

Archiving and Compression

gzip

tar (.tar) - Tape Archive

Take multiple files and compress them into a single file.

-c -create archive

-f -filename

-x -extract

-z -compress/decompress

-f -filename

Creating an archive (uncompressed)

```
tar -cf archivename.tar filestoarchive
```

Creating an archive (compressed)

```
tar -czf archivename.tar.gz filestoarchive
```

Extracting a tar archive (compressed)

```
tar -xzf archivename.tar.gz
```

Extracting a tar archive (uncompressed)

```
tar -xf archivename.tar
```

DD - Convert and copy

Full disk backup

```
dd if=/dev/sda of=/pathtobackupfile.img
```

By default, dd will take the backup 1 block at a time - meaning it can take a while. We can add the 'bs' option to specify how much data dd should copy at a time.

```
dd if=/dev/sda of=/pathtobackupfile.img bs=1M
```

For sensitive copies, we can add the conv=sync flag to have dd compare the original data and the copy for 100% accuracy - this will take a lot longer.

```
dd if=/dev/sda of=/pathtobackupfile.img bs=1M conv=sync
```

Compression

We can also pipe the dd output into gzip for compression.

```
dd if=/dev/sda bs=1M | gzip -o > pathtobackupfile.gz
```

To uncompress:

```
gunzip pathtobackupfile.gz | dd of=/dev/sdc bs=1M
```

```
=====
```

xz (.xz) -

cpio (.io) -

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