

Freebyte Backup 2.4 Manual

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Please see the file 'readme.txt' on installation, usage, copyright, new versions and contact information.

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Main window

The Freebyte Backup main window consists of four tabs. Each tab has a specific function.

Tab 'Directories'

The tab directories allows you to manage the input and output directories. Displayed is a list of selected input directories. These are the directories to be backed up. Directory entries can be added, modified or deleted. Each input directory entry has a little check box to the left of it. If the box is checked, it means that the directory will be copied, if the box is un-checked the directory is ignored during the backup process.

The output directory is shown in the edit box at the bottom. This is the directory where the data is copied into.

Tab 'Filter'

The second tab, named 'filter' shows a list of file extensions. Enabled file extensions (with their box checked) will cause files with these extensions to be copied during the backup process. E.g. if the box to the left of '.txt' is enabled/checked, all files ending in '.txt', like 'readme.txt' found in the (enabled) input directories will be backed up.

Extensions can be added, deleted and modified.

If you check the option 'Do not filter according to file extension' the program passes all extensions. When the 'Only back up files changed after' option is checked in the filter tab, FB Backup will only copy files which were changed after the specified date/time. This option can be used in conjunction with the Incremental backup option (tab profile).

Tab 'Profile'

When checked, the 'Incremental backup' checkbox only copies files from the input directory which were not copied before.

(More technically: FB Backup clears the Windows 'archive' file-attribute of the INPUT file after it has been copied to the output directory. When an incremental backup is done, FB Backup first looks at the archive attribute of the input file, if the archive attribute is set the file is copied to the output directory. If the attribute of the input file is not set the file is not copied to the output directory.)

'Copy files only if they are more recent': when enabled, FB Backup will only copy a file from the source location to the target location if the source file is more recent than the file in the target location, or if the file does not exist in the target location.

'Enable report' will show the detailed report screen during and after backup.

When the option 'Clear Windows archive file attribute' is checked, TreePad will clear the archive attribute of any backup source file. If you are planning to perform incremental backups, this option should be checked.

It can be necessary to disable this option if FB Backup is used in conjunction with other backup programs which also use the archive attribute.

Tab 'Action'

The action tab allows you to start and stop the backup process. It has various fields which show the status of the backup process when running and the current amount of files being copied.

The option 'create report' allows you to view the results of the backup operation in a more detailed way.

Profiles

A profile within FB Backup is the collection of settings defined by the user. It consists of all the input directories specified, the output directory, all the file extensions, and the state of the check-boxes.

Profiles can be saved, created and loaded into FB Backup using 'main menu/profiles'. This means that you can define a different profile for each specific application, set of files you need to backup.

E.g. a backup of your personal correspondence can be done with the profile named 'personal.ini', and backing up your music files can be done with the settings stored in 'music.ini'.

Report screen

When 'enable report' is checked in the 'profile' tab, FB Backup will show a separate screen displaying data about all files which are part of the backup process. Of each file, the report screen shows whether the file is copied or skipped, the file size, the file date, the source and target locations.

The report can be sorted according to file status (copied or skipped), file name, file date, etc.

Command-line parameters

(1) Specifying a profile at startup

`fbbackup.exe <profile filename>`: starts the program with the specified profile loaded, but no auto-backup will be performed. Example:

```
fbbackup.exe 'c:\fbbackup\profiles\documents.ini'
```

(2) Auto start

If you specify `-s` or `/s` as the first command-line parameter, the program will perform a backup automatically, and close itself after the backup is finished. Additionally you need to specify the profile filename. Syntax:

```
fbbackup.exe -s <profile filename>
```

or

```
fbbackup.exe /s <profile filename>
```

Example

```
fbbackup.exe -s 'c:\fbbackup\profiles\documents.ini'
```

The output of the automatic backup will not be the directory specified in the profile, as it is the case with manual backups, but will be a subdirectory of the output directory. This subdirectory will be named according to the date and time when the backup took place.

Example: suppose the output directory is specified in the profile as:

```
i:\backups\documents
```

then the output directory for the automatic backup will be

```
i:\backups\documents\20020131.174521
```

when the backup started at date 2002-JAN-31 and time 17:45:21. The reason for this is that the backup the next day will not overwrite the previous backup, but will be put into a directory like:

```
i:\backups\documents\20020201.174546
```

Automatic backups using a Task Scheduler

You can use 'Freebyte Task Scheduler', a separate program which can be downloaded for free from <http://www.freebyte.com/taskscheduler>, in combination with the FB Backup command-line options described above, automate your backup tasks.