the license key from a backup file should be restored.
-map	mapping file name	Path to the mapping file.
-verbose		Shows the information about restoring progress.

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Editing a Mapping File

A mapping file is a text file comprising several sections. Each section describes entities (business objects) that should be restored and defines mapping rules. In addition to mapping rules, you can specify server administrator's credentials and server settings that should be used when restoring data on a server, where Plesk is installed but not configured.

Sections names are enclosed in brackets. Items and options within each line are separated by white spaces or tabulation. All comments in the file start with the # symbol.

The information about server's IP addresses is specified in the [init_conf:ips] section in the following format:

```
[init_conf:ips]

eth0:10.10.10.10/24 (shared)

eth1:10.10.20.20/24 (exclusive)
```

The default server's IP address is specified in the [init_conf:default_ip] section in the following format:

```
[init_conf:default_ip]

10.10.10.11
```

Server's hostname is specified in the [init_conf:hostname] section in the following format:

```
[init_conf:hostname]

plesk10.provider.net
```

Server administrator's password is specified in the [init_conf:password] section in the following format:

```
[init_conf:password]
```

admin_password

Note: if your password contains the characters #, \$, <, >, ', ", then you need to escape them, that is, you need to place a backslash (\) to the left of each character.

Administrator's contact information cannot be specified in the mapping file, however, you can type the line [init_conf:admin_account] in the mapping file if you want the administrator's contact information to be restored from the backup file.

Mapping of IP addresses is specified in the [ipmap] section in the following format:

```
[ipmap]

10.58.97.31 -> 10.58.97.30
10.58.97.32 -> 10.58.97.35 exclusive
10.58.97.31 shared -> 10.58.97.36 exclusive
```

Specify the IP addresses that should be mapped (in the left part), place a hyphen and 'greater than' sign (->) and then specify existing IP addresses to map to (in the right part). 'Shared' and 'exclusive' attributes are optional.

Mapping of database servers is specified in the [db-servers] section in the following format:

```
[db-servers]

type:login:password@hostname:port ->
type:login:password@hostname:port
```

Only MySQL and PostgreSQL databases are currently supported. You should specify database types as follows: mysql, postgresql. If you do not specify a database server in the right part after the -> symbols, the utility will consider that the database server should be mapped to itself. If the specified database server is missing, it will be created. If you wish to assign a database server as default for serving customers' databases, specify the ':default' argument to the right of the port number.

Example:

```
[db-servers]
mysql:admin:setup@10.58.97.31:8306:default
mysql:admin:setup@10.58.97.32:8306 ->
mysql:admin:setup@10.58.97.31:8306
```

Mapping of client accounts is specified as follows: a separate section is created for each client account. To specify mapping preferences for a client account:

- 1 Type the user's control panel login name in brackets, for example:

```
[client1]
```

- 2 Specify IP addresses that should be allocated to the client, for example:

```
[client1]

10.58.97.31
10.58.97.32->10.58.97.33
```

- 3 Specify the list of domains (Web sites) belonging to this client that should be restored. You can specify mapping of IP addresses and database servers for each domain:

```
[client1]
```

```
10.1.36.100
10.1.36.101 ->10.1.36.200

domain_name1.com 10.1.36.100 -> 10.1.36.200
localhost:8306 -> 10.1.36.200:8306
domain_name2.com
```

In this case, the database server is specified in a short `hostname:port` format. You should be sure that the specified database server exists on your server, or is specified in the global `[db-servers]` section, in the left part of a mapping entry. Note that `domain_name2.com` from the above example will be restored and hosted on the first IP address found in this client's pool, for example, `10.1.36.100`.

Transferring Data Across Different Versions of Plesk

You can transfer your data across different Plesk versions in either of the following ways:

- **Migrate data from one server to another.** If you have two servers, one with, say, Plesk 7.5, and another with Plesk 8, you should use the Migration Manager tool, as described in the Plesk Administrator's Guide, Migrating User Accounts, Domain Names and Web Sites from Other Hosting Platforms section at <http://download1.swsoft.com/Plesk/Plesk8.0/Doc/plesk-8-admins-guide/17348.htm>.
- **Upgrade Plesk without backing up and restoring data.** If you have a single server with Plesk 7.5, which you would like to upgrade to Plesk 8, you can use the Plesk Updater facility to upgrade your control panel. You will not need to back up and restore any data because Updater will keep them. For instructions on using Plesk updater, refer to Plesk Administrator's Guide, Upgrading Your Control Panel chapter at <http://download1.swsoft.com/Plesk/Plesk8.0/Doc/plesk-8-admins-guide/21423.htm>.
- **Back up data before upgrade with migration script and restore data after upgrade with pleskrestore utility from Plesk 8 distribution.** If you have a single server with Plesk 7.5, and would like to back up your data before upgrading, and then restore them on Plesk 8, follow the instructions below. This is the only way to restore on Plesk 8 any data backed up on earlier versions of Plesk.

To back up your data:

- 1 Create a new directory in your Plesk server's file system.
- 2 Obtain the migration script and other related files and copy them to your directory on the Plesk server.

If you have access to a Plesk 8 installation, copy all files and subdirectories from the directories `/plesk_installation_directory/PMM/agents/PleskX/` and `/plesk_installation_directory/PMM/agents/shared/` to the directory on your server.

If you do not have access to a Plesk 8 installation,

- a Download a backup-agent-8.0.1.tar package from <http://download1.swsoft.com/Plesk/Plesk8.0/Extensions/backup-agent-8.0.1.tar>.
 - b Unpack it with `tar -xf backup-agent-8.0.1.tar` command.
 - c Issue the command `chmod +x PleskX.pl`
 - d Copy the contents of the current directory to the directory on your server.
- 3 Change to the directory on your Plesk server.
 - 4 Back up the data.

- To back up entire server, run `./perl PleskX.pl --dump-all -o backup_file_name`
- To back up all data related to client accounts "account1" and "account2", run `./perl PleskX.pl --dump-accounts=account1,account2 -o backup_file_name`
- To back up all data related to domains "do.m1" and "do.m2", run `./perl PleskX.pl --dump-domains=do.m1,do.m2 -o backup_file_name`

Retrieving Files From Backup Archives

To restore your data on a Plesk 8 machine, use the `pleskrestore` utility as described in the Restoring Your Data (on page 10) section of this guide.

Plesk for Linux stores backup files in compressed GZIP archives. Only the server administrator with access to server shell can unpack these archives.

➤ **To unpack a backup file:**

- 1 Log in to the server.
- 2 Issue the command `/usr/local/psa/bin/backup-unpack extract <path to backup file>`, where **<path to backup file>** is commonly `/var/lib/psa/dumps/<client ID>/<domain ID>/<backup file name>`.

The utility will create the directory `<backup_file_name>.unpacked` in `/var/lib/psa/dumps/<client ID>/<domain ID>/` and will place all content there.